ART 2346.001 CERAMICS I
Center For the Arts room 112, MW 9 – 11:50 am
Spring 2015, Professor Greg Reuter
Office Phone # 825-2315
Email: gregory.reuter@tamucc.edu
Office Hours: 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm, MW (or by appointment)

The ceramic student will examine a wide range of materials and techniques in combination with basic design elements. Techniques covered in this course will be hand building. This includes pinching, coil building, slab construction, and the uses of simple molds, either press molds or drape molds. In addition to hand building the ceramic student will be introduced to using the potter’s wheel. There will be an emphasis upon ideas and craftsmanship in exploring the possibilities of finding meaningful themes and forms. Work outside scheduled class hours will be necessary to complete assignments. The open studio situation requires students to be responsible for the safe use of tools and equipment, and for maintaining a clean and safe work environment.

Student Learning Outcomes
Each student will develop technical and craftsmanship skills through hands-on work with materials by effectively assembling pinch, coil, slab, and wheel thrown forms.
Each student be able to make appropriate clay bodies.
Each student will be able to distinguish between fired and unfired clay.
Each student will learn to manipulate stains, glazes and appropriate firing methods, in order to control color and tactile qualities.
The student will demonstrate flexibility and adaptability by using a variety of technical and conceptual strategies in resolving problems with ceramic forms.
Each student will be able to orally critique ceramics.
Each student will be able to participate in group critiques.

ACADEMIC RESPONSIBILITIES
The student has six responsibilities:
1. To produce a body of work with an emphasis upon craftsmanship, demonstrating a mastery of techniques assigned.
2. To develop technical skills using the following processes: pinching, coiling, slab building, wheel throwing.
3. The individual projects will be turned in at assigned critiques during the semester. The body of work (everything made for this class) will be turned in on the date of the final.
4. To actively participate in mixing clay and glazes, and loading kilns.
5. To actively participate in class critiques.
6. To attend class. After three absences a student's final course grade will be lowered one letter grade. Arriving late to 3 classes equals one absence.
CLASS EXPECTATIONS
This class will include lectures, videos, and demonstrations relating to assigned projects. An important element in the learning process is the attitude of the student toward his work and the work of his fellow students. Ceramics is created in an atmosphere of cooperation and collaboration; the artist/student will function best in this spirit. Demonstrations and lectures will not be repeated; it is the student’s responsibility to get the notes from another student. A high level of personal discipline in maintaining the studio and all equipment is required of each student. It is expected that each student clean up the area he/she has been working in before leaving the studio. Failing to do so will cause a student’s grade to be lowered one letter grade. A failure to conform to safety procedures at any time could cause a student’s letter grade to be lowered, or a student may be asked to drop the course. Students must wear safety protection and dress in clothes suitable for an art studio. I expect a significant effort on each assignment. In solving each problem the student will demonstrate an ability to communicate an idea, and that technical obstacles were overcome. As your instructor I will not make decisions for you. My role is to help you establish contact with your creative potential by removing technical obstacles. Ceramics is a creative process and every student has a creative potential. I will encourage this creative growth through assignments that incorporate a suggested theme with a technical problem to be resolved. Achieving this growth will require studio time beyond class hours, oral expression of ideas, and creative decision-making. The purpose of this class is not to create a quantity of objects, but to acquire the self-confidence and desire to continue creating.

CRITIQUES
Participation in the critiques is required. The students will be asked to explain their work to the class and defend it on its aesthetic merit. The work will be evaluated on craftsmanship, creativity, and the ability to communicate an idea.

ATTENDANCE
After three absences a student’s final course grade will be lowered one letter grade. Excessive tardiness (6) will cause a student’s grade to be lowered one letter grade. Leaving class for supplies demonstrates that the student is ill prepared and this will affect his/her grade.

STUDIO
A high level of personal discipline in maintaining the studio and all equipment is required of each student. It is expected that each student clean up the area he/she has been working in before leaving the studio. Failing to do so will cause a student’s grade to be lowered one letter grade.

Supplies
The Art Department uses material fees to provide supplies for the class as a whole. Students are expected to purchase supplies that are necessary to produce final individual projects.

**Project Calendar**

**January**
- 21 **Orientation**
- 26 Hand building
- 28 Studio Practice

**February**
- 02 Studio Practice
- 04 Studio Practice
- 09 Studio Practice
- 11 Studio Practice
- 16 Studio Practice
- 18 Studio Practice
- 23 Studio Practice
- 25 **Critique**

**March**
- 02 Throwing
- 04 Studio Practice
- 09 Studio Practice
- 11 Studio Practice
- 16 **Critique**
- 18 Glazing
- 23 Studio Practice
- 25 Studio Practice
- 30 Studio Practice

**April**
- 01 Studio Practice
- 06 Studio Practice
- 08 Studio Practice
- 13 **Critique**
- 15 **Refine or redo projects**
- 20 Studio Practice
- 22 Studio Practice
- 27 **Digital Documentation of Projects**
- 29 Studio Practice

**December**
- 04 Last Day of Class
  - **Final critique (all projects presented)**

**Course Calendar**

**ACADEMIC ADVISING**

The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA
Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

**Academic Integrity/Plagiarism***

University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in F.

**GRADE APPEALS PROCESS:** Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, for assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s Office.

**Disabilities Accommodations**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.