This course is designed to help the Graduate Student in Art find his or her own voice and style. The purpose of this class is to carry on the tradition of seeking “beauty of the simple and natural.” We will find our voice through the art of Ceramics using the Raku firing method.

**ACADEMIC RESPONSIBILITIES**

The graduate student has two responsibilities:

1. To produce a body of work with an emphasis upon IDEAS and CRAFTSMANSHIP in exploring the possibilities of meaningful themes in three dimensional forms.

2. Presentation. To complete this requirement the student will research a Raku artist and make a Power Point presentation (a bibliography citing the sources used during research is required).

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.

An important element in the learning process is the attitude of the student toward his work and the work of his fellow students. Art is created in an atmosphere of collaboration; students are expected to help create such an atmosphere in the class.

As your instructor, I will not make decisions for you. My role is as a catalyst for ideas and to help you establish contact with your creative potential by removing technical obstacles.

**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 will develop skills in presenting Raku information to a class.

Each student will be able to make appropriate clay bodies.

Each student will learn to manipulate stains, glazes and appropriate firing methods, in order to control color and tactile qualities.

Each student will learn to fire a Raku kiln.

Each student will be able to orally critique ceramics.

Each student will be able to participate in group critiques.

**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.
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.

SAFETY
A failure to conform to safety procedures at any time will cause a student’s letter grade to be lowered one point, or a student may be asked to drop the course. Students must wear eye protection, and dress in clothes suitable for an art studio.

GRADES
Body of work  50%
Presentation  25%
Attendance  10%
Shop safety
& maintenance  10%
Participation &
collaboration  5%

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.

DISABILITY SERVICES
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, Room #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.

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, `cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html`. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean's Office.

**Attendance**

Attendance is mandatory for your success, will be recorded during each class session and is considered as part of the professionalism element of your final grade.

- You will lose a single letter grade on your fourth (4) absence.
- Five (5) absences will result in the drop of another letter grade.
- Six (6) absences will result in the failure of the course.
- Three (3) late arrivals or early departures will result in the recording of one (1) full absence.
- Students are required to attend class for the duration of the scheduled time or until the Professor dismisses the class.
- Attending critiques are mandatory.