

Department:

Art

Course Description:

This course will provide an introduction to the use of clay as an art medium. The course will cover traditional techniques used in hand-building and wheel thrown forming methods and will also introduce ceramic glazes, slips, stains, and firing methods.

Course Competencies:

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Mix clay and glazes using ceramic formulas.
2. Conduct research in ceramic periodicals, books, journals, and Internet resources for information necessary to complete projects.
3. Maintain a sketchbook for working out design problems and ideas.
4. Manipulate clay using appropriate construction methods and techniques necessary to complete projects.
5. Explain the differences between the three major types of clay.
6. Demonstrate hand forming and throwing skills.
7. Demonstrate various decorating and glazing methods.
8. Identify basic kiln types, fuels, and atmospheres related to the ceramic process.
9. Identify basic ceramic materials and explain their properties and uses.
10. Identify forming techniques used to create contemporary as well as historical ceramic forms.
11. Analyze and critique their work and the work of others in order to develop and improve ceramic design.

Course Content:

- A. Formation of Clay
 1. Clay origins
 2. Clay types
 3. Clay bodies
- B. Hand-building Techniques
 1. Pinch
 2. Coil
 3. Slab
 4. Press and drape molds
 5. Combination
- C. Ceramic Materials and Chemicals
- D. Decorating and Glazing

- E. Kilns and Firing
 - 1. Types of kilns
 - 2. Fuels
 - 3. Atmospheres
- F. Wheel Techniques
 - 1. Centering
 - 2. Cylinders
 - 3. Bowl forms
- G. Finishing Techniques
 - 1. Decorating
 - 2. Glazing
 - 3. Testing high fire and low fire glazes
 - 4. Firing techniques
- H. Critiques and discussion/feedback sessions
- I. Research

Learning Assessments:

Course competencies will be assessed by evaluation of assigned projects, sketchbook, class participation, quizzes, exams, final critique, and portfolio.

Instructional Materials:

Clay, ceramic chemicals, forming tools, video presentations, kilns, handouts, and slip/stain/glaze formulas.

Guidelines for Requesting Accommodations Based on Documented Disability or Medical Condition

It is the intention of Highland Community College to work toward full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to make instructional programs accessible to all people, and to provide reasonable accommodations according to the law.

Students should understand that it is their responsibility to self-identify their need(s) for accommodation and that they must provide current, comprehensive diagnosis of a specific disability or medical condition from a qualified professional in order to receive services. Documentation must include specific recommendations for accommodation(s). Documentation should be provided in a timely manner prior to or early in the semester so that the requested accommodation can be considered and, if warranted, arranged.

In order to begin the process all students **must** complete the “Disabilities Self-Identification Form” at this link:

<https://highlandcc.edu/pages/disability-services>.

This form can also be accessed at the Highland Community College homepage under Students Services/Student Resources/Disability Service or by contacting the Disabilities Coordinator.