

Common Course Outline

ARTD 130

Ceramics

I

3 Semester Hours

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

ARTD 130 – 3 Credits - Ceramics I explores ceramic materials and processes emphasizing development of hand building techniques and an introduction to the potter's wheel; provides basic understanding of clay, glazes, and kiln operation.

3 credits: 2 lecture hours and 3 laboratory hours per week.

Prerequisites: none

Overall Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. demonstrate the ability to execute thoughts and intentions through the manipulation of clay;
2. demonstrate creativity, imagination and aesthetic judgment through assigned projects;
3. demonstrate knowledge of functional and sculptural concepts;
4. demonstrate learned techniques and processes in production of ceramic objects;
5. demonstrate an understanding and use of the vocabulary related to ceramics.
6. hand build clay forms using basic building techniques: coil-building, slab construction and pinch methods;
7. understand basic ceramic firing procedures and kiln operation;
8. embellish clay forms with surface techniques and textural treatments;
9. experiment with throwing on the potter's wheel (throwing cylinders);
10. identify clay bodies including earthenware and stoneware;
11. prepare clay by kneading and wedging;
12. Apply glazes using brushing, pouring, and dipping techniques;
13. Use ceramic modeling and carving tools;
14. Discuss and critique one another's work;
15. Demonstrate good craftsmanship;
16. Understand the basic history of ceramic art and the current trends in clay; and
17. Keep safety precautions and practice in the ceramics studio/classroom.

Major Topics

- I. Hand building techniques including pinch, slab construction and coiling
- II. Introduction to wheel-throwing
- III. Sculptural and functional concepts in relation to the ceramic form

- IV. Clay bodies, glazing and surface treatments
- V. Aesthetic issues in relation to ceramic
- VI. Historical background of ceramics, up to contemporary approaches
- VII. Kiln-firing procedures
- VIII. Safety issues and precautions in the ceramic studio

Course Requirements

Grading/exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

- A portfolio of three to four major projects and eight to ten in-class/studio exercises;
- An artist critique/reflection journal, containing examples of traditional and contemporary ceramics;
- A final ceramic sculpture;
- Presentation of a portfolio of work from the semester, open for critique and discussion, on the final day of class.

Revised: 02/13