

ARTS-145: CLAY SCULPTURE

Effective Term

Fall 2025

CC Approval

02/07/2025

AS Approval

02/13/2025

BOT Approval

02/20/2025

COCI Approval

04/30/2025

SECTION A - Course Data Elements

CB04 Credit Status

Credit - Degree Applicable

Discipline

Minimum Qualifications	And/Or
Art (Master's Degree)	

Subject Code

ARTS - Arts

Course Number

145

Department

Arts (ARTS)

Division

Arts and Humanities (ARAH)

Full Course Title

Clay Sculpture

Short Title

Clay Sculpture

CB03 TOP Code

1002.20 - Sculpture

CB08 Basic Skills Status

NBS - Not Basic Skills

CB09 SAM Code

E - Non-Occupational

Rationale

Non-substantative review, adjust info to course leaf format and update text book.

SECTION B - Course Description

Catalog Course Description

This class will focus on the use of clay as a means of artistic expression. Ancient and contemporary sculptures made primarily of clay will be explored for both esthetic and technical inspiration. The rich contemporary movement of west coast and most notably California artists focusing specifically on ceramic sculpture will be emphasized. Students will create clay sculptures while translating concepts and visual experiences into tactile forms.

SECTION C - Conditions on Enrollment

Open Entry/Open Exit

No

Repeatability

Not Repeatable

Grading Options

Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass

Allow Audit

Yes

Requisites

SECTION D - Course Standards

Is this course variable unit?

No

Units

3.00

Activity Hours

108

Outside of Class Hours

54

Total Contact Hours

108

Total Student Hours

162

Distance Education Approval

Is this course offered through Distance Education?

Yes

Online Delivery Methods

DE Modalities	Permanent or Emergency Only?
Hybrid	Emergency Only
Entirely Online	Emergency Only

SECTION E - Course Content

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:	
1.	Create clay sculpture by translating concepts and visual experiences into tactile forms while utilizing historic and contemporary practices, theories and materials.
2.	Present finished clay sculptures for peer and academic review, and express artistic concepts and intents in written and oral formats while evaluating and critiquing these works.
3.	Safely handle and maintain materials, studio facilities and equipment.

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:	
1.	Distinguish a variety of concepts and materials in sculpture.
2.	Acquire skills to express ideas and create them in sculptural form.
3.	Evaluate sculptural forms from contemporary and historic sources while utilizing proper terminology.
4.	Create sculptural ceramic forms utilizing pinch, slab and coil building techniques.
5.	Identify concepts and ideas suitable for sculptural expression.
6.	Execute concepts and designs in a final ceramic form.
7.	Assess and critique ceramic works in group, individual and written contexts using relevant critique formats, concepts and terminology.
8.	Operate and maintain studio equipment, facilities and materials.

Course Content

1. Clay and Forming
 - a. The specific origins and character of various clays.
 - b. The major forming techniques including molding-pinching slab construction, coil building, compound construction, paddling, additive and subtractive.
 - c. A specific historic and contemporary study of the practical applications of sculptural ceramic forming methods.
2. Surface Development
 - a. Decoration techniques including texture, leather hard slip, bisque slip, glaze, advanced wax resist technique, and firing atmospheres.
 - b. A specific historic and contemporary overview of the practical applications of surface development and decoration relative to clay sculpture.
3. Composition and Discussion
 - a. Translation of a two-dimensional image to a three-dimensional tactile object.
 - b. Three-dimensional compositional techniques and concepts related to form making and surface development.
 - c. Use of critique methods, terminology and specialized vocabulary in group, individual and written formats.
4. Studio Equipment
 - a. Safe operation and maintenance of studio tools, equipment and facilities including general clay sculpture tools, slab roller, clay mixer, banding wheels, raw material bins, glaze bins, triple beam scale, electric kilns, and the raku kiln.

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction

Types	Examples of learning activities
Lecture	This Studio Arts Class will be taught with ongoing integrated lab and lecture. Image and video-enhanced lectures covering core concepts, terminology, and the historic development of ceramics followed by all-class or small-group discussions on the same topics.
Lab	Instructor-guided lab time to apply concepts and skills to course content through guided exercises. Lab time will include both one-on-one and group instruction.
Observation and Demonstration	Students will receive hands-on group demonstrations as well as one-on-one instruction, demonstration and direction. Lectures and demonstrations will often if not always be accompanied by visual aids and/or real hands-on experience. Further, students will learn by interacting with the materials and process inherent in studio arts.
Critique	Oral or written group critiques analyzing finished examples of student work related to specific course assignments. Peer critiques reinforcing students' capacity to think critically about course assignments.
Field Trips	Students in this course may view artwork in the professional contexts of a gallery or museum. This activity will reinforce the students' understanding of historic and contemporary approaches to ceramics.
Other	Student presentations on historic and contemporary works from a diverse range of cultures.

Instructor-Initiated Online Contact Types

Announcements/Bulletin Boards
 Chat Rooms
 Discussion Boards

E-mail Communication
Telephone Conversations
Video or Teleconferencing

Student-Initiated Online Contact Types

Chat Rooms
Discussions
Group Work

Course design is accessible

Yes

Methods of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation

Types	Examples of classroom assessments
Portfolios	Each student's "course portfolio" will be made up of assignments from the semester. The portfolio will be evaluated by the instructor and student at "final critique." Generally the creativity, craftsmanship, presentation and demonstrated improvement of the portfolio as a whole will be evaluated.
Projects	Student self evaluations, peer evaluations and instructor critique will be used to evaluate each project. Class participants may be given the opportunity to improve, elements and or redo each project before the end of the term and the final review of all projects as a whole within the "course portfolio."
Class Participation	Participation and performance in both oral and written critical analysis of work. Student participation in group, and all-class critique will be evaluated. Evaluation will include correct use of visual language and terminology. and the student's ability to give and receive constructive criticism.
Exams/Tests	Tests and exams may be used to ensure each student is able to identify, understand and practically apply specific processes and techniques relevant to ceramic sculpture.

Assignments

Reading Assignments

Selected readings from student proposals, textbook, class handouts, periodicals or library collections.

For example:

1. Students will read instructor-provided handouts on critique formats, concepts and terminology relative to this course level.
2. Students will research historic and contemporary ceramic sculpture.

Writing Assignments

Written critical self-analysis of completed work.

For example:

1. write a three-paragraph essay analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of a clay sculpture you created.
2. Written self-evaluation of your "course portfolio" to be submitted at final critique. That focuses on the formal use of the elements and the principles of art.

Other Assignments

A number of clay sculpture assignments that demonstrate an understanding of basic and advanced techniques. These studio assignments / projects should include the creation of representational and abstract forms. Assignments should focus on the visual strength and quality of form, and the composition of secondary forms working to compliment the main form.

For example:

1. Create an abstract sculpture that includes 3 representational elements of your, or a classmate's face. All three sculpted facial element must be assembled on a main form derived from a cylinder and altered with darts.
2. Create a nonrepresentational piece that utilizes the concept of closed forms, and a slab utilized as a central as a plain. this work must display at least two distinctly different textures.
3. Create a life size human head.
4. Create a piece or series of pieces inspired by the work of a contemporary ceramic artist that you learned about.

SECTION F - Textbooks and Instructional Materials**Material Type**

Textbook

Author

Anton Reijnders

Title

The Ceramic Process: A Manual and Source of Inspiration for Ceramic Art and Design

Edition/Version

1st

Publisher

Herbert Press

Year

2021

ISBN #

1789940486

Material Type

Other required materials/supplies

Description

A variety of clay working tools.

Course Codes (Admin Only)**ASSIST Update**

No

CB00 State ID

CCC000212706

CB10 Cooperative Work Experience Status

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

CB11 Course Classification Status

Y - Credit Course

CB13 Special Class Status

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

CB23 Funding Agency Category

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

CB24 Program Course Status

Program Applicable

Allow Pass/No Pass

Yes

Only Pass/No Pass

No