

# ARTS-241: INTERMEDIATE CERAMICS: THROWING

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## Effective Term

Fall 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

241

### Department

Arts (ARTS)

### Division

Arts and Humanities (ARAH)

### Full Course Title

Intermediate Ceramics: Throwing

### Short Title

Intermediate Ceramics Throwing

### CB03 TOP Code

1002.30 - Ceramics

### CB08 Basic Skills Status

NBS - Not Basic Skills

### CB09 SAM Code

E - Non-Occupational

### Rationale

Non-substantive review, adapting to course leaf layout, text book update.

## SECTION B - Course Description

### Catalog Course Description

Develops an understanding of clay as a form of artistic expression through an exploration of form, materials, content and function. Using a variety of wheel-throwing techniques students will problem solve a number of assignments. Students will use a variety of surface treatments and have hands-on experience with kilns, studio equipment and glazes. Includes an intermediate study of contemporary and historic ceramics.

## 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****Advisory Prerequisite(s)**

Completion of ARTS-141 with a minimum grade of C.

**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?**

No

**SECTION E - Course Content****Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:	
1.	Create wheel-thrown ceramic objects by translating concepts and visual experiences into tactile forms while utilizing historic and contemporary, references, practices, theories and materials.
2.	Present finished works for peer and academic review. Express artistic concepts and intents using proper terminology 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.	Differentiate specific clay varieties and ceramic process stages.
2.	Create basic, intermediate, and compound ceramic forms utilizing various throwing techniques.
3.	Analyze existing ceramic pieces and identify the specific forming processes used in creating them.
4.	Produce and apply surface treatment to a variety of forms using beginning and advanced techniques.
5.	Synthesize and test a glaze or slip.
6.	Analyze existing ceramic pieces and distinguish the specific processes used to develop their surfaces.
7.	Create objects that demonstrate an intended relationship between form and surface.
8.	Assess and critique ceramic works in group, individual and written contexts using relevant critique formats, concepts and terminology.
9.	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 involving the potter's wheel including bowls, forms with handles, forms with handles and spouts, lidded jars and a brief introduction to mold making.
  - c. An intermediate historic and contemporary study of the practical applications of these forming methods.
2. Surface Development
  - a. Decoration techniques including texture, sprigging, leather-hard slip, glaze, advanced wax-resist technique, and firing atmosphere.
  - b. Research, mix and test a glaze or slip recipe.
  - c. A specific historic and contemporary overview of the practical applications of surface development and decoration.
3. Composition and Discussion
  - a. Three-dimensional composition techniques and concepts related to form-making and surface development.
  - b. Use of critique methods and terminology like the elements and principles of Art in group, individual and written formats.
4. Studio Equipment
  - a. Operation and maintenance of studio equipment and facilities including banding wheels, general throwing tools, the potter's wheel, the slab roller, raw material bins, glaze bins, triple beam scales, 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 both formal and ongoing lecture and integrated lab. 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.
Lab	Instructor-guided lab / studio 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	Clay-forming and finishing demonstrations covering techniques, concepts, and material applications.
Critique	Oral or written group critiques analyzing finished examples of student work related to specific course assignments. Peer critiques reinforcing student's 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 student's understanding of historic and contemporary approaches to ceramics.
Other	Student presentations on historic and contemporary works from a diverse range of cultures.

## 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 ceramics.

**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 read about a ceramics-producing culture that interests them and retain or note how and why they produced their clay objects.
3. Students will read about a contemporary artist that uses clay as a medium.

**Writing Assignments**

Written critical self-analysis of a completed series.

For example:

1. Write a three-paragraph essay analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of a series you created.
2. A written self-evaluation of your "course work portfolio" submitted at final critique. This self-evaluation should include references to the Elements and Principles of Art. Things that you have learned during studio work time and critique should also be included.

**Other Assignments**

A number of wheel-thrown assignments that demonstrate an understanding of basic and advanced throwing techniques. These studio assignments / projects should include handles, spouts, lids, appendages, and other compound 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 a dozen wheel-thrown cups. Six with pulled handles, and six with carved or altered surfaces.
2. Create a series of pieces that have spouts and handles.
3. Create a series of wheel-thrown pieces that have lids.
4. Create a piece or series of pieces inspired by the form, surface, and, or function of work by 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(clay tool kit from campus bookstore.

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**Material Type**

Textbook

**Author**

Suzanne Staubach

**Title**

Clay: The History and Evolution of Humankind's Relationship with Earth's Most Primal Element

**Edition/Version**

1st

**Publisher**

University Press of New England

**Year**

2012

**Rationale**

This book is the most current version and is pivotal in providing students with a worldly contextual understanding of ceramics as a material.

**ISBN #**

1611685036

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

No

**CB00 State ID**

CCC000449081

**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