

# ART 3783C Ceramic Design

Spring 2019

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Paul Mathieu

Credits: 3

I look forward to an enjoyable and productive semester working together. Should you have problems with your assignments or questions about your progress, **you are encouraged to make an individual appointment** for help or further information.

## Introductions:

Name preferences and preferred pro-nouns will be respected in this class, and all area asked to be patient with the occasional error.

<https://lgbtq.vassar.edu/transandnon-binaryresources/gender-pronouns.html>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fb\\_We13\\_QTA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fb_We13_QTA)

## Course Description

This course investigates the intermediate level of technical, aesthetic and conceptual issues in ceramics. Students study the technology of glaze materials. There is an emphasis on personalized expression through the ceramic design process, particularly through the wheel throwing technique.

The course will look at contemporary and historic models, aesthetics and technical information to provide a vocabulary of choices for the studio artist. Students will use this information to make design choices in their work, while developing a personal artistic voice.

CANVAS e-learning will be used for this class for calendar, announcements, email and course materials and some assignments. You are responsible to check this site before and after each class in preparation and after for homework and follow up. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>

Welcome to *UF Ceramics* is an important part of this syllabus can be found on CANVAS under Files. These materials will be covered the first day of class.

## REQUIRED TEXT

### Mastering the Potter's Wheel: Techniques, Tips, and Tricks for Potters

Ben Carter

### RECOMMENDED TEXTS – on reserve at AFA Library

- **The Ceramics Design Course**, Anthony Quinn
- **Functional Pottery**, by Robin Hopper
- **Ceramic Spectrum**, by Robin Hopper
- **Contemporary Tableware**, by Linda Bloomfield
- **Dish: 813 Colorful, Wonderful Dinner Plates**, Shax Riegler, Robert Bean

## Course Objectives and Goals

- 1) Expanded awareness of contemporary issues in ceramics
- 2) Ability to problem solve
- 3) Ability to clear articulate ideas both in writing and speaking
- 4) Participation in critiques for discussion and review of works produced
- 5) To effectively generate, organize and communicate ideas in full 3D space
- 6) To explore form, using the potters wheel, the meaning of structure, spatial design, surface, color and light, proportion and composition, function and content
- 7) Increased knowledge of technical skills, processes and materials  
develop surface strategies that reinforce decisions in form

## ASSIGNMENTS

Cups and Cultural Context	Focusing on making cups for specific beverages, working on consistency of form and scale in a set
Inside Out: Plates and bowls	Plate and bowl relationships based on form and surface, incorporating radial formats
Pouring ceremony	Specific beverage/specific set, based on personal design decisions and function
Tile design and pattern	Set of tiles in an architectural setting involving abstraction and pattern, surface design
Glaze Technology	Series of test involving glaze chemistry



Jennifer Allen

It is part of the assignment to do assigned readings as scheduled in preparation for the projects. Fulfilling assignments also includes research sketches, following the project criteria, presenting the work on the assigned dates, and participating in group critiques and discussions. Unexcused late work will result in a lowered grade, and will be docked 5% for each class period late.

Clay is a wonderful material and will do many things, but it can't be rushed or neglected without consequences. It takes regular practice and attention to develop skills and firing technique, and this will take studio time outside of scheduled class hours. **To get the best results, you must make MORE than the required number of works to achieve the appropriate number of successful finished pieces.**

**Projects made for this class may NOT be submitted to any other class for credit unless both faculty have given prior approval. Failure to follow this rule will be considered academic dishonesty.**

## Clay


Students may purchase clay at the Reitz Union Bookstore. The class clay is Little Loafers, a mid range Stoneware is one ticket per bag at \$12.50. Complete an order form, pay to Dianne Caple at the SA+AH Office FAC 102, check or money order ONLY, and return both the receipt and form prior to picking up the purchased clay. Please check her schedule ahead. No clay to work with means an absence. I recommend buying 2 or more bags at a time and store them in your locker.

## Materials and supplies

**Sketchbooks** are a necessary tool for artists. Regular use throughout the semester is part of research in seeing and developing ideas. Additionally, a sketchbook may function as an archive for your ideas and a record of thoughts and work produced. It takes regular exercise in using a sketchbook to help you grow as an artist. The use of Pinterest and Instagram is also encouraged to develop and archive of images.

**PLEASE NOTE - there will be no shared tools for this class. My personal tools will be marked and if you do not have the tools necessary to work, you will be considered absent for the class.**

## Required Supplies

Clay tools	Miscellaneous	Drawing supplies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic Pottery Tool Kit (includes needle tool, metal rib, wood rib knife, wood tool, cutting wire, sponge 2 sizes trim tools)</li> </ul>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short blade knife</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Towels (paper towels are not supplied)</li> <li>• Apron</li> <li>• Lock for locker</li> <li>• Bucket for water</li> <li>• Small lidded container for joining slip</li> <li>• Plastic (soft cleaner bags, trash bags)</li> </ul> <p>Recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bat pins (1/4 inch cap head screws – available but not dependable source)</li> <li>• sur-form, rasp</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sketchbook</li> <li>• Pencils, pens</li> <li>• Scissor</li> <li>• Ruler</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mud tool red and yellow ribs</li> <li>• Scoring tool (fork)</li> <li>• Brushes( variety of sizes, soft bristle bamboo various sizes)</li> <li>• Inexpensive brushes (stiffer for wax resist)</li> </ul>		
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Local art and ceramic supplies:

UF Book Store – tool kits

Michaels - limited

Frazier Ceramics - limited

Highwater Clays (St. Petersburg) – online

Axner Clay (Orlando) – online

Derek has a variety of brushes that can be purchased and the Bookstore has full kits. Ribs are \$7, brush sets are \$3-\$7.50.

## Firing

Work will be bisque-fired in class kilns. Students will co-ordinate with the instructor and/or kiln room technical assistant to load, fire, unload, and clean up after class kilns, and are expected to take turns in helping as part of the participation grade.

Students will work in firing teams (with faculty or tech supervision) to fire the bisque and gas glaze kilns. This will involve working outside of class time. Please consult with me and/or Derek for help facilitating this. We are happy to help and usually know who else is doing similar firings.

Consider using the UF Kiln Community on FB

A semester **grade of incomplete** will not be given for late work unless there is an excused absence involved. To be approved for an incomplete:

1. Students must have completed the major portion of the class with a passing grade of C or better
2. The student is unable to complete course requirements because of documented circumstances beyond his or her control
3. The student and instructor have discussed the situation prior to the final critique (except under emergency conditions)
4. The student will fill out the College of Fine Arts incomplete grade contract, which will be signed by the instructor and the chair and will detail the work to be completed and the date by which this must be done

## Attendance Policy

Attendance (through a sign in sheet) will be taken at the beginning of each class. It is required. Students are responsible for satisfying all academic objectives as defined by the instructor. Absences count from the first class meeting.

The ceramic process requires participation, time and dedication.

Absences count from the first class meeting. Students who do not attend at least one of the first two class meetings of a course or laboratory in which they are registered, and who have not contacted the department to indicate their intent, may be dropped from the course.

I allow up to two absences without penalty. Keep in mind, you must meet the requirements for that class with regards to the work missed and any assignments due. A third absence will lower your participation grade. Should you have a prolonged illness or problem that takes you out of class for more than 3 absences please come see me during office hours or by appointment to discuss this.

The university recognizes the right of the individual professor to make attendance mandatory. **After due warning, professors may prohibit further attendance and subsequently assign a failing grade for excessive absences.**

[http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalogarchive/01-02-catalog/academic\\_regulations/academic\\_regulations\\_013\\_.htm](http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalogarchive/01-02-catalog/academic_regulations/academic_regulations_013_.htm)

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Students who miss work deadlines with excused absence are responsible for submitting the work due to the instructor before the beginning of the next class meeting to avoid being considered late. If excused absence has affected the student's ability to work, the student is responsible for discussing this with the instructor before the due date. Unexcused absence will not suspend due dates, and the work will be considered late. I encourage you to talk with me about work that is not completed on time, and establish when you will complete it. Late work will receive a lowered grade.

While all due care is exercised when moving, loading, and unloading work, ceramic work is fragile. Studio accidents or kiln issues may cause work to break. Instructors must have finished work to assign a grade for a project. Work that blows up or is broken before completion will require re-making for grading. If your work is destroyed in progress, please show this to your instructor and discuss what must be done to achieve a finished project for grading. In the case of involved projects where the loss is not the student's fault, abridged project parameters may be negotiated and due dates adjusted.

## **Late Arrival**

Prompt arrival to class is required. Arrival after start of class will be noted and four such incidences will count as one absence. Leaving early from class will also be considered the same as tardiness, and will be counted as such.

## **Studio Responsibilities**

### **Personal Media**

Turn cell phones to silent/vibrate before entering class. Absolutely no texting or call is permitted in class. Phones, pads, and laptops are to be used only for class related research, taking notes, and listening to music during work time.

Head phones are not allowed. However, when there is not a demo, discussion or critique, 1 earbud in 1 earbud out is allowed for music listening. Keep in mind you are here to learn and one of the ways to learn is to hear instruction and interact with your classmates.



*Ben Carter*

## Grading

60%	3 projects (including readings, research, maquettes and sketches in preparation) 15% assignment 1, 20% assignment 2, 25% assignment 3
5%	Tile Project
10%	Glaze technology and related tests
15%	Attendance, tardiness
10%	Participation in class discussions, critiques, participation in kiln firing and studio maintenance
100%	total

A = excellent, distinguished use of concepts, materials, and execution

B = good use of concepts, materials, execution

C = average

D = marginal

F = unacceptable, failure. No credit.

<b>A+</b>	100%-97	<b>B+</b>	89%-87	<b>C+</b>	79%-77	<b>D+</b>	69%-67	<b>F</b>	0
<b>A</b>	96-94	<b>B</b>	86-84	<b>C</b>	76-74	<b>D</b>	66-64		
<b>A-</b>	93-90	<b>B-</b>	83-80	<b>C-</b>	73-70	<b>D-</b>	63-60		

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UF online information about undergraduate grading:

<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>

## Resources

**U.F.'s Harn Museum** has a good collection of Asian ceramics.

**The AFA library** has many books, magazines and videos on both the technical and aesthetic aspects of ceramics. If you can't find what you want in the catalog, do ask the reference librarians for help. The videos can be checked out overnight.

## **Classroom Courtesies**

As per the University Policy related to Classroom Demeanor at the end of this syllabus, personal cell phone use is not permitted in class. Please set your phone on vibrate or silent. The use of such things as laptops and earphones should be held to a minimum so that interaction with your colleagues can take place. Small ear buds are acceptable when we are in working mode, large headphones are not. Should you not hear an announcement it will not be repeated.

Food and beverages are allowed in the studio classroom, but not the glaze and kiln rooms.

## **Clean-up**

Clean up is a necessary and required part of using a general shared studio. Please have a proprietary attitude about the shop, and leave it clean, regardless of the condition you find it. This includes cleaning up wheels, table space, sink, and floor. Working in built-up clay dust is a health hazard. We all work on this together, and the added effort and team spirit contributes greatly to the safe, effective, and enjoyable use of the area by a large number of people. Please read and observe shop procedures and rules. If in doubt, please ask me or Derek Reeverts (Ceramics Teaching Lab Specialist) or any of the very able graduate students in Ceramics. Your co-operation is expected.

Do not leave your work on community spaces. Please do not store anything on the floor. These will be disposed of.

Please remove all work and personal equipment from classrooms at the end of the semester. Anything left in the classrooms or lockers after the last day of finals will be considered abandoned and will be discarded.

## **Health and Safety**

Please wear closed toe shoes and proper attire, tie back hair and loose clothing when working around shop equipment i.e. the grinder. Follow directions for each piece of equipment and use goggles where required. No one will be allowed to load a kiln without closed toe shoes. You will not be allowed to work in the kiln room with open toed shoes and can be penalized regarding your participation grade.

University of Florida Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) has determined that the use of respiratory protection is not required for projects and activities typically performed in the School of Art + Art History. It is against the School of Art + Art History policy for any instructor to require students to wear respiratory protection however, you may recommend it, and you may voluntarily choose to wear respiratory protection: either an N95 filtering face piece, commonly known as a dust mask, or a tight fitting half or full-face respirator. Any user who chooses to wear such respiratory protection is therefore said to be a voluntary user. Environmental Health and Safety follows or exceeds OSHA 29CFR1910.132-137 standards for Personal Protective Equipment. Any voluntary user: student, faculty, or staff is required to follow all Environmental Health and Safety policy which can be found at:

<http://www.ehs.ufl.edu/General/resppol.pdf>

ANYONE WHO ELECTS TO WEAR ANY RESPIRATOR PROTECTION MUST FOLLOW THE UF EHS POLICY ON RESPIRATOR PROTECTION.

The link for information regarding the SA+AH H&S policy and handbook on health and safety is:

<http://www.arts.ufl.edu/art/healthandsafety>

## **Student information – UF policies**

### **Religious Holidays**

The Board of Regents and state law govern university policy regarding observance of religious holidays: Students, upon prior notification of their instructors, shall be excused from class or other scheduled

academic activity to observe a religious holy day of their faith. Students shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the material or activities covered in their absence. Students shall not be penalized due to absence from class or other scheduled academic activity because of religious observances. Further, a student who is to be excused from class for a religious holy day is not required to provide a second party certification of the reasons for the absence.

### **Disruptive Behavior**

A student may be dismissed from class if he/she engages in disruptive behavior: Faculty, students, Administrative and Professional staff members, and other employees [hereinafter referred to as "member(s)" of the University], who intentionally act to impair, interfere with, or obstruct the mission, purposes, order, operations, processes, and functions of the University shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action by University authorities for misconduct, as set forth in the applicable rules of the Board of Regents and the University and state law governing such actions. Please see complete information: <http://regulations.ufl.edu/chapter1/1008.pdf>

### **Academic Honesty**

All students are required to abide by the Academic Honesty Guidelines, which have been accepted by the university. This includes, among other things, sanctions for cheating, misrepresentation, plagiarism, and illegal use of copyrighted materials. For complete information please see: <http://regulations.ufl.edu/chapter4/4017.pdf>

### **Counseling Services**

The Counseling Center provides counseling and consultation services to currently enrolled undergraduate and graduate students and their spouses/partners. The Center offers brief counseling and therapy to help students confront personal, academic, and career concerns. The primary goal of counseling is to help students develop the personal awareness and skills necessary to overcome problems and to grow and develop in ways that will allow them to take advantage of the educational opportunities at the university. Counseling Center web site: <http://www.counsel.ufl.edu>

The Counseling Center is located at:

P301 Peabody Hall

(352) 392-1575

Monday - Friday: 8 am - 5 pm

### **Students with Disabilities**

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Dean of Students Office

Phone: 392-1261

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drp>