

**Syllabus**  
**ART 3764 Ceramic Sculpture 1**  
**Fall 2019**  
**3 Credits**  
**Professor Anna Calluori Holcombe**



Ryan Labar, Detail

Office: FAC B17  
Office Hours: T 3 – 4 PM and W 3 – 4 PM  
also by appointment  
[ach@ufl.edu](mailto:ach@ufl.edu)

**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 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.

**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 provides an introduction to Ceramic Sculpture with a specific focus on hand building processes. It presents issues, which give the student experiences in developing ideas based on contemporary culture. Sculpture processes which are additive and subtractive, plaster mold making, plus pinch, coil building, extrusion and slab construction methods as applied to sculpture will be taught. Glaze lectures, including a technical introduction to raw materials, will be included. An introduction to electric kiln firing is also presented.

The class format will include image presentations and demonstrations of hand building and sculpture techniques. Class lectures will incorporate highlights from ceramic history along with many contemporary examples. The course will consist of four major projects. There will be schedule supervised "lab work" and critiques, both in process and at the completion of the projects. You will have about 4 - 5 class periods to work on each assigned project. A series of glaze tests will also be required. The students will rotate the responsibility of loading, firing and unloading class kiln firings as part of the participation grade.

**Course Goals:**

1. The course is designed to teach ceramic sculpture techniques including the fundamentals of coil, pinch, extruding and slab building and basic modeling and carving.
2. Students will be taught technical skills including: the basics of plaster mold making, glaze testing and sculpture surfacing methods.
3. Students will explore diverse sculptural forms as a vehicle for concept.
4. The course will provide experiences in developing visual ideas and analysis of contemporary concepts.
5. The course present opportunities to analyze, discuss and critique ceramic sculpture.

**Required Text book (for purchase)**

*The Ceramics Bible: The Complete Guide to Materials and Techniques*, Louisa Taylor, ISBN: 978-1-4521-0162-0

**Other reading – Architecture and Fine Art Library 2<sup>nd</sup> floor**

Hands in Clay: An Introduction to Ceramics, Charlotte F. Speight, and John Toki

**Recommended Textbooks on Library Reserve**

Mold Making and Slip Casting, Andrew Martin

The Extruder Book, Baird

Virtual Pose 4 with CD (of moveable poses), Chakkour

Classic Human Anatomy, Winslow

The Ceramic Narrative, Matthias Ostermann

**Course Content/Topical Outline**

Course work will consist of **4 projects** supported by assigned readings, web and library research. A general description of each follows. A detailed assignment will be given at the start of each new project. All assignments involve preliminary research, assigned readings, sketching, maquettes, individual meeting with instructor to finalize the

proposed project. There will be a process crit and finished piece crit for each assignment.

A typical class will involve demos, lecture with images, glaze work, individual and group crits, loading and unloading kilns, etc. Plan on spending at minimum 3 hours outside of class time on the projects, if not more, and to check on work during the week for keeping it wet or dry as needed.

The projects for this class are conceptually based so that you will focus on a theme and find an individual solution that reflects your perspective. This course is fast paced so plan ahead to assure you will complete the assignment on time.

### **Assignment 1**

#### Organic Abstraction

Using a coil, pinch and extruding techniques take an object found in nature having an interesting form (3D) and create a sculpture. To finish the surface, use slips at the leather hard stage. The piece will be finished with a transparent glaze.

### **Assignment 2**

#### Contemporary Reliquary

Using a slab building technique with tar paper, construct a shrine like form to display something important to you. Slips, underglazes and glazes will be used to complete the sculpture.

### **Assignment 3**

#### Forms of Collection

One simple object (a few inches in size) will be made into a 1 – 2 part mold so it can be made repeatedly and quickly. From the Japanese Forms of Unity list, under forms of collection, choose a very specific type of collecting. Arrange 10 - 12 of the objects into that type. Slips, underglazes and glazes can be used to finish this piece appropriately.

### **Assignment 4**

#### The Contemporary Figurine

This assignment will utilize modeling as a technique. Consider a narrative that can be expressed with a single pose of the human figure, much like a traditional figurine. Be sure the narrative is important to you and is contemporary in theme. Model a figure, at least 6 – 10” inches in one direction to express the narrative. Slip, underglaze, stains and glazes can be used to complete the sculpture.

### **Method of Evaluation**

**Project grades will evaluate:** craftsmanship/execution, design/individuality, concept/expression, technical difficulty, research and planning (library and web research, maquettes), and completeness of presentation. Your individual development in the technical areas: research skills and firing skills will be evaluated. Your consistency and participation in critiques will be recorded. There is a grading rubric for each assignment.

**Cumulative grades** will be an evaluation of the following criteria; project grades, conceptual development, research, glaze testing, firing competency and participation, pre-planning (maquettes and sketches). The timely completion of all aspects of assigned

projects will be very much a part of your grade. If you do not make the deadlines for any part of the assignment you will accrue late grades and create a limit for receiving an excellent grade. All projects must be completed on time to receive full credit. Specific due dates are stated on the class calendar posted in the classroom and on CANVAS. Failure to complete any project on time will result in a drop of one full letter grade. Keep in mind, however, late work is better than no work.

You are responsible for completing **4** projects resulting in 4 sculptures along with required supplementary glaze testing. **It is your responsibility to manage the controlled drying of each project to meet set class deadlines for bisque and glaze kilns.**

The ceramic process requires that greenware be completely fabricated and detailed, then dried for an average of 7 – 10 days, depending upon scale and complexity. Please finish building all wet work on time for green ware due dates and manage the careful drying of your work so that you can meet all deadlines. Clay requires your regular attention to achieve good results. It cannot be rushed or neglected.

You must have ready before the start of class on critique days or your work will not be critiqued and your project grade will be lowered. Full participation by showing work during all critiques is required along with active participation through shared ideas and commentary.

A semester **grade of incomplete** will not be given for late work unless the following requirements are met:

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 .

### Grades

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| 15% | Assignment 1  |
| 20% | Assignment 2  |
| 20% | Assignment 3  |
| 20% | Assignment 4  |
| 5 % | Glaze tech and testing  |
| 20% | Participation in group critiques, kiln firings, studio cleaning.<br>Attendance. |

### UF Grading scale and policies

Attendance will be considered into your grade with more than two absences resulting in a grade drop.

Please keep in mind that an outstanding student attends class regularly, is on time, keeps the course work schedule, and participates, fully in kiln firing activities as well as producing great art work.

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  |          |   |

UF online information about undergraduate grading:

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

### **Attendance Policy:**

Plan to arrive promptly at 2:45 pm and set up to begin working. Attendance will be taken right at the beginning of each class; lateness will be noted and will affect your grade.

Class attendance is central to the learning process and to your success in the course. It is expected that you will attend regularly and be punctual. Everyone will value this courtesy to the group. Group demonstrations and lectures, roving critiques, individual tutorials, and discussions will be scheduled for many class periods.

I do not accept excuses for absences. I allow up to two absences without penalty. Keep in mind, you must meet the requirements for that class in work missed and any assignments due. A third and any subsequent absences will impact your Participation Grade by 5%. 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. Students are responsible for satisfying all academic objectives as defined by the instructor. 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.*

### **Clay and Glaze Materials:**

We will be using 2 clays for this class. First two projects will be using Nan's Clay and the second one will be Bella's Clay. These clays can be purchased through the SA+AH Office at posted signs only with a CHECK OR MONEY ORDER. There is a form to fill out and bring with you. Once paid, bring the receipt to me or an available grad student for the clay. Each bag (25 lbs.) is \$15.50 and you will likely use 4 bags. Glaze materials including, slips, wax resist, stains, patinas and pyrometric costs are covered by the

course materials fee. The plaster, decals and special materials are sold separately and can be purchased by the pound through the bookstore with the same form as for clay.

I will collect receipts during the second class meeting and dispense clay to you to start the first project. Additional clay will be available during class and can be gotten from our Teaching Lab Specialist, Derek Reeverts during scheduled hours posted on his office door as well as available grad students. Please arrange to pick up your clay during these hours. It is suggested that you keep any additional clay locked in your locker and that you recycle your used clay for future use (after training).

**The Basics:**

Bound sketchbook, recommended size no smaller than 8 x 5" but a size easy for you to carry around and use.

Drawing supplies, i.e. pencils, ruler, compass, eraser

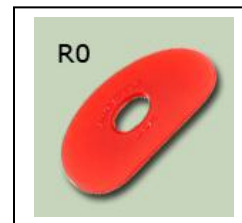
Basic set of tools – a tool kits is sold at the Reitz Bookstore, Michaels, Axner (Orlando) and Highwater Clay in St. Petersburg <http://www.highwaterclays.com/>



Modeling tools - wood or metal, a variety



Ribs From Sherrill Mudtools  
RO red very soft flex  
YO Yellow soft (optional)



Ribs and modeling tools and other tools can be purchase through our Teaching Lab Specialist.

Regardless of whether the kit includes a knife or not, you will need a knife with a short stiff blade. Recommended: Dolan 210

Highwater Clay n St. Petersburg <http://www.highwaterclays.com/>



Kemper Heavy Duty cut out tool can be found at

C&R Ceramics in Ocala <http://www.candrceramics.com/>

Brushes: You will need a small variety

At least 2 – 3 varying sizes of soft bristle brushes - Bamboo works well and is inexpensive.



An assortment of brushes can be bought through the teaching lab specialist.  
Can also be found at any art supply or ceramic supply store.

Turntable as work surface (Home Depot or Lowes)

Items from home:

light plastic (cleaners' plastic)

misting bottle

small bucket

fork

fabric (uncoated canvas or cotton polyester blend, or muslin) optional

small container with lid for slip

apron or old clothes

wooden spoon

Blow dryer (optional)

Ruler

Scissor

Towel

### **Lockers:**

Please sign up for a locker to be used to store tools and personal belongings on the first day of class. Lockers must be cleaned out and locks removed by the end of finals week, or the contents will be considered abandoned. If you are returning please note this on the door of the locker and your belongings will not be disturbed.

### **Studio, storage and clean up:**

**Please leave the studio clean.** Regardless of the condition you find it in, you are requested to leave it clean for the next person. Leave the work tables clear and clean. This also impacts your participation grade. ***This is a group studio, and we all need to pitch in to keep it a safe and healthy functioning work environment.***

Each student is responsible for ensuring that his/her projects and materials are safely stored, displayed, installed, and removed from the classroom and critique space. Projects must be set up and removed from the critique space at the times and spaces designated for each project.

The instructor, the School of Art and Art History, and the Ceramics Area are not responsible for student work left in workspaces, installation spaces, the critique space, the shops, or the classrooms. Projects/materials are not to be stored in the group working space.

Please address any concerns, problems, and questions regarding this class to the instructor as they arise. The instructor is available during office hours, and by making an appointment for a special meeting time.

### **Door codes and access to Studios**

FAC is opened:

M-F 7:00am -10:00pm

SAT 1:00pm – 10:00pm

SUN 2:00pm – 10:00pm

You will need your Gator One ID Card for the Card swipe for all other times. The card swipe is on the ground floor out to the parking lot, closest to Sculpture.

### **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.

### **Health and Safety**

#### **Specific Area information for Ceramics**

##### Area Rules:

- Follow all SA+AH Health and Safety handbook guidelines.
- Alcohol is forbidden in studios.
- No smoking on campus.
- No eating or drinking in the glaze or mixing areas
- Shoes – closed toes - must be worn at all times
- It is recommended that protective equipment be worn at all times: safety glasses when grinding, chipping shelves, etc., protective lenses for kiln viewing, gloves for hot objects, heat resistant aprons for raku, ear protection for grinding and sawing, rubber gloves for mixing hazardous materials
- Do not block aisles, halls, doors
- Do not bring children or pets into the studios
- Do not store things on the floor
- Do not park bikes in the building
- Clean up spills immediately
- Scoop up dry materials, mop up liquids, do not replace spilled materials in original source if spilled for they are contaminated
- Carry heavy and large trash bags loaded with trash to dumpster
- **Place materials containing Barium and Chrome in the hazardous waste disposal area**
- Do not sweep for this puts hazardous materials into the air; rather scrape up chunks and wet-clean area.

Any questions about Health and Safety ? ASK FIRST before doing.



### **Visitor policy:**

Your safety is important to us. Keep studios locked and not propped open. Should you have someone wanting to visit, you must seek permission from the Teaching Lab Specialist at least 48 hours before the visit.

### **University Policies:**

**Students with disabilities** - I will make every attempt to accommodate students with disabilities. At the same time, anyone requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide you with the necessary documentation, which you must then provide to me when requesting accommodation.

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center, 352-392-8565, <https://disability.ufl.edu> by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

### **Other policies -**

The university's policies regarding academic honesty, the honor code, and student conduct related to the honor code will be strictly enforced. Full information regarding these policies is available at the following links:

- Academic Honesty: <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html#honesty>
- Honor Code: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php>
- Student Conduct: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/conductcode.php>

**Classroom Demeanor** – *“Students in the School of Art and Art History will not be permitted to have beepers (pagers) and cell phones turned on in the classroom. If such a device beeps, chimes, rings, or makes any type noise, **it must be turned off before entering the classroom**”.*

### **Academic Honesty –**

*UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code ([sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/)) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.*

**Disruptive Behavior** – Faculty, students, administrative, and professional staff members, and other employees (herein 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. A detailed list of disruptive conduct may be found at: <http://www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/Rules/1008.htm>. **Be advised that a student can and will be dismissed from class if he/she engages in disruptive behavior.**

## Health and Wellness

*U Matter, We Care:* If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit [umatter.ufl.edu/](http://umatter.ufl.edu/) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

*Counseling and Wellness Center:* Visit [counseling.ufl.edu/](http://counseling.ufl.edu/) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

*Student Health Care Center:* Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit [shcc.ufl.edu/](http://shcc.ufl.edu/).

*University Police Department:* Visit [police.ufl.edu/](http://police.ufl.edu/) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

*UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center:* For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, [ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center](http://ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center).

## Academic Resources

*E-learning technical support:* Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](http://ufcomputinghelpdesk.com) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

*Career Connections Center:* Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services [career.ufl.edu/](http://career.ufl.edu/).

*Library Support:* [cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask](http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask) various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

*Teaching Center:* Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-

392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. [teachingcenter.ufl.edu/](http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/)

*Writing Studio:* 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting,

and writing papers. [writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/](http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/)

*Student Complaints On-Campus:* [sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/](http://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/)

### On-line Course Evaluation:

I appreciate your feedback and it is essential to the academic process. Please take a few minutes towards the end of the semester to give input.

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>

Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via [ufl.bluera.com/ufl/](http://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at [gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/](http://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/) .

**Critical Dates on the university calendar may be viewed at –**  
<http://www.reg.ufl.edu/dates-critical.html>

### DRAFT Schedule Ceramic Sculpture Details to follow on Canvas

| Week |  |                           |
|------|--|---------------------------|
| 1    | Intro, safety talk   | Buy supplies, clay ticket |
| 2    | Assign 1 introduction<br>Sketches, maquettes   |                           |
| 3    | Labor Day off<br>Workday   |                           |
| 4    | Workday<br>Visit Tile Exchange show<br>Surface demo  | brushes                   |
| 5    | Leatherhard crit Assign 1<br>Make test tiles<br>Intro Assignment 2<br>Sketches Maquettes due | Load bisque               |
| 6    | Glaze lecture and demo<br>Glaze Assign 1<br>Crit Assign 1<br>Glaze tech and test tiles       | Load Glaze                |
| 7    | Workday Assign 2<br>Leatherhard crit Assign 2  | Dry work                  |
| 8    | Glaze Assign 2<br>Intro Assign 3   | Fire bisque and glaze     |
| 9    | Crit Assign 2<br>Sketches and Maquettes<br>Assign 3<br>Mold demo                             |                           |

|    |   |                                |
|----|---|--------------------------------|
| 10 | Workday<br>Visiting Artist<br>Matt Metros                             |                                |
| 11 | Intro Assign 4<br>Sketches and Maquettes<br>Leatherhard crit Assign 3 | Dry work                       |
| 12 | Workdays<br>Judith Schwartz Visiting<br>Scholar lecture               |                                |
| 13 | Veterans Day off<br>Workday   |                                |
| 14 | Workday<br>Last day wet clay<br>Leather hard crit                     | Dry work<br>Bisque end of week |
| 15 | Glaze Assign 4<br>Thanksgiving Weekend                                | Load glaze                     |
| 16 | Clean up<br>Final Crits for Assignment 3<br>and 4                     |                                |
|    |   |                                |