ART 3783C Ceramic Design  
Spring 2018

Professor  
Office Holcombe  
FAC 17  
273-3050

E-mail  
ach@ufl.edu  
email class related messages through canvass

Web  
www.annaholcombe.com

Office Hours  
Monday 3 – 4 PM  
Tuesday 3 – 4 PM  
and by appointment

Teaching Lab  
Specialist  
Derek Reeverts  
18 FAC  
273-3085  
dreevert@arts.ufl.edu

Kiln room phone  
273-3042

University Police  
392-1111

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 see me during office hours for help or further information.

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, through the wheel throwing technique for those having the basic course or experience in wheel throwing or through handbuilding. Please be aware that this is not a beginning wheel throwing class. You will not be able to attain the technical wheel throwing ability and meet the assignment criteria at the same time.

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 Resources. 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

ON RESERVE AT AFA LIBRARY

TEXT FOR HANDBUILDING:
Mastering Hand Building: Techniques, Tips and Tricks for Slabs Coils and More
Sunshine Cobb

TEXT FOR DESIGNING:
The Ceramics Design Course, Anthony Quinn

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:
• Functional Pottery, by Robin Hopper
• Ceramic Spectrum, by Robin Hopper - for glazes
• 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, 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
8) Develop surface strategies that reinforce decisions in form

ASSIGNMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#1</th>
<th>Cups and Cultural Context</th>
<th>Making cups for specific beverages, working on consistency of form and scale in a set</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#2</td>
<td>Inside Out: Plates and bowls</td>
<td>Plate and bowl relationships based on form and surface, incorporating radial formats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#3</td>
<td>Pouring ceremony</td>
<td>Specific beverage specific set, based personal design decisions and function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tile design and pattern</td>
<td>Set of tiles in an architectural setting involving abstracton and pattern, surface design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Glaze Technology</td>
<td>Series of test involving glaze chemistry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
It is part of the assignment to do 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
The class clay is Little Loafers, a mid-range Stoneware clay and costs one ticket per bag at $15.50. Complete an order form, pay at SA+AH Office FAC 102 (Check or money order only) during office hours, and return both the receipt and form prior to picking up the purchased clay. Not having clay to work with will result in an unexcused absence. We cannot accept IOU's.

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 an 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.

Some supplies and materials are kept on my cart and the class cabinet.
### Required Supplies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clay tools</th>
<th>Miscellaneous</th>
<th>Drawing supplies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Basic Pottery Tool Kit (includes needle tool, metal rib, wood rib knife, wood tool, cutting wire, sponge 2 sizes trim tools)</td>
<td>• Towels (paper towels are not supplied)</td>
<td>• Sketchbook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Short blade knife</td>
<td>• Apron</td>
<td>• Pencils, pens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Mud tool red and yellow ribs</td>
<td>• Lock for locker</td>
<td>• Scissor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Scoring tool (fork)</td>
<td>• Bucket for water</td>
<td>• Ruler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Brushes (variety of sizes, soft bristle bamboo various sizes)</td>
<td>• Small lidded container for joining slip</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Inexpensive brushes (a stiffer one for wax resist)</td>
<td>• Plastic (soft cleaner bags, trash bags)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recommended:
- bat pins (1/4 inch cap head screws – available but not dependable source)
- sur-form, rasp

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 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 to fire pieces outside of the class scheduled firings.

### Attendance Policy

The ceramic process requires participation, time and dedication. Attendance (through a sign in sheet) will be taken at the beginning of each class. Attendance is required. Students are responsible for satisfying all academic objectives as defined by the instructor. 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.
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 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. I do not repeat demonstrations so connect with a classmate as to what you have missed. A third absence will lower your attendance 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. Be aware that 3 or more absences impacts 10% of your grade, also affects your participation grade as you are not there to contribute to the class.

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

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.

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.
Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Component Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>75%</td>
<td>3 projects (including readings, research, maquettes and sketches in preparation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assignments #1, 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assignment #2, 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assignment #3, 25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tile project, 10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Glaze technology and related tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Participation in class discussions, critiques, participation in kiln firing and studio maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Attendance, absences and tardy – see policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

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

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

UF online information about undergraduate grading:
[http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html](http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html)

**Resources**

**U.F.'s Harn Museum** has an excellent collection of Asian high fire ceramics. A field trip is being planned.

**The AFA Library** has many books, magazines and videos on both the technical and aesthetic aspects of ceramics. If you cannot 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 IN ONE EAR when we are in working mode, large headphones are not allowed. Should you not hear an announcement it will not be repeated. Part of the learning in this class has to do with the interaction with your peers.

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 capable graduate students in Ceramics. Your co-operation is expected.

Do not leave your work on community spaces. Store in your personal space or assigned shelf.

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:
Appendix G:
Health & Safety Area Specific Information: Ceramics, found at this link: http://arts.ufl.edu/site/assets/files/37319/saahhealthandsafetyhandbook.pdf

PLEASE NOTE: There will be an orientation on Safety the first day of class by our Teaching Lab Specialist. Should you miss this orientation, you will have to arrange for another session at the convenience of the Teaching Lab Specialist.

This course will adhere to the School of Art and Art History’s Health and Safety Policy, which will be reviewed in class. All students are required to sign and submit to the office the SAAH Health and Safety Student Signature page.

Respiratory Protection
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 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. Please see Derek Reeverts to do the required paperwork for use of this type of mask.

- Do not bring children or pets into the studios
- Do not store things on the floor as it impedes the flow of air and particles.

Please read the entire policy in the SA+AH Health and Safety Handbook (see link above).

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 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.

**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 in 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](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](http://regulations.ufl.edu/chapter4/4017.pdf)
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, preferably at the start of the semester.

Dean of Students Office
Phone: 392-1261
http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drp

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit 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/ 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/.

University Police Department: Visit 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.

Academic Resources
E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.
Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services career.ufl.edu/.
Library Support: 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/
Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/
Student Complaints On-Campus: 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/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/

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

Tentative Calendar
The class calendar will be kept on Canvas. Be sure to check it at least a couple times a week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Syllabus, Safety, Introduction Assign 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Individual meetings Assign 1, test tiles/extruder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Leather crit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Bisque, glaze tech and test tiles, Intro Assign 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Crit Assign 1, Visiting Artist (tentative)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Leather Crit Assign 2, Intro Decorative Tile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Bisque, Glaze, Intro Assign 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Glaze, Individual meetings Assign 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Crit Assign 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Workdays (NCECA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Decorative Tiles leather crit, fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Last day wet clay: April 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Test tile report and results, Decorative Tile Final Crit, clean up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Crit Assign 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>