

ART 2770C Ceramics for Non-Majors: Wheel Throwing
University of Florida, School of Art and Art History

Ceramics for Non-Majors: Wheel Throwing	Spring 2021
M & W 11:45 AM – 2:45 PM	Credit Hours: 3
Instructor: Sin Yee Cindy Leung	FAC B14 & B16
Office: FAC B12 Email: leungsinyee@ufl.edu Preferred communication: Emails on Canvas Response time: Take 12-24 hours (M-F from 9 AM-5 PM, no weekend emailing)	Ceramics policies can be found on our class canvas page which is listed below.
Office Hours: Mondays 3-4 PM	Course website: elearning.ufl.edu
Zoom Meeting ID: 98396518154	

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to making functional vessels on the potters' wheel as expressive art. In this class, we will examine historic and contemporary examples of pottery as a basis for understanding how the wheel-thrown vessel can be created as expressive art. We will focus on physical throwing skills, three-dimensional design concepts as they relate to the functional ceramic vessel, creative problem-solving to develop and realize an idea that can be read by other people, and the technical information necessary to support an understanding of forming, surfacing, glazing and firing pottery. With these processes, students will learn the foundations of artistic self-expression, practice making design choices for clear expression, and conceptual and aesthetic analysis through discussion of works of art in critique. We will be using low-fire materials and learning to load and fire electric kilns. *Wheel throwing is a physical activity. Traditionally, instruction is best done by guiding hands and arms. This involves touching. **However, in response to COVID-19, there will be no or minimal touching during class. All demonstrations will be recorded and made available on Canvas. Students are required to watch all assigned videos before coming to class.**

COURSE OBJECTIVES

As a result of completing this course the students will:

- Develop the physical skills of using a potter's wheel as a tool for shaping clay by throwing forms as well as trimming to shape thrown forms.
- Utilize the sketchbook for notes and visual research in developing complex ideas.
- Become familiar with ceramic art history and contemporary artists that have used thrown form and/or materials and processes related to those in this class, and how to use their research to expand, shape, and develop their ideas and aesthetics.
- Develop personal ideas that are visually expressed in response to the project and describe the content behind their work in critiques.
- Formulate and express an analytical critique of works through analyzing the visual expression of others and discussion of that work in critiques.

In response to COVID-19, the following policies and requirements are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions.

- You are required to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings. Following and enforcing these policies and requirements are all of our responsibility. Failure to do so will lead to a report to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.
- This course has been assigned a physical classroom with enough capacity to maintain physical distancing (6 feet between individuals) requirements. Please utilize designated seats and maintain appropriate spacing between students. Please do not move desks or stations.
- Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
- Follow your instructor's guidance on how to enter and exit the classroom. Practice physical distancing to the extent possible when entering and exiting the classroom.
- If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms ([Click here for guidance from the CDC on symptoms of coronavirus](#)), please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. [Click here for UF Health guidance on what to do if you have been exposed to or are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms](#).
 - Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. [Find more information in the university attendance policies](#).

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Class attendance is mandatory.

The ceramic process requires time and dedication. Students have 2 absences without penalty. After that, each unexcused absence deducts 50% of their attendance grade. On their 4th, 100% will be deducted from their attendance grade. This will severely affect their participation grade as well as overall grade. On the sixth unexcused absence, course withdrawal is suggested. Keep in mind you must meet the requirements for any class missed, the work missed and any assignments due. In the case of an absence, communicate with your peers for notes on missed activities.

If a student is absent from classes or examinations because of illness, they should contact their instructors **24 hours in advance**. Students should contact their college by the deadline to drop a course for medical reasons. Students can petition the Dean of Students Office to drop a course for medical reasons. The university's policy regarding medical excuse from classes is maintained by the Student Health Care Center.

General acceptable reasons for absence: illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays, and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) must be excused. Other reasons also may be approved. You must present documentation the day your return to class.

Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to **make up** work. [Find more information in the university attendance policies.](#) **Unexcused absences will not suspend due dates. Unexcused late work will result in a lowered grade.**

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.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

There is no required textbook for this course. Excerpts from *Mastering the Potter's Wheel: Techniques, Tips, and Tricks for Potters* by Ben Carter are available on Canvas.

TOOLS & MATERIALS

A sketchbook, tools, and at least one clay ticket are required for the second-class meeting. Please be sure to mark your tools with your name or some sort of identification. Kits and some tools for sign out are available through Derek.

Required Tools	
Sketchbook	
Pottery Tool Kit (8pcs):	
- Needle Tool	
- Flexible metal rib	
- Wooden shaping rib	
- Wooden knife/ modeling tool	
- Wire cut off tool	
- Sponge (synthetic)	
- Trimming tools: Loop tool (pear shape) and Ribbon tool (round and square edge)	
Serrated metal rib	
Soft rubber rib	
Small bucket	
Plastic – to cover work in progress, clear thin plastic works best	
Spray bottle	
Towel & Apron	
Brushes for slip, glazing, wax resist: a range of watercolor-type, hake, Japanese, etc. Need not be expensive, but several sizes would be helpful. Sold at hardware or hobby stores. SOFT brushes are the best!	



*Basic clay tool kit can be purchased online or through New Mexico Clay.

Recommended Tools

Padlock for your locker

Fettling knife

Calipers for lid & parts measurement

Scraper (plastic or metal, to lift bats, smooth clay)

Sur-form (small) rasp (hardware store item)

Small containers (for slips, glazing and to wash brushes)

Bat pins: 1/4" socket head cap screws with 3/8" head

Bulb syringe (infant enema w/removable nib) or slip trailing squirt bottles (Miss Clairol bottles from the beauty supply work well), perhaps one or two if you want to try trailing

x-acto knife

scissors

straight edge/ruler

Masking or painters tape

Sharp butter or kitchen knife

Sketchbooks are a necessary tool for artists. You are required to keep a sketchbook (minimum size, 8 1/2"x 11") for recording notes and ideas. Please have your sketchbook in class by the second-class meeting. I will review your sketchbook for each assignment. Don't be concerned about the quality of your drawing skills. You will be using drawing to develop your ideas, not as an art form. You should also use your sketchbook as a journal to write about your ideas and include pictures as well as other research materials. Which techniques worked, and which did not? What did you like or dislike about the firing results? Regular use of the sketchbook is one of the course objectives because using a sketchbook regularly will help you grow as an artist.

CLAY

Clay we are using: **premixed Little Loafers (White Stoneware, Mid-range, Cone 6)**

Clay is a wonderful material and will do many things, but it cannot be rushed or neglected without consequences. It takes regular practice and attention to develop skills and firing techniques. **This will take studio time outside of scheduled class hours.** You will need to make MORE than the final required number of pieces for each assignment to achieve satisfactory finished pieces. I highly recommend to spend at least **six hours per week outside of class time.**

How to purchase: buy a clay ticket from the instructor in class or our Teaching Lab Specialist Derek Reeverts in B18D (**check or money order only**). Please fill out a material slip to purchase the ticket, once you have obtained a receipt you may receive clay from your instructor. Non-porcelain bags of clay are **\$16** each. Students may recycle clay as outlined below, or unsuitable clay may be placed in the reclaim buckets for the appropriate clay type. Students are welcome to recycle clay out of the reclaim buckets after training from Derek.

Clay Slurry remaining in your bucket after working or clean up should be put in reclaim. **DO NOT POUR SLURRY OR SLIP IN THE SINK; USE THE RECLAIM BARREL** or the trash for contaminated clay. Thick liquids not going to reclaim should be put in the trash.

ACCIDENT

Ceramic work is fragile. Studio accidents or kiln issues may cause work to break. While all due care will be exercised, students 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 me and we will 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.

Grading	Weight
Project 1 – Cylinders/Exercises	15%
Project 2 – Bowls	20%
Project 3 – Cups/Mugs	20%
Project 4 – Lidded Jars	20%
Test – on materials, process, ceramic art history	5%
Participation: Participation in class discussions and critiques, presentations of discussion material, participation in loading and firing kilns, and cleaning up after yourself, and cleanup of studio during the last 10 minutes of class.	10%
Attendance: See attendance policy.	10%

TOTAL = 100%

GRADING SCALE

A 94-100, A- 93-90, B+ 89-87, B 86-84, B- 83-80, C+ 79-77, C 76-74, C- 73-70, D+ 69-67, D 66-64, D- 63-60, E 59-0

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

B = good use of concepts, materials, execution

C = average, meets all requirements minimally.

D = marginal, aspects of project are missing or not fulfilled

E = unacceptable, failure. No Credit.

(Note: A grade of C- or below will not count toward major requirements)

UF Grading policy: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

*****Detailed information on how each project will be graded can be found on project sheets for assignments. Evaluation of your fulfillment of project requirements will be available on Canvas after each critique.**

All projects must be completed on time to receive full credit. Specific due dates are stated on the Tentative Course Calendar. Failure to complete any project on time will result in a

drop of one full letter grade from that project. Keep in mind, however, late work is better than no work.

CRITICAL DATES AND DEADLINES

Please refer to the Tentative Course Calendar and announcements on Canvas. It is your responsibility to keep track with deadlines and online materials on Canvas. Critical Dates on the University of Florida calendar may be viewed at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/dates-deadlines/>

STUDIO ETIQUETTE/ CLASSROOM DEMEANOR POLICY

- Ask questions!
- Be open-minded for new ideas and constructive criticism. Challenge yourself creatively with each project.
- Critique ideas; not people.
- Name preferences and preferred pro-nouns will be respected in this class, and all are asked to be patient with the occasional error. <https://lgbtq.vassar.edu/transandnon-binaryresources/gender-pronouns.html>
- Be punctual. Arrival after the start of class will be noted and four such incidences will count as one absence. Leaving early from class will also be considered as tardiness and will be counted as such.
- Complete assignments on time.
- Be attentive and engaged during demonstrations, discussions, critiques, and meetings.
- Participate in all group tasks including clay processing and kiln loading.
- All electronic devices are for class-related activities such as researching and zoom. Absolutely no electronic devices during critiques.
- **A good part of the knowledge gained in this class is through conversation and listening, not only with the instructor but with your peers.** Students may use headphones and earbuds for music only when there is not a demo, critique or discussion. Please use only one earbud in your ear to allow for these exchanges. I highly recommend no earbuds early in the semester to better help you learn how to throw (hearing the hum of the wheel is important at first).
- Each student can sign up for a **locker** 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.

STUDIO ACCESS POLICY (Code is 513* for this semester)

Studios are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to registered students. You will be given code by your instructor. FAC is locked on the weekends. Your student ID acts as a key card for the exterior door near the wood shop. There is a small black card reader to the right of the door. Please **do not prop doors open under any circumstances**. Additionally, please note that the studio is CLOSED from 5-6 AM for daily cleaning, **please put chairs on the table if you are the last in the studio for this to happen**.

HEALTH AND SAFETY (Specific Area Rules & Information for Ceramics)

- Follow all SA+AH Health and Safety handbook guidelines.
- Follow guidelines listed in Welcome to UF Ceramics (available on Canvas).
- 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.

DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR

Be advised that you can and will be dismissed from class if you engage in disruptive behavior. Students 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.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

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>

ONLINE 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 gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.

UF COUNSELING AND WELLNESS SERVICES

- University Counseling Center: 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575, personal counseling (counseling.ufl.edu)
- Student Mental Health: Student Health Care Center, 392-1171, personal counseling (shcc.ufl.edu)
- Sexual Assault Recovery Services, SARS: Student Health Care Center, 392-1161, sexual assault counseling
- Career Resource Center: Reitz Union, 392-1601, career development assistance and counseling.

Course Syllabus Acknowledgement

Course	ART 2770C Ceramics for Non-Majors: Wheel Throwing
Location	FAC B14 & 16
Instructor	Cindy Leung
Office	FAC B12
E-mail	leungsinyee@ufl.edu
Office Hours	Mondays 3-4 PM

By signing this form and continuing participation in this course you acknowledge that you have read and understand these policies. In addition, you agree that you have read and understand this syllabus, attendance and grading policies, and are aware of the Guidelines for use of University Facilities and Grounds for Making and Exhibiting Design (A copy of these guidelines is posted in the School of Art + Art History Office.)

Name: (print) _____

Signature: _____

Email: _____

Student Information

Phone Number: _____

Health Concerns: _____

College Year: _____ Major: _____

What inspired you to take this course?

Have you worked with ceramics before?

How do you like to spend your free time, favorite activities, music, books, and television?

Who are some of your favorite artists and/or works of art?

What expectations do you have for this course?