

Art 130 Ceramics 1 Sections A Spring 24

Start: April 2 to June 14

Holidays: No classes or open studio May 25-27

5 Credit Hours

Class meetings:

Section A Tuesday and Thursday 1:30-3:50

Attendance on face-to-face days is very important! Please contact the instructor if you must miss a class session and plan on attending open studio. Ask about working at home options if you cannot make open studio times. Limit absences to 3 maximum per quarter.

Location: Roe Studio, WCC campus

Instructor: Rob Beishline

Office: Roe Studio

Office Phone: 360 383-3501 (email or canvas message preferred this quarter!)

Office Hours:

Roe office hours:

In person Monday 8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.(Roe and CAS 163), Thursday 12-1:00 in the office in Roe Studio

E-mail: rbeishli@whatcom.edu and Canvas Message for appointments

Course Description and Objective:

The initial objective of this course will be for students to learn the technical aspects of working with clay. These skills are only a means to create a visual language. The course will also be a place to explore how different ways of touching and forming clay effect the voice or quality of the object created. This class will be an environment in which the students and teacher not only create objects but also learn to look at, discuss, and begin to interpret them.

At the completion of the course students will be able to:

1. Create forms employing basic clay forming techniques: pinching, coiling, and slab.
2. Utilize slip and glaze to develop surfaces.
3. Define ceramics vocabulary and the steps required to finish a ceramic piece.
4. Employ visual language and ceramic techniques to communicate an idea, emotion, or function.
5. Critique and respond to finished work and work in progress.
6. Explore ceramic traditions, and respond to their discoveries.

Methods of presentation and participation:

The class will be a combination of instruction through video and written tutorials, your hands on work with clay, and our participation in group discussions focusing on sharing our own work and also responding to videos on historical and contemporary ceramics.

One of the most important elements of this class will be your group discussions. These are an opportunity for us to discuss and write about the work being made and to respond to what we are learning. It will be a time to learn and grow as we explore the creative process.

Grading: I understand that for many of you this is a new experience. I take into account the effort I see you putting into the work, and the improvement, which is made during the quarter. Examine your syllabus for details on point values and point breakdown for the class.

Percentages and Letter Grades:

A 92+ A- 90-92 B+ 84-90 B 82-84 B- 80-82 C+ 74-80 C 72-74 C- 70-72 D+ 64-70 D 60-64 F 59 and lower

S/U Grades: An "S" grade is granted to students receiving a "D" or higher. A "U" grade is granted to students receiving below a "D".

Calendar of events and Due Dates:

All class activities are listed in your CANVAS calendar. All due dates are listed in both the CANVAS calendar and under assignments in CANVAS. Included below are weekly topics:

Week 1: Introduction to the course, Tools, Materials, Creating Space, Pinching forms

Week 2: What is Clay? Coiling and adding, Combining Forms

Week 3: Soft slabs, Cups and bowls, cup research

Week 4: Hard slabs, underglaze decoration, decorating strategies

Week 5: Coil building larger forms, combining molded forms, Cup critique, Story Pot assignment and research

Week 6: Hard slabs, boxes and lids

Week 7: Wheel throwing demo, Work time and individual and group check in

Week 8: Independent Project 1, Story Pot Critique

Week 9: Independent Project 2

Week 10: Documenting work, glazing and firing, Final Critique

Week 11: Wrapping things up: Cleaning and picking up work, Instructor grading

Evaluation:

- The built assignments will be evaluated at the due dates listed on Canvas and in the syllabus. Turn these assignments in person in the studio. These assignments will be graded **before** they are glaze fired. Comments and scores will be posted on Canvas for each assignment.
- There are 2 glaze checks listed on Canvas for midterm and final glazing, submit pieces for glaze check in class or via photos in Canvas assignment.

You may take graded assignments home, but keep graded assignments available through the end of the quarter!

Assignments: I will give you assignment details in Canvas, which go into the assignments in detail. Listed below are tentative due dates, which are posted on the Canvas calendar. Due dates are subject to change.

Marking Work and Academic Honesty: All work must be initialed or marked with a unique and identifiable mark and the year. Please do not take finished work or complete unfinished work that you are not sure is yours. If you are in doubt, you should leave a note or ask the class. **Handing in other people's work is the same as handing in a paper you did not write** and could result in a failure on that assignment, or in extreme cases you may be reported for **academic dishonesty**.

Assignment and grade overview

Requirements:

Here is the assignment and grade breakdown for the quarter:

Group discussions, critiques, and in class activities:

We will have about 5 graded class activities worth 3 points each. Activities will include critiques, research, and even some fun! You will record these activities in handouts and notes turned in during class.

Built assignments:

4 built assignments

Glazing:

I will check off your glazing (the surface and firing that completes your pieces) twice during the quarter.

Backup plan for inclement weather or imposed remote learning:

In case of inclement weather, or imposed remote learning requirements, all students are expected to have clay, tools, and access to a laptop and internet. Laptops are available for check out from the WCC student helpdesk. Discussions and critiques will move online and we will work on small clay projects at home.

Grade Breakdown: These point totals may change, but this is a close estimate of the breakdown for the class.

Assignment	Points	Due Date
Pinched planter	10	April 9
Slab Cup	10	April 18
Slab box	15	April 30
Story Pot	15	May 16
Independent Projects	15	May 30
Glazing 1	7	April 25
Glazing 2	7	June 6
Group Critiques and in class activities: 1 st day activities, Cup Critique, Story Pot Research, Story Pot Critique, Final Critique	15	
Attendance	10	June 6

Clean up sheet	5	June 6
Total Points	109	

Percentages and Letter Grades:

A 92+ A- 90-92 B+ 84-90 B 82-84 B- 80-82 C+ 74-80 C 72-74 C- 70-72 D+ 64-70 D 62-64 D- 60-62 F 59 and lower

Attendance: This class is based on experience. Listening, making, and participating consistently throughout the quarter are important to a successful online experience! After 3 absences your attendance grade will drop 1 point for each additional absence.

Incompletes:

The grade assigned on the incomplete agreement should be calculated based on all work required for an entire quarter.

- ☐ An incomplete should be issued only when it is possible for the student to achieve a passing grade.
- ☐ A student who is unable to complete a quarter or a class due to some unforeseen circumstance may want to consider petitioning the college for a "Hardship Withdrawal". See the catalog for more details.
- ☐ Incompletes are given at the discretion of the faculty member. An instructor's syllabus should provide a clear process about expectations for an Incomplete Agreement.

S/U grading.

Students who enroll for satisfactory/unsatisfactory (S/U) grading in this course should be aware that a C- (or C, depending on the course) grade is required to earn an S grade. Students who are considering changing to an S/U grading approach through registration should check with me first to determine your current standing in the course. You should then check with an advisor using WCC's virtual welcome center to determine the best course of action for your success. Some programs, schools, and universities may not recognize the S grade in the same manner as WCC.

Late Work:

Late assignments will be graded down 1 1/2 points for each class day late, up to 4 1/2 points off, unless you make special arrangements with me before the due date. At the time of grading any missing assignments will be scored as a 0 in Canvas. However, you can still turn them in to receive a grade for that project. I enter the 0 to help you see an accurate representation of your grade with that assignment missing.

Information about COVID-19 and virtual services:

I want you to have all the information needed for success with this class and quarter. In addition to the shared course announcements, college updates can be found at WCC's COVID-19 page. Additionally, WCC's virtual welcome center provides information about college services in a remote environment, with links to access core college services described in the syllabus through phone, email, web, or Zoom.

Student illness:

In the event you or someone close to you becomes ill during spring quarter, please check in with me as soon as possible so we can discuss options for your continued success in the course. In the event you consider withdrawing from the course, please connect with me to discuss your course progress and then use the resources available at WCC's virtual welcome center to determine your best option.

The Whatcom Community College Netiquette Statement

- *Be courteous about what you say to or about others in any electronic format. In electronic communication, the golden rule is, "Remember the Human"; there is a real person with real feelings on the receiving end of your post.*
- *Be respectful and open to opinions and ideas that differ from yours. The exchange of diverse thoughts, ideas, and opinions are an essential part of the scholarly environment. Keep in mind that the people in your classes may come from backgrounds and have views that may vary significantly from your own.*
- *Flaming is not appropriate under any circumstances. While everyone (learners and instructors alike) is encouraged to share ideas and opinions openly, you should never use insults or resort to name-calling even if you disagree strongly with what someone else has written. Insulting remarks and name-calling are never appropriate in an academic setting. Flaming is the posting of messages that are deliberately hostile and insulting in an online social context.*
- *When responding to messages or posts made by others, address the ideas, not the person.*
- *Be careful when using sarcasm and humor. Without social cues, such as facial expressions and body language, a remark meant as humorous could come across hurtful or offensive. Don't assume that the use of emoticons, such as :-) are enough to convey your tone or intent.*

- Capitalizing whole words is generally seen as *SHOUTING* and is often offensive to the reader. Use all capital letters sparingly, such as to highlight a meaningful word or point.

Core Learning Abilities:

WCC's core learning abilities (CLAs) – quantitative literacy, information literacy, communication, critical thinking, and global consciousness – are skills taught and reinforced throughout our curriculum. These skills are integral to students' professional and personal lives. This course will give you the opportunity to practice and develop critical thinking, and communication among other core abilities.

Disability Support: Any student with a disability requiring auxiliary aids, services, or other accommodations should contact the Access & Disability Services (ADS) office in the Entry and Advising Center in LDC 116 or call 383-3080 or 360.255.7182 (Videophone) to make an appointment.

Affirmation of inclusion

WCC is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the College community feels welcome to participate in the life of the College, free from harassment and discrimination. We welcome people of all races, ethnicity, national origins, religions, ages, genders, sexual orientations, marital status, veteran status, abilities and disabilities. Toward that end, faculty, students and staff will treat one another with respect and dignity; promote a learning and working community that ensures social justice, understanding, civility and non-violence in a safe and supportive climate; and influence curriculum, teaching strategies, student services and personnel practices that facilitate sensitivity and openness to diverse ideas, peoples and cultures in a creative, safe and collegial environment.

Non-discrimination policy, Title IX, and sexual misconduct

WCC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation, genetic information or age in its programs and activities. WCC's discrimination and harassment policy (policy 615) and the student rights and responsibilities policy (WAC 132U-125) strictly prohibit sexual harassment, intimidation, and violence. Anyone who has experienced sexual misconduct is encouraged to contact a WCC counselor in entry and advising (Laidlaw 116) at 360-383-3080 to receive confidential support and learn about reporting options. Any disclosure of such misconduct shared with another faculty or staff member is non-confidential and requires a report to WCC's Title IX coordinator, who has been designated to handle such reports. Inquiries regarding non-discrimination, Title IX, and sexual

misconduct policies can be directed to the executive director for human resources, 237 W. Kellogg Road, Bellingham, WA 98226, 360-383-3400.

Student conduct expectations

All work submitted should be your own original work. Handing in other people's work is the same as plagiarizing and could result in a failure on that assignment. Mark your work with your initials to help prevent confusion.

A Note on Storage of Work:

Mark all your pieces with your initials and the year. Initialing your pieces eliminates confusion between students when identifying work. Finished (glazed and fired) pieces will be kept until mid-term of the following quarter. After that time period the work will be disposed of. This is a small studio so there is not much space for storage.

Drop off and Picking up Work:

The instructor will arrange times to drop off and pick up work. Please take all finished work home at the end of the quarter. Any worked fired after the quarter is complete can be picked up by arrangement with the instructor or during class times of the following quarter.

Tools you will need:

- If you want your own tools: Purchase a basic kit in the WCC bookstore. There is detailed information in Canvas on tool options.
- Old apron, large tshirt etc... to cover clothes and keep clean.
- Plastic for covering work.

Studio Rules, or "How to keep this a fine place to work", these mostly apply to at home work as well!:

- **Clean up after yourself-** clean work surfaces used, put away tools and clay, pick up clay chunks off floor including wheel trim scraps. Double check your work areas before you leave including glaze room and community tools.
- **Respect the space and people:** respect the studio potter's spaces, respect other people's tools, respect the building and equipment, this is a community space.
- **Kids and the studio:** The studio is a place full of hazards for kids: hot kilns, sharp corners, fragile objects. Consult with your instructor before bringing a child into the studio.
- **No clay down the sinks.** Get as much of the clay and slop into the slop buckets.
- **Do not attempt to use kilns** without permission and instruction of your instructor, a work study student, or studio potter.

- **Bring a buddy at night. We are isolated here. Use the buddy system when working during non-class hours.**

Studio Safety:

Most ceramic materials are a respiratory hazard when inhaled as dust. Please keep your area clean and clean only with a sponge or mop and water. This reduces dust in the air. Long term, over several years, exposure to silica dust can lead to respiratory issues like silicosis.

No food or drink should be used in the glaze areas or while glazing. Proper dust masks, and gloves must be worn when mixing glazes and clay. Do not sand dry work or trim bone dry clay. Wear a dust mask if creating dust and work in a ventilated space.

Labeling:

Roe Studio follows the Global Harmonizing Labeling system approved by the United Nations. Please take time to understand the labels. Information will be provided on Canvas and during class.