Art 221 – Ceramics
Tuesday 6pm-10:30pm
Office hours: By Appointment
Summer 2013 May 27-July 27
Instructor: Crisha Yantis
Office: Ceramics Studio, LUX Center for the Arts
E-mail: c_yantis@yahoo.com
phone: (402) 304-9621

Required Texts: None. Handouts will be provided. Please bring a 5x7 sketchbook to every class, all other Supplies will be provided.

Course Description This Course fulfills one Doane Plan Fine Arts requirement. The purpose of this class is to introduce the beginning student to the materials, processes, tools, ideas, and aesthetic principles of ceramic art. The class will work with earthenware clay, and will produce 3 main projects. Good clay work expresses itself clearly and requires that you exercise thoughtfulness and sensitivity. Also included will be an introduction to decorating, glazing and firing. The majority of our time in class will be spent on studio work. The rest of the time will be used to demo techniques and introduce projects through slide presentations. There will be scheduled critiques to discuss the success and failures discovered in each project.

Course Objectives:
• Develop an understanding of ceramic materials and construction techniques.
• Complete three projects using learned technical skills.
• Make personal choices using your own and learned creative choices.
• Develop sensitivity to craftsmanship.
• Develop a vocabulary for discussing ceramics.
• Develop critical and analytical skills by participating in group discussions and critiques.
• Develop awareness of ceramic art produced by various artists.
• Foster an appreciation for artists in the local community.
• Demonstrate proficiency in the technical aspects of hand building and finishing ceramic objects.
• Details and expectations for each project are outlined on each assignment handout.

Student Responsibilities:
• Attendance is MANDATORY. Class begins at 6:00p.m. and continues until 10:30p.m. I expect and appreciate students to be on time and attend all classes. Many demos cannot be repeated. Your grade will drop a grade for each class missed.
• Students are able to work on class assignments in the studio during open studio hours. These hours will be posted in our classroom. They change weekly so please check the schedule regularly.
• Students must keep a notebook/sketchbook for taking notes during lectures and demos, and for sketching ideas for each project. Please bring this with you at all times.
• Students must complete all assignments.
• Students must clean up after themselves. ALWAYS.
• Turn phones off at the door. I will give you my full attention during our time and ask the same of you.
• My intention is to develop and foster an appreciation in each student for ceramic art. You will do well in this class by simply showing up to each class willing to learn and fully engage in the material and critical discussions.

Student Project Responsibilities continued:
Complete class assignments which will include:
• 3 Hand building assignments
These assignments will require practice of skills such as making pinch pots, coil building and slab building. They will also require conceptualizing sculptural form, as well as learning how to communicate ideas.
• Each assignment will include learning how to create and develop surface:
  o Developing an understanding of the variety of surfaces available
  o Learning how to apply slip, glaze, stains, wax.
  o Learning about the relationship between form and surface

Grading
You will be evaluated on:
• Creative form and willingness to push initial ideas to further
• Exploration of diverse techniques
• Expressive use of texture, colorants, and glazes
• Technical challenge and achievement
• Craftsmanship
• Willingness to take risks, try new ideas, respond to suggestions.
• Research, when appropriate
• Classroom participation (daily cleanup, critiques, etc.)
• Grades will correlate with a 0-100 point system using the scale below.
• There will be 4 mini quizzes throughout the semester to help reinforce important vocabulary and techniques needed to succeed in the studio environment.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>97-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94-97</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-94</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-90</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84-87</td>
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<td>B-</td>
<td>80-84</td>
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<td>C+</td>
<td>77-80</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>74-77</td>
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<td>C-</td>
<td>70-74</td>
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<td>D+</td>
<td>67-70</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>64-67</td>
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<td>D-</td>
<td>60-64</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-60</td>
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The following rubric is intended to clarify the assigning of letter grades:

A: The student completes all requirements, on time, in an outstanding manner. The required work is creative, provocative, well developed, exquisitely executed and impeccably crafted. The student generates work that goes beyond that which is explicitly assigned. The student takes a leadership role in group activities. The student makes excellent, consistent progress. Quantitative range: 90-100.

B: The student completes all requirements, on time, in a good manner- better than that of the average UNL art student. The required work is creative, well developed and carefully executed. The student generates work that goes beyond that which is explicitly assigned. The student is an active participant in group activities. The student makes good, consistent progress. Quantitative range: 80-90.

C: The student completes all requirements, on time, in an average (acceptable) manner. The required work is average in development and craft. The student makes average progress. Quantitative range: 70-80.

D: The student completes all requirements in a less than acceptable manner. The required work is underdeveloped and without dedication. The student is passive in critiques and group discussions. The student makes poor progress. Quantitative range: 60-70.

F: The student who submits unacceptable and/or late work will receive this grade. The required work is undeveloped and without dedication. Students who are earning this grade at the mid point of the semester will be asked to withdraw from the course. Quantitative range: 0-60.

ATTENDANCE
Attendance is mandatory. Demonstrations and lectures cannot be repeated and are crucial to your successful completion of the assignments.

Due to the nature of clay needing to dry, we will have a last wet working day set in order to get all work fired by end of session. During the session you must be aware of clay’s needy nature. It must be attend to or it will dry out quickly.

STUDIO ETIQUETTE
• No eating in the studio. Students may have a beverage as long as they throw away empty containers.
• No music in the studio. No wearing of headphones during class. This helps me communicate with you whenever necessary.
• No talking on the phone or texting during class; phones must be turned off.

CLEAN UP
Because we share this studio with so many classes we must maintain this shared space for all. Do not leave your work out on the table, always return it to your designated shelf or discuss other options with an instructor.
In addition to major class cleanups, you are each responsible for cleaning up after yourself each time you use the studio, whether in or out of class. This keeps our studio healthier and more pleasant working environment.

Sketch/Notebook: At each class you will need a sketch/notebook/folder for class notes, planning and recording forms (A small artist’s sketchbook would seem best 5x7
The semester calendar will be posted with all upcoming requirements; it is subject to change at the instructor’s discretion.

Academic Integrity:
The Doane College Academic Integrity Policy will be adhered to in this class. All projects will represent your own work. Any use of others’ ideas and words without proper citation of sources is plagiarism and will result in penalties to be determined by the instructor and/or the dean of undergraduate studies. Any use of others’ direct labor in fabricating assignments will also result in penalties to be determined by the instructor and/or the dean of undergraduate studies.

You will learn to dialogue about your projects with the following system:

Guide to Criticism

1. Content / Intent / Concept / Idea: What the work is all about

2. Formal Qualities
   a. use of color  
   b. use of texture  
   c. surface  
   d. form  
   e. line
   f. scale
   g. proportion
   h. volume
   i. balance
   j. edges
   k. contrast

3. Craftsmanship

4. Use of Medium

5. References - Work of art in relationship to:
   a. society  
   b. culture  
   c. environment  
   d. history  
   e. material process  
   f. artist’s perspective

6. Clarity of Idea - All elements and components come together to communicate idea

7. Other Considerations
   a. risk  
   b. overstated  
   c. expressive factor  
   d. impact  
   e. organization
   f. title  
   g. effort  
   h. originality  
   i. creativity