Ceramics – Clay and Glazes (ART 4785C) 4 credits
Instructor Bonnie Seeman, Bssee@aol.com
Semester: Spring 2011, 4:00 – 6:50 TR
Prerequisites: ART 2751C, ART 3764C, ART 4761C, or ART 2752C

FAU Catalog: In-depth study of ceramic materials, focusing on the formulation of clay and glazes, testing, firing, lectures, and introduction to computer programs.

Materials: Notebook for lectures, clay and test results and handouts, Calculator, respirator or dust mask, rubber or latex gloves, cups for mixing in, sharpie pens, Kemper tool kit (sponge, needle tool, trim tools, metal and wooden rib, wooden knife, cutting wire), e-xacto knife, or fettling knife, bucket, various brushes (small and large), masking tape, flexible ruler, towel or apron for your clothing. Tools can be purchased at Utrecht Art Supply, Michael’s, or Pearl Paint, Jerry’s Artorama.

Texts: Required
Recommended
Conrad, John, Advanced Ceramic Manual, Technical Data For the Studio Potter
Hamer, Frank, The Potters Dictionary of Materials and Techniques
Robin Hopper, The Ceramic Spectrum, Chilton Book Co, 1984

Grading: Each project will be graded. Your grade is based on the completion of projects, developing wheel skills and aesthetic, progress and attendance.

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory. Attendance will be recorded. The State of Florida’s educational system acknowledges no excused absences except documented illness, jury duty or death of an immediate family member. If another situation or problem develops, please see me. Otherwise, each student is allotted 3 ‘no-questions-asked’ absences except on assignment or Project Due Dates (critique), Written Exam Date and Final Critique Date. *(4) absences will cause one full-letter grade lower for a final grade evaluation. Continuous absences will constitute failure of the course. Absence of the Final Exam Critique will also constitute failure of the course. There is a 10-minute leeway policy before students are recorded as ‘late’. This means a student has an extra 10 minutes to arrive to class past the scheduled beginning time of the course. *(4) ‘lates’ equate to (1) unexcused absence. It is the responsibility of the student to make sure the Instructor knows s/he is present after arriving late. It is also the student’s sole responsibility to acquire all information that is missed. All critiques, demonstrations, lectures, and class announcements will be given at eh beginning of class, unless otherwise stated. These will not be repeated.

Complete utilization of class time required. Leaving class early is highly discouraged. Continuously leaving of class significantly early will be equated in the same method as recorded ‘lates’. Students need to check with the Instructor before
leaving class early. Students will find that to complete projects and course requirements, this course will require working outside of class time. The Ceramics area does have a 24/7-access policy. You may use the studio anytime there is not a scheduled wheel class.

*All Assignments and Projects will be discussed in class prior to their assignment to clarify any confusion. Work deadlines are subject to change, as are entire assignments and projects – each class is unique and must remain flexible and open-ended.

** Each student is responsible for making sure his or her work is properly dried, loaded and fired as well as glazed (If necessary)– no one else. Shop is not responsible or broken, damaged, or stolen works.

STATEMENT OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the University mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the University community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001_Honor_Code.pdf.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) located in Boca Raton SU 133 (561-297-3880), in Davie - MOD I (954-236-1222), in Jupiter - SR 117 (561-799-8585), or at the Treasure Coast - CO 128 (772-873-3305), and follow all OSD procedures.

Note: In accordance with university policy, all cell phones and beepers must be turned off during class time.

**Studio Etiquette:** (Handout also provided as well as posted)

1.) It is each student’s responsibility to leave his/her work area cleaner than s/he found it. This means putting everything back in its place and wiping off, sweeping and mopping up. If the wheel area begins to get ‘out of control’, the class will perform a clean up session at the end of class every Wednesday.

2.) State law prohibits smoking in the building. Also in accordance to Art Department policy and EH&S, eating and drinking is not allowed in all areas of the Ceramic shop; particularly the Glaze Room.

3.) Observance of all safety policies and procedures of the Ceramic Department Handouts will be distributed in class.

4.) Be considerate of your neighbors, and respect other’s property – this includes their work and tools.
5.) Dogs are not permitted in the Ceramic areas excepted when permitted by law.
6.) Small children are discouraged to visit the lab areas due to safety issues.
7.) Only work executed for class will be permitted to be fired in the kilns.
8.) Respect of equipment and the Ceramic facilities. Misconduct, theft and
destruction of property will cause 24/7 shop access policy to be revoked.
Limited, scheduled shop lab hours will be instituted.

Clay:

Assignments:
Lab 1 - Kitchen Find Jan 13
Lab 2A - Individual Clay Observation Jan 18
Lab 2B - Flux and Filler Jan 20
Lab 3 – Formulating Claybodies- Jan 25- 27
   Highfire Porcelain and Stoneware (Red, Salt, Soda, Wood)
   5 total divided between throwing and sculpture clay (3 of one type 2 of the other)
Lab 4- Mid Range and Low Temperature – Feb 1-3

The times are approximate for completing each project. We need to allow for glazing and
firing. Only appropriate work will be fired.