

Hagerstown Community College
OFFICIAL COURSE SYLLABUS DOCUMENT

COURSE: ART120 Ceramics I 3 credits
INSTRUCTOR: Lead, Joan Bontempo; Erica Kemple **SEMESTER/YEAR:**
TIMES/Room: CPB 141 Room CP 141

Contact: 240-500-2221

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

From the catalog: Beginning Ceramics - This course is a foundation course in ceramics designed to introduce students to basic techniques in functional and sculptural design, and issues within the medium. The course will familiarize students with basic forming (slab, coil and wheel thrown methods), surfaces, and firing of ceramics as well as covering some history of the medium and contemporary artists that affect the field today. General concepts in design composition such as image, scale, positive and negative space and content will be included. Course fee required. Total of 60 hours of lecture.

From The Instructor:

This course will introduce you to the basic handling of ceramic materials using different hand-building techniques and wheel-throwing skills. You will learn the range and scope of **clay as an artistic medium** with attention paid to the limits and opportunities of the materials. The instruction will include **art processes** as it applies to clay, including technical aspects of production, craftsmanship, glazing and firing of the finished pieces. Additionally, students will begin to **think critically** about the aspects of artistic design, use them in their assignments, and develop the vocabulary to present and critique their work to others.

Projects will challenge students to use design elements such as scale, surface, line, texture and content. You will be expected to learn and use proper studio operation including health and safety issues. Art 120 will form a sound base in the art of ceramics and will introduce the student to the joy of art and personal expression through clay. In my opinion, the three aspects of creativity in the college-level classroom: Learning the techniques and understanding the medium, applying aesthetic concerns and artistic principles, and insightful, informed critical analysis – these aspects will be the basis for your growth and experience in your study of Art in ceramics.

TEXTBOOK: None required.

- **Handouts:**
- **Videos:**
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STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Student recognizes and applies the fundamental elements of art in visual assignments.
2. Student uses proper language, tools and techniques of the medium in visual assignments.
3. Student recognizes and differentiates the styles and techniques of various artists in the medium
4. Student experiences creative challenges that develop critical thinking and problem solving in visual assignments .

COURSE CONTENT OBJECTIVES:

- Identify and define the concepts of three-dimensional design
- Application of and development of technical and compositional skills
- Explore and employ a variety of material and media that ceramic artists use to execute projects and assignments
- Development of progression of work for end-of-course review and public exhibition

ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES:

- All studio courses use the HCC Studio Art Rubric (attached)
- Critiques
- Projects
- Quizzes
- Exams
- Written assignments

Grading:

A for work of consistent excellence in all areas of the class

B for work of very good quality

C for work meeting the normal expectations of class requirements

D for poor work

F for unsatisfactory work

CRITIQUES

During the critique, each student will be required to address the principles of 3D art and design:

1. **Composition** – this pertains to both 2D art, like drawing, and 3D forms. Includes overall design and finish/foot/display
2. **Scale/Proportion** – oversize? Undersize? Right size?
3. **Positive and Negative Space**
4. **Balance**
5. **Texture/Pattern and surface design**
6. **Content/objective/subject**
7. **Composition** – this pertains to both 2D art, like drawing, and 3D forms. Includes overall design and finish/foot/display
8. **Scale/Proportion** – oversize? Undersize? Right size?
9. **Positive and Negative Space**
10. **Balance**
11. **Texture/Pattern and surface design**
12. **Content/objective/subject**

Total Hours of Coursework:

To earn one academic credit at HCC, students are required to complete a minimum of 37.5 clock hours (45 fifty-minute “academic” hours) of coursework per semester. Those hours of coursework may be completed through a combination of hours within the classroom and hours outside the classroom. Certain courses may require more than the 37.5 minimum hours of coursework per credit.

For most classes, students should expect to do at least 2 hours of coursework outside of class for each hour of in-class coursework.

In-class instruction and discussion	52.5 (3.5 a week)
At home artist videos, readings or project research	15 hours (1 a week)
Sketching ideas to produce during classtime	30 (2 a week)
Open studio hours	17.5 hours furthering your work in the studio outside of class
TOTAL MINIMUM TIME AN AVERAGE STUDENT SHOULD EXPECT TO SPEND ON THIS CLASS	115 HOURS

COURSE POLICIES:

- **Other**
- **Attendance policy -**
- **HCC’s Attendance Policy: The student is expected to attend all classes**
- **Honor Code** – Please review the Honor Code you signed upon registering at HCC. All the work you do must be your own, in your own words, and **ALL** sources of information **must be documented and verifiable** – including web sites. Any assignments suspected of not being your work will be returned ungraded.
- **Services for Students with Special Needs:** Students who have special needs are encouraged to identify themselves to the coordinator of special student services as early as possible. Reasonable accommodations based on current documentation are provided to qualified students.
- The instructor reserves the right to modify course content and schedule as deemed necessary