

**Hagerstown Community College**  
**Official Course Syllabus Document**  
(replace this parenthetical with semester and year)

**COURSE:**

ART 120 – Beginning Ceramics (3 credit hours)  
(replace this parenthetical with section number & Days/Times class meets)

**INSTRUCTOR:**

(replace this parenthetical with name, office hours, and all contact information)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

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.

**TEXTBOOK:**

None required.

**PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

- Student recognizes and applies the fundamental elements of art in visual assignments.
  - Students create compositions in the media that build on the elemental tools of 3D design.
  - Students develop compositions by applying these elements in a series of works.
- Student uses proper language concerning the materials and techniques appropriate to the medium.
  - Students practice terminology after being introduced to a 3D media used in art-making by instruction and experimentation.
- Student recognizes and differentiates the styles and mediums of important artists and historical movements.
  - Students analyze and discuss leading artists in a 3D medium and extract the lessons of style and technique.
- Student experiences creative challenges that develop critical thinking and problem solving.
  - Students develop a portfolio of works addressing various techniques and compositional challenges.
  - Students express visual content in a series of works of art.
- (When Concentrated area) Student will create and present a body of work created in individual study that demonstrates high level of skill, personal style, thematic discernment and understanding of composition in a chosen medium.
  - Students start to build their final portfolio in chosen medium.

**COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

- Students will identify and define the concepts of three-dimensional design.
- Students will compose using developed technical and compositional skills.
- Students will explore and employ a variety of material and media that ceramic artists use to execute projects and assignments.
- Students will demonstrate a progression of work for end-of-course review and public exhibition.

**MINIMUM CLOCK HOURS REQUIRED FOR THIS COURSE**

To earn one hour of academic credit at HCC, students are required to complete a minimum of 12.5 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 12.5 minimum hours of coursework per credit. A three credit hour course requires 37.5 clock hours.

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

	<b>DIRECT Faculty Instruction In-class 52.5 h required</b>	<b>Student Work Out of Classroom 62.5 h required</b>
In-class instruction and discussion; Online instruction delivered normally during class time	52.5 hours	
At home artist videos, readings or project research		15 hours
Sketching ideas to produce during class time		30 hours
Open studio hours		17.5 hours
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>52.5 h</b>	<b>62.5 h</b>

**ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES:**

(Replace this parenthetical with explanation of quizzes, exams, projects, etc.; the grading scale and how a student can calculate a grade need to be included here as well)

**COURSE POLICIES:**

(Please delete this parenthetical: Course policies should contain statements about the following topics, as well as any individual policies of an instructor. Please consider a plagiarism statement; the student handbook defines plagiarism this way: Plagiarism is the use of ideas or work of another without sufficient acknowledgment that the material is not one’s own. Examples of plagiarism include submitting material created by another as one’s own work or including passages of another author without giving due credit, and submitting purchased material, in any form of communication, as one’s own work.)

- Attendance Policy – the college attendance policy can be found in the College catalog.
- The instructor reserves the right to modify course content.

- HCC abides by an honor code that can be found in the student handbook and college catalog: “I promise to uphold the Hagerstown Community College Honor System and to understand all written provisions pertaining to its application. As a member of the college community, I hold the qualities of honesty and integrity in highest regard and will not violate them nor tolerate those who do.”

**Inclement Weather Policy:**

(Replace parenthetical with directions as to what students should do if the weather is bad and class must be cancelled. Please consider having students also refer to the student handbook.)

**Services for Students with Disabilities:**

Students may receive reasonable accommodations if they have a diagnosed disability and present appropriate documentation. Students seeking accommodations are required to contact the Disability Support Services (DSS) office as early as possible. Students may contact a DSS staff member for an appointment at [dss@hagerstowncc.edu](mailto:dss@hagerstowncc.edu) or at 240-500-2530.