**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Eckerd College**

Nielsen Center for Visual Art

**CLAY 1**

Fall 2024

T/TH 10-11:30am or 11:40-1:10pm

Room#112 – Ceramic Studio

Office hours: T 1:10-3:10 – TH 1:10-3:10

(And by appointment)

**Professor: Tony Baker**

Bakert@eckerd.edu

**Course Content**

In Clay I, students will explore and develop creative expertise in all of the fundamental fabrication processes used in clay with the exception of throwing on the potters wheel, which is offered in a subsequent course. These processes may include pinching, coil construction, slab construction, solid sculpting, casting and conceptual expression, as well as clay and glaze mixing and firing techniques.

**Studio Time**

As with any college course, our relatively short class time will be used for lectures, demonstrations, questions and answers, and direct contact with the instructor. You can expect to put in a minimum of 10 hours per week extra time (in essence, your homework) and possibly (more like probably) much more. You can also plan on time working on your journal and doing presentation research. Working only during scheduled class time will not earn you a passing grade. If you feel you cannot handle the load, this is not the class for you.

**Lab Fee**

A $160 fee will be assessed to your student account to cover materials used in this course (clay, glazes materials, and firing costs).

**Grading and Attendance**

Attendance is required and is 10% of your final grade. Cleaning up after yourself is 10% of your final grade. Working on projects outside of class is 10% of your final grade. Part of this is from participation as well as the project we are working on. A tardy or early departure counts as ½ an absence. You only get 2 absences, and every absence is 3% of your final grade. Your overall grade will drop 10% on your 3rd absence. On your 4th absences you will receive an “C” for the course, on the 5th an “F”. Missing one class that meets once a week will count as 2 absences. This is a studio course with little homework, attendance is necessary. Students must make up all missed work and must be prepared for class when returning from an absence. If you do not complete every assignment in the course, you will receive an “F”. It is your job to notify the professor of your absence and inquire about what you missed. It is the student's responsibility to initiate the withdrawal during the designated withdrawal period. Otherwise, an “F” will be issued at the end of the term. If you have an excused absence and do not inform the professor of it during the time you will be missing class, it will be considered unexcused. It is your job to communicate with the professor. Part of your grade will be based upon your ability to be attentive, your ability to respond well to criticism, as well as your aptitude to change and grow creatively.

**Do not schedule appointments for advising, doctors, work etc. during class time.** **Excuses from class for extreme emergencies will be given at the instructor’s discretion. Excessive absences/ tardiness during an assignment will affect your grade on that assignment as well as your final grade.**

* Because ceramic art is developed in stages, project grades will be considered after the work has been glaze fired and/or completed.
* Unfinished assignments count as “0” points until they are completed. Any work missed due to absences, personal or professional obligations, or athletic events must be made up by the following week or you may receive a “C” or “F” on the project. Any projects unfinished by end of semester will result in an “F” in the course. You must attend the final or you will receive an “F” for the course.
* Your final grade may be reduced 3**%** **for each absence**, and 1**% each time you are late** during the semester and follow attendance rules mentioned above.
* **Late work is unacceptable.** Things need time to dry and be fired, if you miss the kiln loading and your work is not fired the work is counted as unfinished. This is especially true for the last project. The due date is the due date. **Late work is an automatic “C” on the project** If they are not finished 1 week after due date you may receive an “F” on the project. This counts for each due date for each project including sculpting, underglazing, clear/glossy glazing and any other firing due date.
* Your grade for any project will be marked down 30% if you do not meet any and all due dates including sculpting, firing, and glazing. After the 30% is initially lost, an additional 10% may be deducted for each other due date thereafter.
* You must come prepared to start projects with sketches or images or 10% of your grade on that project will be deducted, and 10% every class you are not prepared for after.
* Homework for this class is working on projects in the studio outside of class time. Ensuring the professor marks your attendance and sees you working outside of class each week. Failure to do so results in a 10% deduction from your final grade or a loss of 1 point for each weeks missed attendance.

**Studio ART PROGRAM Objectives/ Expected Outcomes that apply to this course**:

You may lose up to 10% for each objective on each project, this is up to professor's judgment.

Objective 1 – (Composition): Students will acquire knowledge to create unified, balanced visual compositions exhibiting an understanding of the principles and elements of art. Craftsmanship/ aesthetics,

Objective 2 – (Art Media): Students will exhibit competency utilizing a range of art materials, processes and techniques. Shows ability to use the wheel/ equipment properly as instructed. Applies glaze properly only after work has been bisqued, puts glaze work on correct shelf for firing.

Objective 3 – (Complexity and Creativity) – Students will tackle complex, complicated, and creative projects ideas. Any project deemed by professor not challenging or creative enough may lead to loss of points.

Objective 4 – Ability to ask for help on projects and not complete on own without permission and guidance. Proper use of reference images and sketches. Able to reflect on artwork through class critiques, uncovering meaning and purpose while fostering collaboration and community.

**Learning Outcomes**:

Students will learn:

To work with clay in its different stages from soft and wet, to leather hard, to bone dry, to bisque ware and finally to glaze ware (or a related state of completion).

To use surface treatments to unify, compliment, and complete forms to be aesthetically pleasing.

To use ceramic and art terminology to discuss and critique their work and the work of other students.

Ability to use the equipment and techniques properly as trained by instructor.

**Course Requirements:**

**These requirements and all due dates are subject to change.** upon the professor’s oral notice in class or written notice via email. All students are responsible for keeping their email accounts in working order and for reading and responding to emails from the professor in a timely manner. Point deducted are up to the professor’s judgment and discretion.

The course is composed of 4assignments each equal in worth and averaged for your final grade.

Project #1 - TBA 30% Outcomes addressed: 1,2, 3, and 4

Project #2 - TBA 30% Outcomes addressed: 1,2, 3, and 4

Project #3 - TBA 30% Outcomes addressed: 1,2, 3, and 4

**Participation etc.**  **10%**

**(Attendance, cleaning, critique, outside class work, questions when needing help, etc.)**

**\*If only 2 projects are done in the class, the percentage from project 3 will be divided into the others\***

**Final grades will be averaged according to this scale:**

95 - 100%= A 70 - 75% = C-

90 - 94% = A- 60 - 69% = D

85 - 89% = B Below 60%= F

80 - 84% = B-

76 - 79% = C

**Students must pay attention to studio signs and studio rules including but not limited to the following:**

-Follow all safety procedures

-Help maintain the ceramic studio so that it remains a safe and clean environment

-Only use equipment that has been explained and demonstrated to you in class. Handbuilding students should not be using the potters’ wheels unless they are also enrolled in a Potter’s Wheel class.

-Students are responsible for the cost of repair or replacement of department tools and equipment that are lost or damaged during their use, if the student is acting carelessly or recklessly.

-Broken and/or damaged work might be graded at the professor’s discretion but will not be fired.

-Only work executed for this course, by students in this course, will be fired in Eckerd’s kilns.

-Work that is improperly made, glazed, or cleaned will not be fired.

-Each student is responsible for making sure their work is thoroughly dried and placed in the proper location for it to be loaded into the kiln and fired before the final critique. If your work is fragile, you can request to meet with the Ceramic Studio Lab Technician, when loading the kiln, to load your own work.

-Every reasonable effort will be made in the handling of student work, but ceramics is a fragile medium and Eckerd College and its faculty and staff are not responsible for the damage or disappearance of your work or tools.

\*\*Not following the studio rules including cleaning up after yourself will affect your grade up to 10% at the end of the semester\*\*

**Title IX Reporting Policy**

Keeping our EC culture as free from discrimination, gender bias, and any form of harassment or assault is a process that we all must share in. Please see the following statement for more specifics in regard to the EC non-discrimination reporting policy:

Eckerd College is committed to fostering a campus community based on respect and nonviolence. In accordance with Title IX, Eckerd is legally obligated to investigate incidents of sexual harassment and sexual assault that occur on our campus. Faculty who become aware of any incident of sexual violence, including harassment, rape, sexual assault, relationship violence, or stalking, are required by law to notify Eckerd’s Title IX Coordinator. For more information about your rights and reporting options at Eckerd, including confidential and anonymous reporting options, please visit <https://www.eckerd.edu/titleix/>

**Accommodations**

If you have a disability or believe that you qualify for accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or other laws, please contact The Office of Accessibility at extension 7724 or via email at [accessibility@eckerd.edu](mailto:accessibility@eckerd.edu) as soon as possible. Appropriate accommodation can only be arranged through that office, located in Brown Hall 101, and may not be made retroactively. The request form for accommodations can be found at eckerd.edu/aes/academic-accommodations/.”

**Unauthorized Use of Course Materials**

All course materials (including lectures, PowerPoint, and materials posted on Moodle or other course management sites or shared by email) may only be used for the purposes of an individual’s or group’s study while enrolled in this course and may not be shared with a wider audience on or off campus nor posted on an external website without my explicit permission.

**Honor Pledge**

On my honor, as an Eckerd College student, I pledge not to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to tolerate these behaviors in others.

**Evacuation Contingency**

If for any reason, class delivery is interrupted, students should continue their studies. And if Eckerd College is evacuated, students who leave campus for stays of overnight or longer should bring their texts, notes and syllabus so that they are ready to continue their course work. In the event of any interruption to classes, check your Eckerd email from your on- or off-campus location and continue with the course work according to the syllabus and as delivered via Online Course Materials (Moodle).

In the event of a school closure or hurricane evacuation, students will spend the missed class time doing an extended research project. The project will be essentially based upon the presentation outlined below but will be extended to include a visual presentation (approximately 10 minutes in length) accompanied by a short research paper with source citations. In addition, students will continue working (drawing and making journal entries and making small clay models if available) in your class notebooks, which you should TAKE WITH YOU. If a more extended school closure occurs, I will contact you with detailed instructions regarding how we will proceed with the class. Information will also be available on the EC website at WebCT.

**Presentation Assignment**

For part of your grade, you will prepare a 5 to 7-minute presentation based on a contemporary ceramic artist (with a national, or international exhibition record, working, at least in part, with thrown forms). You should show 7-15 medium or large format images that fill the screen, with a minimum of clutter or writing around them, and be able to describe them to us from your notes. Content should include a very brief biography, why you respond to the work and why you believe the work is important, and anything you can tell us about the artist’s process (how the work is made, type and temperature of firing, and what kinds of surfaces are used). Along with your visual presentation, you will be turning in an outline which will consist of notes, and all sources cited. If you are unsure if an artist qualifies as vetted, please check with me.