

# ARTS-240: INTERMEDIATE HAND-BUILDING

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## Effective Term

Fall 2025

## CC Approval

01/21/2025

## AS Approval

02/13/2025

## BOT Approval

02/20/2025

## COCI Approval

04/30/2025

## SECTION A - Course Data Elements

### CB04 Credit Status

Credit - Degree Applicable

### Discipline

#### Minimum Qualifications

Art (Master's Degree)

#### And/Or

### Subject Code

ARTS - Arts

### Course Number

240

### Department

Arts (ARTS)

### Division

Arts and Humanities (ARAH)

### Full Course Title

Intermediate Hand-Building

### Short Title

Intermediate Hand-Building

### CB03 TOP Code

1002.30 - Ceramics

### CB08 Basic Skills Status

NBS - Not Basic Skills

### CB09 SAM Code

E - Non-Occupational

### Rationale

Non-substantive review, adapting to course leaf layout, text book update.

## SECTION B - Course Description

### Catalog Course Description

Develops an understanding of clay as a form of artistic expression through exploration of form, materials, content and function. Using a variety of hand-building techniques students will problem solve a number of assignments. Students will use a variety of surface treatments and have hands-on experience with kilns, studio equipment and glazes. Includes study of contemporary and historic ceramics.

## SECTION C - Conditions on Enrollment

### Open Entry/Open Exit

No

### Repeatability

Not Repeatable

### Grading Options

Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass

### Allow Audit

Yes

## Requisites

### Prerequisite(s)

Completion of ARTS-140 with a minimum grade of C.

## Requisite Justification

### Requisite Description

Course in a Sequence

### Subject

ARTS

### Course #

140

### Level of Scrutiny

Content Review

### Upon entering this course, students should be able to:

1. Differentiate clay varieties and ceramic process stages.
2. Create ceramic forms utilizing pinch, slab and coil building techniques.
3. Analyze existing ceramic pieces and distinguish the forming processes used in creating them.
4. Produce and apply surface treatment to a variety of different forms.
5. Analyze existing ceramic pieces and distinguish the processes used to develop their surfaces.
6. Create objects that demonstrate a relationship between form and surface.
7. Assess and critique ceramic works in group, Individual and written contexts using relevant critique formats, concepts and terminology.
8. Operate and maintain studio equipment, facilities and materials.

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## SECTION D - Course Standards

### Is this course variable unit?

No

### Units

3.00

### Activity Hours

108

### Outside of Class Hours

54

### Total Contact Hours

108

**Total Student Hours**

162

**Distance Education Approval****Is this course offered through Distance Education?**

Yes

**Online Delivery Methods**

DE Modalities	Permanent or Emergency Only?
Entirely Online	Emergency Only
Hybrid	Emergency Only

**SECTION E - Course Content****Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:	
1.	Create hand-built ceramic objects by translating concepts and visual experiences into tactile forms while utilizing historic and contemporary references, practices, theories, and materials.
2.	Present finished works for peer and academic review, and express artistic concepts and intents using proper terminology in written and oral formats while evaluating and critiquing these works.
3.	Safely handle and maintain materials, studio facilities, and equipment.

**Course Objectives**

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:	
1.	Differentiate specific clay varieties and ceramic process stages.
2.	Create basic, intermediate, and compound ceramic forms utilizing pinch, slab and coil building techniques.
3.	Analyze existing ceramic pieces and identify the specific forming processes used in creating them.
4.	Produce and apply surface treatment to a variety of different forms using beginning and advanced techniques.
5.	Synthesize and test glaze or slip.
6.	Analyze existing ceramic pieces and distinguish the specific processes used to develop their surfaces.
7.	Create objects that demonstrate an intended relationship between form and surface.
8.	Assess and critique a series of ceramic works in group, individual and written contexts using relevant critique formats, concepts and terminology.
9.	Operate and maintain studio equipment, facilities and materials.

**Course Content**

1. Clay and Forming
  - a. The specific origins and character of various clays.
  - b. The major forming techniques including molding, pinching, slab construction, coil building, compound construction, paddling and a brief introduction to mold making.
  - c. An intermediate historic and contemporary study of the practical applications of forming methods.
2. Surface Development
  - a. Decoration techniques including texture, leather hard slip, bisque slip, glaze, advanced wax resist technique, and firing atmospheres.
  - b. The researching, mixing and testing of a glaze or slip recipe.
  - c. A specific historic and contemporary overview of the practical applications of surface development and decoration.
3. Composition and Discussion
  - a. Three-dimensional compositional techniques and concepts related to form making and surface development.
  - b. Use of critique methods and terminology, in group, individual and written formats.
4. Studio Equipment
  - a. Operation and maintenance of studio tools, equipment and facilities, including general hand-building tools, banding wheels, the potters' wheel (as a hand-building tool), raw material bins, glaze bins, triple beam scale, electric kilns, and the raku kiln.

## Methods of Instruction

### Methods of Instruction

Types	Examples of learning activities
Lecture	This studio art class will be taught with both formal and ongoing integrated lecture. Students will receive hands on group demonstrations as well as one on one instruction, demonstration and direction. Lectures and demonstrations will often if not always be accompanied by visual aids and or real hands-on experience.
Lab	Instructor-guided lab / studio time to apply concepts and skills to course content through guided exercises. Lab time will include both one-on-one and group instruction.
Observation and Demonstration	Clay forming and finishing demonstrations covering techniques, concepts, and material applications.
Critique	Oral or written group critiques analyzing finished examples of student work related to specific course assignments. Peer critiques reinforcing student's capacity to think critically about course assignments.
Field Trips	Students in this course may view artwork in the professional contexts of a gallery or museum, an activity that helps to reinforce student understanding of historic and contemporary approaches to ceramics and its relationship to their own studio work.
Other	Student presentations on historic and contemporary works from a diverse range of cultures.

### Instructor-Initiated Online Contact Types

Announcements/Bulletin Boards  
 Chat Rooms  
 Discussion Boards  
 E-mail Communication  
 Telephone Conversations  
 Video or Teleconferencing

### Student-Initiated Online Contact Types

Chat Rooms  
 Discussions  
 Group Work

### Course design is accessible

Yes

## Methods of Evaluation

### Methods of Evaluation

Types	Examples of classroom assessments
Portfolios	Each student's "course portfolio" will be made up of assignments from the semester. The portfolio will be evaluated by the instructor and student at "final critique." Generally the creativity, craftsmanship, presentation and demonstrated improvement of the portfolio as a whole will be evaluated.
Projects	Student self evaluations, peer evaluations and instructor critique will be used to evaluate each project. Class participants may be given the opportunity to improve, elements and or redo each project before the end of the term and the final review of all projects as a whole within the "course portfolio."
Class Participation	Participation and performance in both oral and written critical analysis of work. Student participation in group, and all-class critique will be evaluated. Evaluation will include correct use of visual language and terminology. and the student's ability to give and receive constructive criticism.
Exams/Tests	Tests and exams may be used to ensure each student is able to identify, understand and practically apply specific processes and techniques relevant to ceramics.

## Assignments

### Reading Assignments

Selected readings from student proposals, textbook, class handouts, periodicals or library collections.

For example:

1. Students will read instructor-provided handouts on critique formats, concepts and terminology relative to this course level.
2. Students will read about a ceramic producing culture that interests them and retain or note how and why they produced their clay objects.
3. Students will read about a contemporary artist that uses clay as a medium.

### Writing Assignments

Written critical self-analysis of a completed series.

For example,

1. Write a three-paragraph essay analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of a series you created. Include as many specific elements and principles of Art as possible.
2. A written self-evaluation of your "course work portfolio" submitted at final critique. This self-evaluation should include references to the Elements and Principles of Art.

### Other Assignments

A number of hand-building assignments that demonstrate an understanding of basic and advanced hand-building techniques. These studio assignments / projects should include handles, spouts, lids, appendages, and other compound forms. Assignments should focus on the visual strength and quality of form, and the composition of secondary forms working to compliment the main form.

For example:

1. Create a dozen hand-built cups. Six with pulled handles, and six with carved surface.
2. Create a hand-built piece over 18 inches tall that uses both coil and slab building techniques.
3. Create 3 hand-built jars.
4. Create a piece inspired by the form, surface, and, or function of a contemporary ceramic piece made by an artist that you learned about.

## SECTION F - Textbooks and Instructional Materials

### Material Type

Textbook

### Author

Anton Reijnders

### Title

The Ceramic Process: A Manual and Source of Inspiration for Ceramic Art and Design

### Publisher

Herbert Press

### Year

2021

### ISBN #

1789940486

### Material Type

Other required materials/supplies

### Description

A variety of clay working tools (clay tool kit from campus book store).

### Material Type

Textbook

**Author**

Suzanne Staubach

**Title**

Clay: The History and Evolution of Humankind's Relationship with Earth's Most Primal Element

**Edition/Version**

1st

**Publisher**

University Press of New England

**Year**

2012

**Rationale**

This book is the most current version and is pivotal in providing students with a worldly contextual understanding of ceramics as a material.

**ISBN #**

1611685036

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**Course Codes (Admin Only)**

**ASSIST Update**

No

**CB00 State ID**

CCC000449080

**CB10 Cooperative Work Experience Status**

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

**CB11 Course Classification Status**

Y - Credit Course

**CB13 Special Class Status**

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

**CB23 Funding Agency Category**

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

**CB24 Program Course Status**

Program Applicable

**Allow Pass/No Pass**

Yes

**Only Pass/No Pass**

No