

Ancient Clay Techniques

FINE ARTS 229.502: Ancient Clay Techniques

Fall 2022 Friday 10:30-1:00

CRN:54874

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Office Hours: Tu/Th, 1:00-1:30 P.M or by appointment

The best ways to contact me are through office hours or email.

Course Content

FINE ARTS 229: Ancient Clay Techniques is a Topics class with no prerequisites. It explores the traditional coil, scrape and polish method of making pottery used by many primitive civilizations, in particular the Indigenous peoples of the Americas. Students will expand critical awareness of the cultural importance of pottery as it has developed through the ages. Lectures, group discussions, assigned projects and critiques will assist the student's growth and critical understanding of the impact of primitive clay methodology on contemporary cultures

Student Learning Objectives

- Demonstrate working knowledge of processing raw materials, forming processes, polishing and decorating, and pit-firing methods in the production of coil and scrape pottery.
- Exhibit patience, persistence and creative problem skills.
- Develop ability to think visually and communicate ideas.
- Identify and discuss major developments in the evolution of primitive pottery
- Demonstrate ability to discuss and defend work in relation to concepts, ideas, techniques, processes, and experiences.
- Understand and relate primitive pottery techniques in the context of contemporary cultural pottery expressions

Materials

Students will need the following materials: Red Mica Clay, c/04. Drywall screen, sandpaper or sandstone, polishing rocks, Brushes, Small Bucket, Plastic, Masking Tape, Spray Bottle, Clean up sponge, small sponges, Notebook, Towel, Lock. No glazes are used in this class

Suggested Text

Primitive Pottery: Hal Reigger

Talking With the Clay: Stephen Trimble

Finding One's Way with Clay: Paulus Berensohn

Messages From the High Desert: Clint Swink

Student Responsibilities

Students are required to complete all assignments on time, participate in

scheduled critiques, class discussions and maintain a safe, respectable, positive studio environment.

Student Responsibilities (Continued)

Art studio classes are very different than other classes. The majority of work is done in the studio due to equipment and material needs. Students are expected to work in the studio several hours each week in addition to scheduled class times. Open studio hours will be announced.

Neither dishonesty nor unruly behavior will be tolerated in the classroom; such actions will lead to being dropped from the course. According to our Student Code of Conduct found on page 121 of the 2014 – 2016 UNM-Valencia Catalog:

“Appropriate disciplinary procedures and sanctions shall be applied to any student who commits, or attempts to commit, any of the following acts of misconduct: ^[1]_{SEP}2.4. Academic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments: claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.”

Students are expected to attend every class on time, fully prepared for each day's work and clean the studio before the end of each class. More than three absences without prior consultation may result in a failing grade or a drop from the class. Leaving excessively early or arriving late three times results in one absence.

Students are responsible for lecture and demo information missed if absent. No repeats of lectures or demos will be given due to lack of attendance.

Cell phones need to be put on mute during class times. If you must receive a call during class time leave the studio before you answer. No phone conversations, text messaging, web surfing, movie watching etc. in studios.

If you have any issue that may need special attention or accommodation, please see me after class. All personal information is kept strictly confidential. Likewise, I keep all grades, personal information, etc confidential. Please understand that I will not give out such information on the phone or through email or to anyone other than you.

Grading

Grading is based on completion of course assignments (no full credit will be given for late work), quality of individual technical and critical development, personal commitment and ability to work in a community studio setting. Personal commitment involves regular attendance, consistent effort, completion of work and participation in group critiques and the general willingness to try. **Greenware is not finished work.**

There are two required group critiques, midterm and final. The midterm critique measures progress made on assignments up to that time and final critique is where all work is evaluated for grade.

Assignments	65%
Critiques	25%
Attendance/Participation	10%

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Ancient Clay Techniques</u> PROJECT & CRITIQUE RUBRIC</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>A+, A, A- (100% - 90%)</u></p> <p>Demonstrates outstanding skill, discernment, and working knowledge of hand building, throwing, combined processes and surfaces development.</p> <p>Quality of work is excellent, and is integrated with exceptional creativity</p> <p>Outstanding patience and persistence with outstanding problem solving skills demonstrated</p> <p>Demonstrates an outstanding ability to discuss and assess work in critique and class discussions.</p> <p>Demonstrates extensive use and understanding of concepts and terminology used in the discipline</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>B+, B, B- (89% - 80%)</u></p> <p>Demonstrates moderate skill, discernment, and working knowledge of hand building, throwing, combined processes and surfaces development.</p> <p>Quality of work is good, and is integrated with some creativity</p> <p>Moderate patience and persistence with medium problem solving skills demonstrated</p> <p>Demonstrates a solid ability to discuss and assess work in critique and class discussions.</p> <p>Demonstrates competent use and understanding of concepts and terminology used in this discipline</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>C+, C, C- (79% - 70%)</u></p> <p>Demonstrates average skill, discernment, and working knowledge of hand building, throwing, combined processes and surfaces development.</p> <p>Quality of work is modest, and is moderately integrated with creativity</p> <p>Average patience and persistence with average problem solving skills demonstrated</p> <p>Demonstrates an average ability to discuss and assess work in critique and class discussions.</p> <p>Demonstrates an average use and understanding of concepts and terminology used in this discipline</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>D+, D, D- (69% - 60%)</u></p> <p>Demonstrates a lack of skill, discernment, and working knowledge of hand building, throwing, combined processes and surfaces development.</p> <p>Quality of work is borderline acceptable, and is poorly integrated with creativity</p> <p>Limited patience and persistence with limited problem solving skills demonstrated</p> <p>Demonstrates a limited ability to discuss and assess work in critique and class discussions.</p> <p>Demonstrates poor use and understanding of concepts and terminology used in this discipline</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>F (59% and below)</u></p> <p>Fails to demonstrate skill, discernment, and working knowledge of hand building, throwing, combined processes and surfaces development.</p> <p>Quality of work is unacceptable, and is not integrated with creativity</p> <p>No patience and persistence with no problem solving skills demonstrated</p> <p>Does not participate in discussing or assessing work in critique and class discussions.</p> <p>Shows little or no understanding of the concepts and terminology used in this discipline</p>

COVID-19 Health and Awareness:

UNM is a mask friendly, but not a mask required community. To be registered or employed at UNM, Students, Faculty, and Staff must all meet UNM's Administrative Mandate on required COVID-19 vaccination. If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, please do not come to class. If you have a positive COVID-19 test, please stay home for five days and isolate yourself from others, per the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Guidelines. If you do need to stay home, please communicate with me at 505 866-0582; I can work with you to provide alternatives for course participation and completion. UNM faculty and staff know that these are challenging times. Please let us know that you need support so that we can connect you to the right resources and please be aware that UNM will publish information on websites and email about any changes to our public health status and community response.

Accommodations:

UNM is committed to providing courses that are inclusive and accessible for all participants. As your instructor, it is my objective to facilitate an accessible classroom setting, in which students have full access and opportunity. If you are experiencing physical or academic barriers, or concerns related to mental health, physical health and/or COVID-19, please consult with me after class, via email/phone or during office/check-in hours (I am not legally permitted to inquire about the need for accommodations). We can meet your needs in collaboration with the Accessibility Resource Center (<https://arc.unm.edu/>) at arcsrvs@unm.edu or by phone (505) 277-3506.

Title IX:

Our classroom and our university should always be spaces of mutual respect, kindness, and support, without fear of discrimination, harassment, or violence.

Should you ever need assistance or have concerns about incidents that violate this principle, please access the resources available to you on campus. Please note that, because UNM faculty, TA's and GA's are considered "responsible employees" by the Department of Education, any disclosure of gender discrimination (including sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, and sexual violence) made to a faculty member, TA or GA must be reported by that Faculty member, TA or GA to the university's Title IX coordinator. For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, please see: <https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html>

Land acknowledgement:

Founded in 1889, the University of New Mexico sits on the traditional homelands of the Pueblo of Sandia. The original peoples of New Mexico Pueblo, Navajo and Apache since time immemorial, have deep connections to the land and have made significant contributions to the broader community statewide. We honor the land itself and those who remain stewards of this land throughout the generations and also acknowledge our committed relationship to Indigenous peoples. We gratefully recognize our history.

Citizenship and/or Immigration Status:

All students are welcome in this class regardless of citizenship, residency or immigration status. Your professor will respect your privacy if you choose to disclose your status. As for all students in the class, family emergency-related absences are normally excused with reasonable notice to the professor, as noted in the attendance guidelines above. UNM as an institution has made a core commitment to the success of all our students, including members of our undocumented community. The Administration's welcome is found on our website: <https://undocumented.unm.edu/>

Schedule

(subject to changes)

Week 1:	Friday, August 26:	Introduction and Syllabus. Lecture/Demo on finding, digging and processing clay.
Week 2:	Friday, September 2:	Demonstration of Coil building. Assignment 1
Week 3:	Friday, September 9:	Demonstration of Scraping, Sanding, Slipping and Po
Week 4:	Friday, September 16:	Demonstration of decorating techniques
Week 5:	Friday, September 23:	Demonstration of Lids: Assignment 2
Week 6:	Friday, September 30:	Workday
Week 7:	Friday, October 7:	Workday
Week 8:	Friday, October 14:	<u>Midterm Critique</u>
Week 9:	Friday, October 21:	Assignment 3
Week 10:	Friday, October 28:	Workday
Week 11:	Friday, November 4:	Workday
Week 12:	Friday, November 11:	Assignment 4
Week 13:	Friday, November 18:	Workday
Week 14:	Friday, November 25:	Thanksgiving Holiday, No Class
Week 15:	Friday, December 2:	Workday
Week 16:	Friday, December 9:	<u>Final Critique</u>

Please note:

An all-day field trip to dig clay may be scheduled based on weather conditions and student schedules

Assignments

Assignment 1: 2 small coil, scrape and polish pots

Assignment 2: 1 large coil and scrape pot, including decoration and lid

Assignment 3: 1 large coil and scrape pot including at least 1 handle

Assignment 4: 1 large pot of your choice