

**ART 140 – CERAMICS I**  
**Spring, 2006**

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**Textbook** Charlotte F. Speight and Joh Toki, *Make It In Clay*.

Ceramics I is a basic studio course in ceramics (pottery), exploring both wheel throwing and hand building processes.

**Course Objectives**

1. To develop the ability to produce well designed, technically well-made pottery.
2. To gain an understanding of the ceramic process, from clay preparation to kiln firing.
3. To participate in the operation and maintenance of the ceramic studio.
4. To gain an understanding of the historical development of the ceramic process.
5. To learn the terminology appropriate to the discipline.
6. To gain enjoyment and enrichment through exploring one's potential for personal expression in clay.

**Teaching Procedure**

Students will learn about ceramics through assigned textbook readings, frequent classroom demonstrations, lectures and discussions, video programs, library reading, field trips, and most important of all, hands-on work in clay.

**Grading Criteria**

50% of the grade will be based on evaluation of the student's finished work in clay, including:

- a. completion of required pieces and glazing techniques,
- b. technical quality, craftsmanship,
- c. aesthetic quality-design, visual impact, creativity.

35% of the grade will be based on class effort and work ethic, including attendance, working the whole class period, cleaning up after yourself.

10% of the grade will be based on the midterm test, covering understanding of processes and materials, definitions of terms.

5% of the grade will be based on cultural arts event reports (3 required) or field trip participation, and periodical reports (2 required). More information about these will be provided on separate sheets.

## **Attendance Policy**

You are expected to attend class, to be on time, and to work the whole period. It is important to attend class to learn the techniques necessary for being successful in the course. Material missed because of absence will not be presented a second time. Coming in late is disruptive and inconsiderate. Attendance is taken at the beginning of each period and again at the end.

Three absences are allowed with no grade penalty. Each additional absence will lower the final grade by ½ letter grade. Two tardies will count the same as one absence. Leaving early will count the same as a tardy. More than 7 absences before midterm will result in your being dropped from the course with a “W” grade. After midterm, more than 10 absences will result in your being dropped with a “WF” grade (failure). Each tardy will result in a deduction of 2 points from the final grade. Chronic tardiness may result in your being dropped from the course.

The only excused absences accepted must be accompanied by a doctor’s note, a note from the Dean of Students, or permission by the professor in advance. For athletes, it is the student’s responsibility to inform the professor of upcoming absences. Practices are not excused absences. A maximum of 6 absences may be excused.

## **Cleanup**

Chronic exposure to clay dust and glaze chemicals is hazardous to the respiratory system. Therefore, all students will be expected to clean up their own messes every class period, to return tools used, and to help maintain a well-ordered workspace. Failure to do so may result in your being dropped from the course.

## **Fees**

Students will be expected to purchase the necessary tools and to purchase the clay used in class. Tools are sold at Addam’s Bookstore and other art supply stores off-campus. Clay is provided in the classroom. Charges for clay and any tools provided in class will be added to the student’s account in the Business Office.

## **Use of Studio Outside of Class Hours**

It is expected that students will have to work outside of class hours to complete assignments. The studio is open week days and week nights and on weekends during daylight hours. For safety, it is advised that you not work alone in the studio after dark.

## **Academic Honor Code**

Students are expected to uphold the Greensboro College Academic Honor Code. This applies to all tests and written work and also applies to artistic plagiarism – copying another person’s work.

No tobacco products may be used in this classroom.

No cell phones, beepers, or other annoying electronic devices allowed.

