

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
DEPARTMENT OF ART

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE

Art (ART) 311.03

**Topics in Art
"Narrative Ceramics"
Spring 2017**

Tuesday & Thursday, 9 – 11:45 a.m.; AB 633

Instructor: Nurgul Rodriguez
Office Location: T.B.A.
Office Phone: N.A.
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Web Page: N.A.
Office Hours: Wednesday & Friday, 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.
or by Appointment

Course Description

Topics in art may include art appreciation, art and everyday life, and themes in art history.

Note: An exploration of ceramics as a distinctive language of visual art. Students will engage in studio research to explore the narrative potential of vessel forms. Hand building techniques such as coil, pinch, and slab construction, as well as additive and subtractive sculptural techniques will be used to create original vessels that convey personal narratives. The course will cover relevant ceramic traditions and contemporary art practices, with lectures and class assignments that develop critical, technical, and manual skills, and leading to students articulating their own artistic language.

Prerequisites &/or Co-requisites

None.

Objectives of the Course

- Students will be able to recognize the expressive possibilities of clay and the ceramic process.
- Students will construct three-dimensional objects using a variety of ceramic techniques.
- This course will provide experiences in developing visual ideas and analysis of contemporary concepts.
- The course presents opportunities to analyze, discuss and critique ceramic narrative forms and sculptures.

Recommended Textbooks and Readings

(1) Chambers, Ruth, Gogarty, Amy and Perron, Mireille. Utopic Impulses: Contemporary Ceramics

Practice. Vancouver, BC: Ronsdale Press, 2006

(2) Shifting Paradigms in Contemporary Ceramics: The Garth Clark & Mark Del Vecchio Collection, eds., Garth Clark and Cindi Strauss, Houston: The Museum of Fine Arts, 2012

(3) Articles and journals from "Ceramic Review" (online magazine), University of Calgary Library

Readings will be listed in the class schedule. Directed readings will be assigned by the instructor as needed.

Assignments and Evaluation

Course work will consist of two (2) projects supported by in class demonstration, a lecture presentation related to clay materials, assigned readings, web and library research. Sketches are required for each project. After each project, there will be a group-critique and students will receive a written evaluation on the whole project including participation and class work.

Artist Statement/Art Project Statement	5%	Due June 22
Participation/Attendance	15%	
In Class Work and Sketchbook (ongoing)	30%	Ongoing
Project #1	20%	Due June 13
Project #2	30%	Due June 27

Class work will be exhibited in the Department of Art's Little Gallery from the last day of class, June 27, to June 30.

Artist Statement: All students are required to write an artist's/project statement as part of their Final Project.

Attendance/Participation: As most of the learning in this class occurs while working in the studio, attendance is very important and will be taken every class. Attendance and active engagement in classroom discussions, studio sessions and group critiques are required. Engagement includes: asking questions of the instructor and technician, responding thoughtfully to questions posed by the instructor and technician during discussions and critiques and respectful and thoughtful comments during critiques.

Sketchbook: Students are required to keep a sketchbook that must be presented each class. Students may purchase one or create one as we work on our projects. Sketchbooks should be used for a variety of reasons such as: taking notes during demonstrations or lectures, sketching out ideas before starting a project, researching subjects and writing down thoughts and ideas.

Evaluation and assignment of grades will be based upon the quality of work produced relative to the objectives of the course. I will evaluate students' understanding and development of their art experience. I will be looking for evidence of a student's own thoughts or feeling within the works.

Writing

Writing and the grading thereof is a factor in the evaluation of students' work.

In order to pass the course as a whole, students must pass the artist/project statement, the sketchbook, Project #1 and Project #2.

Registrar-Scheduled Final Exam – NO

Note: It is the student's responsibility to keep their art work or objects or any relevant documentation regarding each submitted assignment and project.

Please hand in your assignments directly to your instructor. If this is not possible, you can use the drop box outside of AB 608. Assignments that are put into the drop box will be date-stamped and placed in the instructor's mailbox.

Late Assignment Policy

All assignments must be handed in on time. Late assignments will be penalized **5% per day**, including weekends. Extensions will be given only in extreme circumstances and must be accompanied by supporting documentation but this must be both approved in advance by the instructor, and documented in writing.

Additional Information

Course documents and information regarding assignments, deadlines and the class-by-class schedule will be posted on our class D2L site—visit it often to stay informed.

Working with clay can damage and stain garments so wearing appropriate or protective attire (such as aprons or lab coats) is strongly suggested when using the ceramic studio.

Any drinking containers should have tops or secure lids so they are not accidentally contaminated.

Materials:

All clay and glazes will be purchased for you for the class. I will provide the list of the tools in class. Cost of materials for this course will vary, but will likely be at least \$100. Some supplies are available from the University Bookstore in Mac Hall. Some supplies may be purchased from the technician in the Woodshop through a chit system that is initially purchased at the Bookstore.

Course Activities

A course schedule will be provided in the first class. Detailed assignment instructions will be distributed for each project.

Grading Method/Grading Scale:

Percentage	Grade	G.P.V.	Grade Definition
96-100	A+	4.0	Outstanding
90-95	A	4.0	Excellent-superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
85-89	A-	3.7	
80-84	B+	3.3	
75-79	B	3.0	Good – clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally
70-74	B-	2.7	
65-69	C+	2.3	
60-64	C	2.0	Satisfactory – basic understanding of the subject
55-59	C-	1.7	
53-54	D+	1.3	
50-52	D	1.0	Minimal pass – marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject

0-49	F	0	Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.
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Studio Procedures

The creation of art can be a dirty process and a studio is only workable if everyone cooperates in keeping it clean. Out of respect and consideration for your classmates and other users of the space, it is expected that everyone will participate in keeping the studio clean and tidy.

Safety:

- Notify me immediately of any allergies you may have.
- No eating is allowed in the studio.
- Use tools only for their intended purpose.
- **Keep loose, dry clay off the floor if possible. It can create clay dust which can be harmful if inhaled over long periods of time.**
- **Never seep clay; clean with damp sponges and mops.**
- Stay away from the kiln unless you have permission to assist in loading and unloading it. **Always stay away from the kiln when it is on.**

Accountability:

- Students are responsible for their own work.
- Lost, broken or unfinished projects are unacceptable for grading consideration.
- Creating is only part of this course; finishing, firing, clay making and cleanliness are equally important.
- Remember that clay can be fragile and accidents occasionally happen.
- Please see me immediately if anything goes wrong.

Internet and Electronic Communication Device Information

Laptops may be used during class. Cellphones must be turned off and may not be used during class.

Academic Accommodation

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (S.A.S.); S.A.S. will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy>

Academic Standing

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f.html>

Deferral of Exams/Term work

It is possible to request a deferral of term work or final examination(s) for reasons of illness, accident, family or domestic affliction, or religious obligations. Please check with Enrolment Services if any of these issues make it impossible for you to sit an exam or finish term work by stated deadlines.

For more information about deferring a final exam go to <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

For more information about the deferral term work go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html>
http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/deferred_termwork15.pdf

F.O.I.P.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

Writing/Plagiarism

Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their University careers, students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their University courses and, where appropriate, members of faculty can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Support Services can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support> or <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university. Visual art projects submitted for course credit must be produced by the student specifically for this class. Students must not submit projects if credit has or will be provided for it in another class. This includes re-worked assignments from previous or concurrent courses, unless permission is provided in writing by the instructor. Additionally, the student is asked to be mindful of using visual sources from the internet, ensuring that that material is not derived from any on-line or other available source, and that appropriate copyright permission is granted, when required.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>

Student Misconduct

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Student Union

For more information go to <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>

Student Ombudsman

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

Lockers

The Art Building lockers are administered through the Student's Union's used bookstore, Bound and Copied. Lockers are rented on a first come, first served basis. Due to the shortage of lockers, and the high demand, students cannot hold more than one locker at a time. All of the details on renting a locker and your responsibilities can be found on the Locker Rental Agreement at

https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/locker_rental_agreement_2010.pdf

Lockers for all sessions can be rented through my.ucalgary.ca. Once you're in the Student Centre, click on **Other Academic Services** and choose **Locker Reservation**.

Lockers must be vacated by the end of term.

For more information go to <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>

Models

In this class students may be expected to draw from nude models. **A student electing not to do so must notify the instructors IN WRITING of his/her concerns.**

Portfolios and Assignments

The Department of Art will not assume responsibility for lost or stolen portfolios or course work given to instructors for grading, or for work posted on bulletin boards in the Art Building.

Note - All unclaimed work will be disposed of.

Note - Studio spaces, bulletin boards and display areas need to be cleared two weeks after the last day of classes.

Ethics

Whenever you perform research with human participants (i.e., surveys, interviews or observation) as part of your university studies, you are responsible for following university research ethics guidelines. Your instructor must review and approve of your research plans and supervise your research.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-5.html>

or

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/ethics-compliance/chreb>

Campus Security/Safewalk

Call 220-5333 anytime. Help phones are located throughout campus, parking lots and elevators; they connect directly to Campus Security - in case of emergency, press the red button.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

Emergency Evacuation

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Stop by SS102, call us at 220-3580 or email us at ascarts@ucalgary.ca or artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre at 220-5881 or visit them on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.