

Art 18D-01 47654 Ceramics Hand Building - Tuesday, Thursday
9:30am-12:20pm, ROOM A-51 Spring 2025 4 UNITS

De Anza College

Instructor: Christian K Bonner

Email- bonnerchristian@fhda.edu **Web:** christiankbonner.com

Office# A-51 **P-** 408-864-5463

Office Hour: Tuesday, Thursday 8:30-9:30am

Prerequisite: Arts 18A.

Course Description and Objective:

This course delves deeply into the intricate world of ceramic hand building, catering to students with prior experience or a strong foundation in pottery. Through a fusion of theory and practice, participants will expand their repertoire of techniques, pushing the boundaries of clay manipulation and artistic expression.

Students will explore hand building methods such as pinch, coil, and slab-built ceramic work as well as complex surface decoration techniques. Emphasis will be placed on refining craftsmanship, honing attention to detail, and cultivating a distinctive artistic voice.

Drawing inspiration from historical and contemporary ceramic artists, students will engage in critical discourse to deepen their understanding of ceramic aesthetics and conceptual frameworks. Through critiques and peer feedback sessions, students will develop their ability to articulate artistic intentions and engage in constructive dialogue within the ceramic community.

By the culmination of the course, students will have produced a cohesive body of work that reflects their artistic evolution and technical proficiency in ceramic hand building. Whether aspiring towards professional practice or seeking to deepen their artistic exploration, this course equips students with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to excel in the dynamic realm of ceramic art.

Student Learning Outcome Statement (SLO):

- Demonstrate competency in hand construction techniques; pinch, coil, slab.
- Demonstrate competency in glaze and slip application

Course Objectives:

- Develop skills in hand building ceramic construction.
- Evaluate the process of hand built ceramic work.
- Evaluate the nature and importance of hand built ceramic objects.
- Complete a series of hand built finished clay pieces.

Required Materials: Notebook at least 8”

Participation:

Attendance and participation are essential for students to be successful in both art and academics. Students are expected to want to be in class each day and be active in their and other’s education. If you are absent, please let me know the reason for the absence as soon as possible. Each class period will have new material presented and if you miss it is your responsibility to make sure that you learn the material and make up any assignments that you missed when allowed . You are free to ask other students to take notes for you so that you understand the information presented or ask me about it during my office hour before class. There will be a brief “Class 15 Minute Sketch” at the beginning of each class you must be present and on time to receive points for this classroom assignment. These assignments cannot be made up.

If you are unable to complete the class, it is your responsibility to drop the class through the Admissions and Records office. You should not ghost the class this will result in a F.

Criteria for Evaluation:

A high degree of commitment to this class is expected. Your presence, persistence, imagination, attention to detail, and level of involvement will help to determine the quality of your work.

Projects will be graded according to the following criteria:

- 20% for work made in greenware (clay forms that are unfired)
- 20% for work made and bisqued (clay forms that have gone through the 1st firing process)
- 20% for work glazed fired (clay forms that have gone through both firings and are glazed)
- 15% for craftsmanship (attention to detail and quality of work)
- 15% for execution of technique (proper construction, decoration, and glazing techniques used)
- 10% for creativity

Grading

CLASS 15 Minute Sketches (8)	16 Points
SKETCH BOOK	24 Points
CLASS PROJECTS (4)	200 Points
<u>CLASS FINAL CLEAN-UP</u>	<u>10 Points</u>
TOTAL	250 Points

Grading system is as follows for this course:

A+ = 100-98%	A = 97-94%	A- = 93-90%
B+ = 89-87%	B = 86-83%	B- = 82-80%
C+ = 79-77%	C = 76-70%	D+ = 69-67%
D = 66-63%	D- = 62-60%	F = below 59%

*Highest grades will be reserved for work that goes beyond minimal compliance with an assignment and shows superior creativity, insight, and craftsmanship. I will accept late assignments up to 2 weeks after the due date; however, they will be downgraded one full letter grade. All assignments must be completed by the end of the term.

ARTS 18 D Assignments

1. Two Lidded Boxes: Mokoto Takahashi & Takahiro Kondo Inspired (Weeks 1-3) (50 pts.)

- One made from rigid slabs and one made from a single solid block of clay (25 points each)
- The boxes must include a sunk in gallery and flanged lid
- Liquid latex will be used for the gallery and lid

2. Extruded and Pinch Pot Structure: An Anh Léon-Inspired Form (Weeks 4-5) (50 pts.)

- In this assignment, you will explore architectural form, repetition, and spatial tension through the use of the clay extruder and simple pinch pot method as primary handbuilding tools. Drawing inspiration from artist Anh Léon's intricate wooden structures, you will design and construct a ceramic form that captures the essence of nature.

3. Ceramic Still Life from Wet Slabs: Stephanie H. Shih & Mitchell Spain (Weeks 6-8) (50 pts.)

- Design and construct a three-piece ceramic still life arrangement, including at least one object shaped with a conical template (e.g., a vase or funnel-like form). Using wet slabs, students will cut, assemble, and refine the forms to create a cohesive composition that emphasizes balance and contrast in shape and proportion.

4. Sculpture (Weeks 8-11, Final) (50 pts.)

- Create a sculpture incorporating multiple components and utilizing slab built construction techniques and at least 1 of the other techniques present in the prior 3 assignments or the Class 15 Minute Sketches.

Final

FINAL Tuesday, June 24, 9:15am-11:15am No Late Attendance

Tools: You may borrow all tools from our studio! If you would like personal tools you can visit the bookstore or Clay Planet. Just bring in the following to school with you.

This syllabus is subject to change as needed, even after the quarter has started.

Clay

At De Anza College we currently use cone 6 clays and glaze. De Anza will provide your first bag of clay for free. It is likely that you will need more clay later in the quarter. You will have the option to purchase additional clay from De Anza College. The cost for additional clay is as follows:

Bravo Buff \$20
Bmix Cone 6 \$20

Red Velvet \$20
Speckled Buff \$20

Dragon Fruit \$30
Frost Porcelain \$30

There is also the potential for using studio recycled clay free of charge but this will require a little work in processing this clay. Please speak with me if you would like to use recycled clay.

Important Dates

- April 7 First day of classes
- April 20 Last day to add classes
- April 20 Last day to drop classes without a W
- May 24-26 Memorial Day – no classes, campus closed
- May 30 Last day to drop with a W
- June 13 Last bisque fire
- June 17 Last day to glaze work
- June 19 Juneteenth – no classes, campus closed
- June 23-27 Final Exams

Classroom Clean Up

Clean up begins 20 minutes before class ends. It is crucial that ALL areas that you have used must be cleaned before you leave the studio. For the safety of everyone sharing the studio, take care not to generate excessive dust (no dry sanding) and do not use any toxic materials in the studio. All cleanup of dry materials will be done with a wet sponge. When needed, we will do additional collective cleanups during class time to maintain a safe and workable studio space. All finished and graded work must be removed from the studio promptly. An additional and mandatory department wide cleanup will take place at the end of the semester.

Classroom Etiquette

Please arrive on time and stay for the entire class. If you need to arrive late or leave early, do so quietly to avoid disruptions. You may listen to music with earphones, but be prepared to remove them for discussions or communication with the instructor. Cell phones should be turned off during class. If you need to stay in contact with work or family, silence your phone and use it outside the classroom during breaks.

Clean up after yourself, including your workspace, floors, counters, and sinks. Weekly cleanup tasks may be assigned. When someone is addressing the class, listen attentively and avoid personal conversations during lectures or discussions.

During critiques, offer respectful and constructive feedback without voicing negative judgments. Please limit the use of strong-smelling substances. Closed-toed shoes are required for safety, as there may be loose glass in the studio; no flip-flops or sandals are allowed. Food and sugary drinks are not permitted in the classroom. Backpacks should be stored under the table during class.

By following these guidelines, we help create a respectful, clean, and safe environment for everyone.

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES

If you have a disability for which accommodations may be required in this class, please contact Disabilities Support Services, RSS Room 141, (408) 864-8753, <https://www.deanza.edu/dsps/dss/> as soon as possible to discuss your needs and register for accommodations. If you have already arranged accommodations through DSS, please discuss them with me during my office hours. Students who have medical needs related to pregnancy or parenting may be eligible for accommodations. While I am happy to assist you, I am unable to provide accommodations until I have received verification from DSS.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students in this class are subject to the policies on academic integrity, which can be found at this address: https://www.deanza.edu/policies/academic_integrity.html I ask that you apply these principles to your work in this class. Handing in a project that is not your own work will result in an automatic 'F' on the assignment, and may result in an 'F' in the course.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION (TITLE IX)

DeAnza College upholds a zero tolerance policy for discrimination, harassment and sexual misconduct. If you (or someone you know) have experienced discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, domestic and dating violence or stalking, we encourage you to tell someone promptly. For more information, please go to <https://www.deanza.edu/titleix/> and <https://www.deanza.edu/titleix/>. Reports may be submitted online through <https://www.deanza.edu/titleix/filing-complaint.html>

Need help? Student Success Center peer tutors can relate and are ready to help! Go to the [SSC homepage](#) and click on the yellow links for on-campus schedules and Zoom links.●

Individual Weekly or Drop-in Tutoring: Come with assignments or questions, or just drop by to see how tutoring works.

- Workshops, group tutoring and group study: Most people learn better with others...give it a try!
- Support for online learning: Speak with a friendly peer tutor or SSC staff member about motivation and organization strategies for online classes. We get it and are going through the same things, so let's support each other!
- Need after-hours or weekend tutoring? See the [Online Tutoring](#) page for information about NetTutor (via Canvas) or Smarthinking(via MyPortal).