

# KANSAS CITY ART INSTITUTE

A four-year college of art and design

## Fall Schedule 2011: Ceramics

The ceramics program provides an in-depth technical, visual, critical, and conceptual foundation for the education of artists. Explorations of the vessel, the figure, sculpture, architectural applications of the material, and new forms such as installation provide a basis for the study of ceramic art and technology. The curriculum begins with technically challenging and directed studies in the sophomore year. Once exposed to a broad palette of information, students are supported as they become increasingly self-directed through the junior and senior years. The coursework in each year provides the opportunity for students to exercise verbal articulation and critical thinking through discussion with faculty, group critiques with peers, and written assignments. Students sharpen their abilities to critically analyze creative choices and ask their own questions. The coursework encourages discovery through the process of making and the pursuit of individual research. Exposure to works in galleries and museums, and direct contact with visiting artists, are essential in helping to inform a sense of historical perspective, a sense of the contemporary, and knowledge of the working life of artists. Professional practice skills are emphasized so that students will graduate with abilities to present their work and to enter a career in the arts. The peer group is an invaluable resource for students – as undergraduates and for professional networking as graduates in the field. The faculty works to create a sense of community, affirming the learning that occurs outside formal class structure.

### Ceramics Curriculum

<u>Sophomore Year</u>	<u>Fall</u>	<u>Spring</u>
Sophomore Ceramics	6	6
Materials and Processes I	3	0
Materials and Processes II	0	3
Studio Elective	0	3
Liberal Arts	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>
	15	18
<u>Junior Year</u>	<u>Fall</u>	<u>Spring</u>
Junior Ceramics	5	5
Studio Elective	6	6
Professional Practice	1	1
Liberal Arts	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>
	18	18
<u>Senior Year</u>	<u>Fall</u>	<u>Spring</u>
Senior Studio	5	6
Studio Elective	3	3
Professional Practice	1	0
Open Elective	0	3
Liberal Arts	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>
	15	15

## **SOPHOMORE PROGRAM**

### **Fall semester sophomore:**

#### **CERM 200-01 Figure & Structure in Clay**

**6.0 credit hours**

The fall semester emphasizes figurative sculpture with a focus on the self-portrait. Constructing methods of coil, slab, carving, and mold-making are introduced; form and the expressive potential of the figure are the primary considerations. Students learn to mix a variety of sculpture clay bodies to use in their work. Ceramic slips, stains, terra sigillatas, and glazes are formulated and applied as surface treatments in addition to the use of china paints and lusters. A model is incorporated into the class to provide subject matter for constructing and drawing the figure. Group discussions, individual critiques, and journaling augment the studio experience to develop communication skills for analysis and critical thought.

Timock

MW 8:00 am -2:20 pm

#### **CERM 205-01 Materials & Processes I**

**3.0 credit hours**

This course focuses on individual clays, other clay body components, and the various properties of clays that determine color, firing temperature, plasticity, and glaze compatibility. Utilization of this information will allow students to more effectively utilize and formulate clay bodies, slips, and terra sigillatas. Students learn safety information regarding studio practice, knowledge of material toxicity, and the safe use of equipment and materials. Laboratory and firing theory and procedure are also covered.

Binger

TR 8:00 am –10:50 am

## **JUNIOR PROGRAM**

#### **CERM 300-01 Junior I: Source and Form**

**5.0 credit hours**

Fall semester junior course work builds upon the knowledge base gained in previous studies. Students expand technical skills while increasing focus on specialized, personal, and creative investigations of the material. Experimentation and risk taking in technique, vision, and concept are key notions. Research and collecting source material in areas of personal interest are emphasized; historic and contemporary examples will be gathered and studied. Through this investigation students achieve a greater understanding of context for their work. Participation and growth in critical thinking and articulation is expected of each student.

Students select a concentration in the vessel or sculpture. In the vessel curriculum students learn to throw and hand construct advanced compound forms. Students acquire more complex knowledge of glaze, surface embellishment, and subject matter for decoration. Mid- and high-temperature oxidation, reduction, and atmospheric surfaces and firings are conducted. Issues of utility, design and craft are examined. There is an emphasis on enhancing skills to analyze the details of utilitarian and one-of-a-kind vessel forms.

Juniors choosing the sculpture concentration explore the use of the medium in architecture and on the wall - tile, relief, terra cotta, and sculpture. There is an in-depth experience with low-fire clay and glazes. Students identify and develop a personal approach to imagery, form, and the surface considerations of painting, relief, pattern, color, texture, and composition by designing, producing, and installing works on the wall.

Esser and Staff

W 8:00 am -2:20 pm

F 8:00 am -1:20 pm

#### **CEPP 380-40 Professional Practice: Junior 1**

**1.0 credit hour**

The course is designed to help students recognize the possibilities and growth of an individual point of view in art making and its presentation. Students will develop and strengthen skills to articulate - through discussion, writing, and research - messages and meanings of art in general and ceramic art in specific. The course will examine ceramic art in relation to historical and contemporary forms, personal creations, and the potential for new creations. It will advance research and writing skills in areas of students' personal interests and professional pursuits, helping students articulate aspects of their work when seeking career opportunities. The class is supported with lectures by area arts professionals, administered by KCAI Career Services, on topical issues related to the course content.

Staff

R 5:45 pm -6:45 pm

F 1:30 pm -2:20 pm

**CERM 320-01 Junior II: Process & Practice****5.0 credit hours**

Spring semester junior course work builds upon the knowledge base gained in previous studies. Juniors continue to develop an in-depth and focused investigation in ceramic art, identifying and using subject matter and forms of personal interest. Learning to develop ideas, and to process and pursue them toward individual technical, visual, and conceptual growth, is the challenge of the semester.

In the vessel curriculum, an overarching conceptual theme unifies the group experience while students choose their own ideas and subjects. Historic example in ceramic art is used as a point of departure. Students continue to expand and refine technical skills pertaining to their chosen forms and contexts.

In ceramic sculpture, students extend their facility with the medium so it can be used for individualized purpose. Students shift their focus to adopt ceramic methods and materials appropriate to their ideas. Projects are designed to further students' conceptual development and contextual understanding. Historic and contemporary examples are used as points of departure.

Junior students are expected to demonstrate strong self-motivation and a passionate pursuit for investigating personal artistic directions throughout the semester, and to maintain openness and a willingness to take risks. Critical skills progress, and students explore new presentation methods for their works in the mid-term critique, final critique, and end-of-semester exhibition.

Esser and Staff

W 8:00 am -2:20 pm

F 8:00 am -1:20 pm

**CERM 330-01 Sophomore Ceramics for Junior Transfer Students****6.0 credit hours**

Junior level transfer students may register for this course in order to have an introduction to the ceramics department sophomore course content. The student will retain junior status while registered in the sophomore level class.

Timock

MW 8:00 am -2:20 pm

**SENIOR PROGRAM****CERM 400-01 Senior Studio: Thesis****5.0 credit hours**

Senior students define and implement a thesis - an approach to form, content, and technique - exploring visual and conceptual issues that are individualized and personal. Sustaining an idea within the context of risk-taking and experimentation is the challenge of the semester. Students work with the instructor to develop a structure for learning through studio practice, writings, and discussion. Skills are advanced for examining artworks through group and individual critiques with classmates and faculty. Students investigate presentation and installation solutions for their works in concert with the spaces and venues planned for end-of-semester exhibitions. Individual research and the investigation of historic ceramic and contemporary art practice are conducted by each student.

Esser and Staff

W 8:00 am -2:20 pm

F 8:00 am -1:20 pm

**CERM 420-01 Senior Studio: Presentation and Exhibition****6.0 credit hours**

Seniors establish a direction and intent for a final undergraduate body of work that will be exhibited at the end of the semester in departmental and college. Each senior must be motivated, focused, and determined to explore visual and conceptual issues that are individualized and personal. Sustaining an idea, while continually challenging the artistic, visual, and technical processes, is the challenge for students in this course. Individual research and the investigation of historic ceramic and /or contemporary art practice are expected of each student. Each student presents a lecture to the department detailing their artistic research and studio development. Individual and group critiques are conducted throughout the semester.

Esser and Staff

W 8:00 am -2:20 pm

F 8:00 am -1:20 pm

**CEPP 480-40 Professional Practice: Senior****1.0 credit hour**

This course prepares seniors for presenting their work in a variety of venues and covers a broad range of topics regarding the professional artist's understanding and navigation of art worlds. Students create and submit a professional presentation package: an artist statement, a resume, a cover letter, and a web blog. The course includes information

about and research on postgraduate opportunities. The course is supported with lectures by area arts professionals, administered by KCAI Career Services, on topical issues related to the course content.

Esser

R 5:45 pm -6:45 pm

F 1:30 pm -2:20 pm

## **CERAMICS ELECTIVE CLASSES**

### **CERME 383-01 Plaster Mold Technology and the Human Figure**

**3.0 credit hours**

In this interdisciplinary elective students will learn molding and casting technologies, including explorations of various clays and casting materials - porcelain, terra cotta, plaster, alginate, industrial rubber, and latex. The figurative format will incorporate methods for casting elements of the body and for referencing the human form in studies, interpretations, and final works. Finishing and firing technologies of low-temperature electric and gas-fired glaze kilns will offer an embellishment format for the investigation of the figure.

Brandl

TR 8:00am – 10:50am

### **CERME 370 -01 3D Modeling & Ceramic Media**

**3.0 credit hours**

This course will teach students to create actual “works” using 3D modeling software. This class will be divided into two sections. In the first section students will learn Rhino, a 3d modeling program, to create simple objects that are reflective of their studio practice and approach to art. In the second section of the course students will learn the mold-making skills necessary to render their creations into ceramic media. An introduction to slip casting and finishing techniques using slips and glazes will be covered as well. Students will be encouraged to experiment and expand on the techniques introduced in both sections of the class and develop individual ideas and artistic goals.

Faculty TBA

TR 11:30am – 2:20pm

### **CERME 364-80 Fundamentals of Glass: Kiln Forming**

**3.0 credit hours**

This introductory and investigative glass class will explore two distinctive methods of forming: flat glass drawing and reverse relief castings. The flat glass format encourages the student to explore with "drawing" materials of colored powders, fluxing, frits, stringers, and sheet glass. The reverse casting method is more complex; a basic knowledge of sculpting, mold-making and strong technical skills are recommended. Both components develop a technical understanding of material, equipment, and firing cycles. Students are required to demonstrate a strong work ethic and a passionate pursuit for investigating personal artistic strengths and goals throughout the semester.

Timock

MW 7:00pm – 9:50pm

### **CERME 384-80 Advanced Glass: Kiln Forming**

**3.0 credit hours**

This course is open to students who have completed the Fundamentals of Glass: Kiln Forming elective. It is an advanced class for students who wish conduct an intensive personal investigation in the medium and its methods. To enroll in this course students must seek permission from the instructor and write a proposal for their semester's work in advanced glass methods.

Timock

MW 7:00pm – 9:50pm