

KANSAS CITY ART INSTITUTE

A four-year college of art and design

Fall Schedule 2009: 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. There is a stress in the curriculum on developing professional practice so that students will graduate with skills 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 |

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.

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.

Donnelly and Gamble SCB 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 SCB 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.

Donnelly and Gamble SCB W 8:00 am -2:20 pm
 F 8:00 am -1:20 pm

CERM 420 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, college, and optional off-campus venues. 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.

Donnelly and Gamble SCB 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.

Gamble

SCB

R 5:45 pm -6:45 pm

F 1:30 pm -2:20 pm

CERAMICS ELECTIVE CLASSES**CERME 360-01 Fundamentals of Ceramic Art****3.0 credit hours**

Fundamentals of Ceramic Art give students the basic skills necessary to produce, glaze, and fire ceramic forms. Students are introduced via instructor demonstrations and presentations to a variety of skills including clay and glaze preparation, wheel throwing and handbuilding, glazing options, and firing processes. Students are encouraged to create individual and original ideas in ceramic media, and to develop a personal methodology and artistic direction, which may complement the work in their major. Students have frequent individual critiques with the instructor. Formal group peer reviews are conducted two or three times during the semester.

Gamble

SCB

TR 8:00am – 10:50am

CERME 350 01 Formed Surface: Mold-making and Monoprint**3.0 credit hours**

Ceramic form and surface will be investigated through the processes of casting and mold-making, printing and alternative surfaces. Forms will be generated by making and casting single and multiple piece molds, and building with ceramic monoprint slabs. Surface will be explored through various ceramic printing techniques and alternative non-ceramic finishes that incorporate additional media. Students experiment and expand on the techniques introduced in the course to investigate individual ideas and artistic goals.

Donnelly

SCB

TR 11:30 – 2:20

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.

Wendt

SCB

MW 7:00 pm – 9:50 pm

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.

Wendt

SCB

MW 7:00pm – 9:50pm