

<b>Course - Section:</b>	CERM 210 - Section 1
<b>Course Title (Credits):</b>	Beginning Ceramics (3)
<b>Term &amp; Year:</b>	Spring / 2014
<b>Course Ref. No. (CRN):</b>	10067
<b>Professor:</b>	Sheri Leigh O'Connor
<b>Phone(s):</b>	X7588 or 775-741-7437 cell (Emergencies only)
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:sleigh@sierranevada.edu">sleigh@sierranevada.edu</a>
<b>Office:</b>	(David Hall, room 105) then 1 <sup>st</sup> floor of Holman
<b>Office Hours:</b>	Tues. Thurs. 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., and by appt. (usually in office)
<b>Class Meeting Time:</b>	MW 1:00 - 3:45 p.m. Clean up 3:30, not before!
<b>Location:</b>	David Hall, room 100, then east end of 1 <sup>st</sup> floor, Holman
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	None
<b>Corequisites :</b>	None

### Course Description

Clay is one of the most versatile creative mediums available to artists. The student learns how to work with clay as both a utilitarian and expressive medium. Beginning wheel throwing, handbuilding and glazing techniques are taught.

### Student Outcomes:

- Ability to throw beginning pottery forms on the potter's wheel
- Possess basic handbuilding skills
- Possess basic glazing skills
- Possess some knowledge of ceramic materials
- Possess basic knowledge of kilns including Raku, electric and gas
- Possess basic knowledge of how to load and fire kilns
- Ability to differentiate clay bodies, types of glazes and firing methods
- Ability to critique ceramic work

### Methods of Assessing Student Outcomes

Student outcomes will be assessed using the following:

- ceramic projects by their due date
- participating in class critiques and discussions
- participating in studio operations such as loading kilns, keeping the studio clean, and other necessary chores.

### Instructional Strategies

This course will incorporate:

- Instructor demonstrations

- Hands on help with assigned projects
- Lab time to complete assignments
- Slides about ceramics
- Involvement in studio operations

### Required Texts and Materials

There is no required text. ***Basic pottery tool kit is required.*** It may be purchased at the SNC store.

### Recommended Text and Materials:

Pottery on the Wheel by Elsbeth Woody

Also: old hand towel, sponge, texture tools that are everywhere, fettling knife, calipers and paintbrushes. Clay is sold in the ceramics studio, and recycled clay is *free* as long as students recycle it.

## LOGIN information for SNC Prim Library Electronic Databases

When you need to access SNC's licensed database content from off campus, you will need the following information. Log on to: <http://libguides.sierranevada.edu/library>

**Students:** Use your first initial and your last name as the username and your 9 digit student ID number as the password.

Please do not hesitate to contact the SNC library if you experience any library access issues, or if you have any questions about library research in general. We are here to work with you as you accomplish your educational goals. Let us know how we can help.

Betts Markle – [emarkle@sierranevada.edu](mailto:emarkle@sierranevada.edu) – 775-881-7511

Library – [library@sierranevada.edu](mailto:library@sierranevada.edu)

### Prim Library Resources

Using the library's resources effectively (not just Internet resources) contributes to developing each of SNC's core themes by exposing students to high quality academic resources, diverse opinions, new ideas, and a future that includes building on a liberal arts education. In this course, you will be expected to utilize the library's resources (either on-site or remotely) as you complete your assignments.

Lib Guides: <http://Libguides.sierranevada.edu> These web pages contain instructions about how to use resources available at Prim Library, how to evaluation the appropriateness of information from the Internet for a research paper, how to cite sources, and other topics related to finding and using information.

### Attendance/Grading Policy

**50%** of your grade is based on attendance. You will have 3 available absences without penalty. Any absence above that will cause your grade to drop one full letter grade. You may be excused beyond three absences with medical documentation or permission of the instructor. **If you are more than 15 minutes**

**late, you will be marked absent. If you leave extremely early, you will also be marked absent. Clean up is at 3:30, not before.**

**40%** Completion of assigned projects, due at the start of class. **No late projects, or unfinished projects will be accepted! NONE! Come to class even if you don't have your project/s.** You will be given a self-assessment sheet for certain assignments, and will receive it back with grade from Professor. Part of your grade will be your participation in critiques.

**10%** Participation and clean up. Participation includes helping with studio operations such as making clay, loading kilns, etc. Cleaning up one's mess and studio is also considered as part of this grade. You will be given a daily chore each class day, such as cleaning the wedging table, folding towels, etc.

### **Class Requirements**

All students are required to come to class prepared with appropriate clothing and with their pottery tools and any requested support materials.

### **Sanctions for Cheating and/or Plagiarism**

#### **The Honor Code**

The faculty of SNC believes students must be held to high standards of integrity in all aspects of college life in order to promote the educational mission of the College and to encourage respect for the rights of others. Each student brings to the SNC community unique skills, talents, values and experiences which, when expressed within the community, contribute to the quality of the educational environment and the growth and development of the individual. Students share with members of the faculty, administration and staff the responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment conducive to learning and personal development, where actions are guided by mutual respect, integrity, responsibility and trust. The faculty and students alike must make diligent efforts to ensure high standards are upheld by their colleagues and peers as well as themselves. Therefore faculty and students accept responsibility for maintaining these standards at Sierra Nevada College and are obligated to comply with its regulations and procedures, which they are expected to read and understand.

#### **Consequences of Violating the Student Honor Code**

SNC students and faculty share the responsibility for maintaining an environment of academic honesty. Thus, all are responsible for knowing and abiding by the SNC Faculty/Student Honor Code published in the current SNC Catalog. Faculty are responsible for presenting the Honor Code and the consequences of violating it to students at the start of their classes AND for reporting all incidences of academic dishonesty to the Provost. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes

CHEATING, PLAGIARISM and FABRICATION and for refraining from these and other forms of academic dishonesty. Violations of the Honor Code become part of a student's academic record.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Student receives a zero for assignment/exam and counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Student fails course and receives counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Student is expelled.

This honor code may apply to ceramics classes in these ways:

- You hand in a project that you didn't make
- You hand in a project that you made for another class, or assignment
- You hand in a project more than once claiming it's another piece

### **The Mission Statement:**

**Sierra Nevada College graduates will be educated to be scholars of and contributors to a sustainable world. Sierra Nevada College combines the liberal arts and professional preparedness through an interdisciplinary curriculum that emphasizes entrepreneurial thinking and environmental, social, economic and educational sustainability.**

### **The Core Themes:**

Liberal Arts

Professional Preparedness

Entrepreneurial Thinking

Sustainability

### **ADA Accommodations**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, students with a documented disability are eligible for support services and accommodations. If a student wishes to request an accommodation, please contact the Director of Academic Support Services, Henry Conover, at (775) 831-1314 x7534, [hconover@sierranevada.edu](mailto:hconover@sierranevada.edu) or go to the OASIS offices on the third floor of Prim Library within the first week of the semester.

**The SNC Email System**

The SNC email system is the official communication vehicle among students, faculty members and administrative staff and is designed to protect the confidentiality of student information as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 Act (FERPA). Students should check their college email accounts daily during the school year.

Students have a right to forward their SNC e-mail to another e-mail account (for example, @hotmail or @gmail). However, confidentiality of student information protected by FERPA cannot be guaranteed for SNC e-mail forwarded to an outside vendor. Having email redirected does not absolve a student from the responsibilities associated with official communication sent to his or her SNC email account.

**Safety Issues:**

Please consider your well-being and those around you when working in the ceramics studio. Wear a respirator when working with dry glaze materials and sweeping. Wear gloves and safety glasses or face shields when required. Don't sacrifice your safety for your ceramic work; you can make another piece, but you can't make new hands.

**Do not put fired clay into the recycle clay buckets.**

Tie long hair back when using the wheel, grinder or other rotating tools. Do not have long fingernails; they can cause hand injuries. Do not play with equipment, as it can be dangerous.

**Studio Usage:****Only students registered in a ceramics class at SNC may use the studio.**

Do not bring in your friends to play. Security will be given rosters, and will be checking to make sure that students using the wheels, etc. are indeed registered ceramics students.

**End of the semester:**

At the end of the semester please gather all your things that are in the studio and remove them. Recycle unwanted *unfired* pieces. Throw out other pieces that you do not want. We need to clean the entire studio out for the summer workshops, so please take care of all your belongings before you leave for the summer.

*Enjoy your experience with clay. It is the most versatile, plastic direct medium available to artists. Clay has countless possibilities and with each assignment you'll be able to create your own unique interpretation. Tap into your creativity in this relaxed setting where new innovative ideas are strongly encouraged. You can make "inventions" out of clay that would be difficult to create out of any other material. I hope you have a memorable semester in here and enjoy working with clay.*

## Class Schedule

Class	Date	Demonstrations/Assignments/Critiques (Subject to Change – Slip Happens)
1	Wednesday, January 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Introduction, going over syllabus and talk about moving into Holman. Slides and handbuilding demonstration – Rattles. They must have pin hole!
2	Monday January 27 <sup>th</sup>	Meet at Holman (if ready). Tour of new studio. Handbuilding slab box project.
3	Wednesday January 29 <sup>th</sup>	Throwing eggs, learning how to center and manipulate clay on the potter's wheel. Dress appropriately in clothes you can get full of clay. Load first projects into bisque kiln.
4	Monday February 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Throwing demonstration of tornadoes and volcanoes, individual hands on help for students, and time to work on them. Prepare <b>2 of each for next Monday's class (2/10)</b> , due at start of class. We will recycle them. Raku glazing demonstration, glaze rattles and slab boxes, taking turns. Work on tornadoes and volcanoes. Have 2 of each on table to look and dry enough to handle by start of class on next <b>Monday</b> . They do not need to be fired, and won't be fired.
5	Wednesday February 5 <sup>th</sup>	Work on tornadoes and volcanoes. Have 2 of each ready for critique on Monday.
6	Monday February 10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Raku firing at David Hall kiln yard. Volcano and Tornado critique</b> Look at Sheri's cup collection. Cups and handle pulling demonstration. Individual help and time to work on cups. <b>Prepare 2 opposite cups for next Wednesday, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> class.</b> They must be trimmed, handles attached, and finished, but not fired.
7	Wednesday February 12 <sup>th</sup>	Work on opposite cups. Cups must have handles, and be finished for critique next Weds..
8	Monday February 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>President's day – No class</b> – Have a great weekend!
9	Wednesday February 19 <sup>th</sup>	Cups critique. <b>Bowl demonstration. Throw 3 bowls for 3 distinct purposes.</b> Work on bowls. <b>Due on Weds. Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>.</b> Bowls must have trimmed feet, or will not be graded.

10	Monday February 24 <sup>th</sup>	Work on bowls. Intro to metamorphosis project. Bring two unrelated, unlike small objects that you can make out of clay to class on Wednesday.
11	Wednesday February 26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Bowl Critique. Must have trimmed feet and be finished.</b> Glaze demonstration. Glaze cups and other projects, taking turns. Work on metamorphosis project.
12	Monday March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Work on Metamorphosis project.
13	Wednesday March 5 <sup>th</sup>	Work on Metamorphosis project.
14	Monday March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Work on Metamorphosis project.
15	Wednesday March 12 <sup>th</sup>	Work on <b>Metamorphosis project. Due on Mon. 3/24.</b>
16	Monday March 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Spring Break – No Class</b>
17	Wednesday March 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Spring Break – No Class</b>
18	Monday March 24 <sup>th</sup>	Metamorphosis project <b>Critique.</b> Pumpkin pot demo.
19	Wednesday March 26 <sup>th</sup>	Work on Pumpkin pots. Due on Monday.
20	Monday March 31 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Pumpkin pot critique.</b> Stamp project – pour plaster stamps, make plaster wheels. Covered Dish demo.
21	Wednesday April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Work on stamps and covered dishes.
22	Monday April 7 <sup>th</sup>	Work on stamps and covered dishes. <b>Due on Weds.</b> Replicated historical piece discussion. Go to library, and choose a piece to replicate. Bring image on Wednesday.
23	Wednesday April 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Stamped covered dish critique. Bring historical piece image.</b> Work on historical pieces.
24	Monday April 14 <sup>th</sup>	Work on historical pieces.
25	Wednesday April 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Historical pieces critique.</b> Plate demo. Work on plates. Glaze your work!
26	Monday April 21 <sup>st</sup>	Work on plates. <b>3 Due Wednesday 4/24.</b> Final project discussion.
27	Wednesday April 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Plate critique.</b> Work on final projects.
28	Monday April 28 <sup>th</sup>	Work on final projects.

29	Wednesday April 30 <sup>th</sup>	Work on final projects.
30	Monday May 5 <sup>th</sup>	Glaze all remaining work and final projects.
	<b>Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:30 pm – 9:30 pm - FINAL</b> Attendance is mandatory! Critique of final projects, pot luck, and massive studio clean up. Remove absolutely all your belongings and work.

Please remove all your belongings from the studio by Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 9 pm.  
Consider taking a summer workshop.

Have a wonderful summer! Come to "Meet the Artist" on Tuesday nights at 7pm.