

Course Information

Semester & Year: Fall 2021

Course ID & Section #: E1823, Art 31A Introduction to Ceramics (Hand Building)

Instructor's name: Shannon Sullivan

Thank you for choosing this section of Art 31A-Introduction to Ceramics (Hand Building). My name is Shannon Sullivan and I will be your instructor for this course. I've been teaching at CR in the Art Department for 145 years and I love it! Students take this course for many reasons including as an elective for the Associates Degree for Transfer (ADT) in Studio Arts, as an elective for the Liberal Arts: Fine Arts Associates Degree, as a Humanities elective credit, and for personal enrichment. If you have questions about why you are taking this class, let me know.

Course delivery: This course is delivered and taught in Hybrid Flex Mode (Hy-Flex). All lectures, demonstrations, and discussions happen asynchronously. The asynchronous model offers flexible learning that can occur in different times and spaces particular to each learner, as opposed to synchronous learning at a same time and place on Zoom. Each week new content opens in Canvas on Saturday, and each week I create a learning path that students engage with at their own pace. Mondays are when you can expect most studio projects to be due. Quiz and discussion dates are listed in canvas under the assignments page. I launch each week on Saturday.

All studio work takes place at your home or wherever you have designated space to work on projects for this course. There will be no proctored exams.

- As mentioned above, this course will be delivered primarily online with scheduled on-campus meetings for dropping off projects, glazing, firing, and small group/individual critiques.
- Supply pickup will take place after the first week of class. Students will be required to view a safety presentation and pass a safety quiz during week 1 before receiving their materials.
- Meeting time is always **11:35-2:45**. Put these dates into your calendar ASAP. Students will be assigned a small group cohort that meets during this time slot.
- On-campus meeting dates are as follows.
 1. **Monday, August 30.** Potter's wheel and supply kit pickup. Students must be able to transport their own supplies. One bag of clay weighs 25lbs.
 2. **Monday, September 13.** Drop off greenware for bisque, small group critiques.
 3. **Monday, September 27.** Drop off greenware for bisque, first glazing session, firing, small group critiques.
 4. **Monday, October 11.** Drop off greenware for bisque, glazing, firing, individual meetings.
 5. **Monday, October 25.** Drop off greenware for bisque, glazing, firing, small group meetings.
 6. **Monday, November 15.** Last drop off for greenware, glazing, firing. Return your wheel today to CA 136.
 7. **Monday, November 29.** Last day to glaze.
 8. **Monday, December 13 .** Final. All student projects must be taken home on this day.

- All on-campus meetings will take place in our outdoor kiln yard.

When on campus, students, faculty, and staff will be required to wear masks over their mouth and nose at all times and follow distancing/sanitation protocols

Course units: 3

Instructor Contact Information

Office hours: By appointment via zoom or email.

Phone number: (707) 476-4339

Email address: shannon-sullivan@redwoods.edu

Once the semester starts, please communicate with me through the messages feature in Canvas.

Catalog Description

An introductory course in ceramics using the potter's wheel to explore both functional and non-functional forms. This course will also provide instruction in basic glaze chemistry and kiln firing procedures.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

1. Build proficiently with a variety of hand-building techniques.

2. Discuss orally and in writing the themes, content, issues, and skills used to make ceramic objects, installations, and experimental artworks.

3. Research contemporary and historical artists from across the globe working with traditional and non-traditional ceramic techniques and processes.

4. Research a variety of glaze and alternative surfacing applications.

Prerequisites/co-requisites/recommended preparation

Art-11, Three-Dimensional Design, introduces students to the basic principles of working with materials, making objects, and designing in the round. Students who have taken 3D Design, or an equivalent course or have equivalent experience, will be more prepared to take on the conceptual rigor and design objectives of Art 31A.

No prior experience with ceramics is necessary. That said, some familiarity with the basic properties of clay would be very helpful. To succeed in this class you need tenacity, the ability to focus for long stretches of time, and a genuine desire to learn to work with clay.

Student Commitment:

Your commitment will require at least as much time as you dedicate to a traditional class. Suggested time 3-8 hours per week depending on the week.

Skills needed include:

- carefully read and watch online lectures and demonstrations
- participate in online activities and watch online videos
- participate in online discussions
- complete quizzes
- complete studio assignments using the potter's wheel
- photograph own artwork, upload photos to Canvas

Conscientiousness, attention to details, and skills in reading and writing are critical for success.

Q: Will there be a lot of writing?

A: Not an unreasonable amount. Most of the class is online, so strong reading and writing skills are essential.

Computer Skills: Online courses require adequate computer skills. You must be able to:

- navigate the course Learning Management System (Canvas)
- receive and respond to your CR email
- download and upload files to the Canvas, and
- use a word processor (such as Microsoft Word)

It is your responsibility to meet the technological demands of the course

If you need help with any of these things, please let me know and we'll hook you up with assistance!

Technology Requirements:

You should have high-speed internet (such as broadband) service from cable, DSL, or satellite providers as there are videos that require this speed. You need to have reliable access to the internet for the duration of the course. Anticipate problems with your computer and internet access (including power outages) by not waiting until the last minute to submit assignments. It is your responsibility to meet the class deadlines.

Portable Devices vs. Computers: Although you could use portable devices (such as Android or iOS phones & tablets) for some things, you should plan on doing the majority of your work (especially exams and assignments) from a reasonably newer notebook or desktop computer (Mac or PC). Do NOT plan to participate in this class solely from a portable device. If you do decide to use your portable device for some of your class work, use the free Canvas app (called "Canvas by Instructure") available in iTunes (for iOS) and the Google Play Store (for Android). Do not try to connect to Canvas using a web browser on a portable device. Your experience with Canvas will be a lot better using the app.

Proctored Exams: There are no proctored exams in this course.

Textbook: There is no textbook for this course

Materials and Supplies:

Below is a list of materials provided to you via the \$75 fee for the course. We buy in bulk and provide you with a kit containing the following items:

- Palette of Underglazes
- Wax Resist
- 25 lbs of cone 5 bmix, 25 lbs of m-mix for woodfire
- Underglaze transfers
- Overglaze decals

Pickup these materials at our first on campus meeting on 8/30/21

Students Must Provide:

- 1 or more bamboo brushes for applying underglaze (available at Ellis art and Engineering, the Art Center, or Phoenix Ceramics).
- Reliable internet connection
- Beginning pottery tool kit and other materials listed in the *Welcome! Start Here* module in Canvas
- Safe workspace for working on projects (Week 1 will discuss this in detail)
- Plastic to cover works in progress. Think large sheets of plastic or even store your work in a Rubbermaid tub to keep it from getting too dry too fast.

- A tub or sturdy cardboard box to transport your work to CR on drop off days. You are responsible for your work arriving safely. I suggest an extra snug setup for transportation. No loose wares in boxes. One quick stop on the road and your work will be in shards. Put your greenware pieces in boxes padded with bubble wrap, soft fabric, or soft crinkled paper. Then strap the boxes into your vehicle with the seatbelt, securely on the floor, or secured with a strap so they are immobile even if you go up a hill or go over a bump.

Students might like having:

- Additional Ware Boards
- Additional brushes
- A fabric surface to work on. Imagine taking an old t-shirt and dressing a thicker, flat wooden board with it. Like a painter stretches a canvas, stretch and staple the neck, sleeves, and bottom around the back of the board. Now you have a fancy fabric ware board! You could go so far as to stretch canvas over a table top if you have the resources.
- Tarps/large plastic drop cloths. You may need to protect the floors and walls in the space you're working in.
- Mop for easy cleanup
- 5 gallon bucket for a handwashing station

Course Availability: The course will be available for limited viewing on January 14th, with the full course opening on January 16th.

Student Resources: There are instructions on how to log in to Canvas, the basics of using Canvas, and additional support for taking an online course at College of the Redwoods on the [CR-Online](#) web page.

Confirm your presence in the online classroom: Log in to our class in Canvas and participate the discussion forum called "IMPORTANT: let me know that you are here and want to take this class" no later than 11:59pm on January 22th to confirm your presence in the online classroom. Doing so will confirm your enrollment in the course and will ensure you aren't dropped as a "no show." Find the aforementioned discussion in the *Week 1* Module. If you have any issues with this at all, send me an email and let me know, so we can work something out.

Accessibility

Students will have access to online course materials that comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and College of the Redwoods policies. Students who discover access issues with this class should contact the instructor.

College of the Redwoods is also committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability-related services and accommodations, please contact your instructor or [Disability Services and Programs for Students](#) (DSPS).

Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS based on their campus location:

- Eureka: 707-476-4280, student services building, 1st floor
- Del Norte: 707-465-2324, main building near library
- Klamath-Trinity: 530-625-4821 Ext 103

During COVID19, approved accommodations for distance education classes will be emailed to the instructor by DSPS. In the case of face to face instruction, please present your written accommodation request to your instructor at least one week before the first test so that necessary arrangements can be made. Last-minute arrangements or post-test adjustments cannot usually be accommodated.

Support for online learners during COVID-19

In response to COVID-19, College of the Redwoods moved the majority of its courses online to protect health and safety. As the faculty and students adjust to this change, clear communication about student needs will help everyone be successful. Please let me know about any specific challenges or technology limitations that might affect your participation in class. I want every student to thrive.

Evaluation & Grading Policy

- In this course you will complete assignments broken down into five groups
 1. Discussions
 2. Studio Projects
 3. Preparatory Sketches
 4. Critique
 5. Quizzes
- Below is a sample of what to expect regarding grading for the various types of assignments in this course.
- Work will be evaluated using a published rubric and/or self-evaluation/inventory form.

Sample Discussion: 50 points

Late Discussion Posts: Not accepted.

Find the relevant discussions in the weekly Canvas modules.

Primary post -- 30 points possible --Your primary reply must:

- **React analytically** to the topic, not a summary
- **Relate and apply** topic to your own personal experience
- **Use** correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and complete sentences
- **Post before** the deadline
- **Meet** the 200 word minimum length, post the required photos

Classmate Replies -- 20 points possible (10 each) – Your **reply posts** must:

- **React thoughtfully** to the content of two classmates' primary replies. Focus your reply on your classmate's post, not on your personal experiences
- **Meet** the 100 word minimum length
- **Use** correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and complete sentences

Sample Studio Project: 100 points

Late Studio Projects: Accepted with 20 points deducted for each drop off deadline missed.

The objectives differ from project to project. Below are the categories I grade on for each project. Additional categories may be added for the particulars of the project.

- **Structure** Works demonstrate even, compressed floor and walls. Thickness is approximately 1/4". Scale requirements were met.
- **Considered Form and Ideas** Pieces meet the formal goals for the project in a way that's thoughtful, unique or inventive.

- **Effort and Improvement** Project demonstrates attention and progress appropriate to the amount of time allocated. Improvement in technique since the previous assignment.
- **Exceptional Craft** Project demonstrates exemplary attention to detail and a commitment to the ceramic process. Piece is finished in the round.
- **Turned in On Time.**

Sample Preparatory Sketches: 10 points

Late Policy: Accepted with 2 points deducted per day it's late.

- **One Drawing Per Piece (minimum)** Make at least one drawing for each piece that is due. Your drawings can use any media and can be done in the sketchbook or digitally in a computer-based drawing program if you prefer. This is not a drawing class, and I don't expect that you've taken one. Just draw. It's important to practice thinking from 2D → 3D → 2D and back again. Your 3D work will be infinitely stronger if you practice drawing.
- **Use your sketchbook to record ideas in your favorite way.** These don't need to be finished drawings ready to frame. No need to include color (if that's not your thing). Use notes, lists, clippings, photos, or anything else that helps you communicate your ideas. All of your drawings will be photographed and uploaded for review.
- **Turned in on Time**

Sample Critique Objectives:

Late Policy: Not Accepted. Our critiques will happen in small groups during our on-campus meetings.

- **Discuss the meaning, feeling, and ideas of the work being presented**
- **Discuss the process used to create the work being presented**
- **Discuss areas that could be improved and areas that are working well as is.**

Quizzes:

Late Policy: Not accepted

- 10 minutes to take
- 10 questions
- 10 points total
- 2 tries for your best score.

Letter Grades will be assigned. Here's my grading scale.

A—Excellent Work: requirements for the course have been more than fulfilled, and the work

has been developed beyond previous levels on both an aesthetic and a conceptual basis. Artwork shows excellent intellectual skills and ideas, technical skills and craft, and control of the medium. Student exhibits excellent class participation. (93-100=A, 90-93=A-)

B—Very Good Work: The art work, its presentation, and the student's class participation shows competence in skill development, craft, and control of the medium. Completed work shows an understanding of conceptual concerns in the context of ceramics. (87-89=B+, 84-86=B, 80-83=B-)

C—Average Work: Satisfactory work quality. Requirements for the course have been fulfilled adequately. The student has been present with completed work on critique days and for individual appointments. Class participation is adequate. (77-79=C+, 70-76=C)

D—Poor Work: Requirements for the course are not adequately fulfilled. (60-69=D)

F—Failure: No attempt has been made to fulfill requirements of the course. (59 or below)

Due Dates

*Please see the expanded full schedule via the modules in Canvas. All deadlines are included in the Canvas Calendar.

	Discussions/Drawings	Quizzes	Studio Projects	In-Person critiques and activities
	50 points each Happens on Canvas	10 points each Happens on Canvas	100 points each Made at home and fired at CR	Credit value varies. Happen at CR outside in our kiln yard. Precise requirements will be communicated in advance through Canvas
Week 1	Important: Let me know you are here and want to take this course	Vocabulary Home Studio Setup and course policies		
Week 2 Meet on Campus			Assign Form and Function: Bisque Stamps Pinched Series	
Week 3	Form and Function Drawings.		Working On Form and Function: Mug with a pulled handle Painter's Palette	
Week 4 Meet on Campus			Turn in Greenware , Continuing to working on Form and Function unit. Personal Service Item Gathering Dish	Form and Function 1 Small Group Critique (greenware)
Week 5		Glaze Application	Form and Function (last week to work) Prepare for first glazing session	

Week 6 Meet on Campus First Day to Glaze			Turn in greenware Form and Function, Assign Sculptural Objects My Favorite Meal Dwellings	Form and Function 2 Individual Meetings
Week 7			Working on: Sculptural Objects My Favorite Meal Dwellings	
Week 8 Meet on Campus			Working on Sculptural Objects My Favorite Meal Dwellings	. Catch up Glaze Day Individual Meetings as needed.
Week 9			Sculptural Objects My Favorite Meal Dwellings	
Week 10 Meet on Campus			Turn in Sculptural Objects, Begin Series Project My Favorite Meal Dwellings	Dwellings Due in Greenware My Favorite Meal due in Greenware
Week 11			Series Workweek	.
Week 13			Series Workweek	
Week 14	Fall	Break	Have	Fun
Week 15 Meet on Campus			Assign Time Based Project	Glaze Day for Dwellings and my Favorite meal. Wood Kiln Glaze Day

Last Day to Drop anything off for Bisque				
Week 16 Meet on Campus Last Day to Glaze			Time Based work week	Dwellings Critique My Favorite Meal Critique Wood Kiln Fire Day.
Week 17 Meet on Campus				Time based final presentations due in Canvas on December 14 at 11:59pm. Return any borrowed CR property, pickup your finished artworks.

Course Specific Policies

1. **On Firing and Craft:** Works that are unsigned, untrimmed, cracked, broken, or otherwise falling apart will not be fired. Find your pieces that couldn't be fired on the reject shelf (maybe I can help you fix them so they can be fired).
2. **On Facilities:** The kilns are only for people who are taking the class. I can't fire anything made by your housemates, children, or spouses.
3. **On Volume of Production:** On one hand, I want you to be prolific so you can learn the techniques. On the other hand, we are not set up for high volumes of production for individual students.
Q: Can I make a dinner set for 12?
A: No. That would take up too much kiln space and you won't have time to glaze all of the pieced during our limited allocated time on campus for glazing.
4. **Disclaimer:** The instructor reserves the right to change the schedule if needed. Any changes will be clearly communicated.

Admissions deadlines & enrollment policies

Spring 2021 Dates

- *Classes begin: 1/16/21*
- *MLK Jr. Birthday (all campuses closed): 1/18/21*
- *Last day to add a class: 1/22/21*
- *Last day to drop without a W and receive a refund: 1/29/21*
- *Census date: 2/01/21 or 20% into class duration*
- *Last day to petition to file P/NP option: 2/12/21*

- *Lincoln's Birthday (all campuses closed): 2/12/21*
- *President's Day (all campuses closed): 2/15/21*
- *Last day to petition to graduate or apply for certificate: 3/04/21*
- *Spring Break (no classes): 3/15/21 – 3/20/21*
- *Last day for student-initiated W (no refund): 4/02/21*
- *Last day for faculty-initiated W (no refund): 4/02/21*
- *Final examinations: 5/08/21 – 5/14/21*
- *Semester ends: 5/14/21*
- *Grades available for transcript release: approximately 5/31/21*

Students who have experienced extenuating circumstances can complete & submit the ***Excused Withdrawal Petition*** to request an Excused Withdrawal (EW) grade instead of the current Withdrawal (W) or non-passing (D, F & NP) grades. The EW Petition is available from the Admissions and Records Forms Webpage. Supporting documentation is required.

Academic dishonesty

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

Disruptive behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is inclusive and respectful.

Setting Your Preferred Name in Canvas

Students have the ability to have an alternate first name and pronouns to appear in Canvas. Contact [Admissions & Records](#) to request a change to your preferred first name and pronoun. Your Preferred Name will only be listed in Canvas. It does not change your legal name in our records. See the [Student Information Update form](#).

Canvas Information

If using Canvas, include navigation instructions, tech support information, what Canvas is used for, and your expectation for how regularly students should check Canvas for your class.

Log into Canvas at <https://redwoods.instructure.com>

Password is your 8 digit birth date

For tech help, email its@redwoods.edu or call 707-476-4160

Canvas Help for students: <https://www.redwoods.edu/online/Help-Student>

Canvas online orientation workshop: <https://www.redwoods.edu/online/Home/Student-Resources/Canvas-Resources>

Community College Student Health and Wellness

Resources, tools, and trainings regarding health, mental health, wellness, basic needs and more designed for California community college students, faculty and staff are available on the California Community Colleges [Health & Wellness website](#).

[Wellness Central](#) is a free online health and wellness resource that is available 24/7 in your space at your pace.

Students seeking to request a counseling appointment for academic advising or general counseling can email counseling@redwoods.edu.

Emergency procedures / Everbridge

College of the Redwoods has implemented an emergency alert system called Everbridge. In the event of an emergency on campus you will receive an alert through your personal email and/or phones. Registration is not necessary in order to receive emergency alerts. Check to make sure your contact information is up-to-date by logging into WebAdvisor <https://webadvisor.redwoods.edu> and selecting 'Students' then 'Academic Profile' then 'Current Information Update.'

Please contact Public Safety at 707-476-4112 or security@redwoods.edu if you have any questions. For more information see the [Redwoods Public Safety Page](#).

In an emergency that requires an evacuation of the building anywhere in the District:

- Be aware of all marked exits from your area and building
- Once outside, move to the nearest evacuation point outside your building
- Keep streets and walkways clear for emergency vehicles and personnel

Do not leave campus, unless it has been deemed safe by the campus authorities.

Eureka Campus Emergency Procedures

Please review the [campus emergency map](#) for evacuation sites, including the closest site to this classroom (posted by the exit of each room). For more information on Public Safety go to the [Redwoods Public Safety Page](#). It is the responsibility of College of the Redwoods to protect life and property from the effects of emergency situations within its own jurisdiction.

In the event of an emergency:

1. Evaluate the impact the emergency has on your activity/operation and take appropriate action.
2. Dial 911, to notify local agency support such as law enforcement or fire services.
3. Notify Public Safety 707-476-4111 and inform them of the situation, with as much relevant information as possible.
4. Public Safety shall relay threat information, warnings, and alerts through the Everbridge emergency alert system, Public address system, and when possible, updates on the college website, to ensure the school community is notified.
5. Follow established procedures for the specific emergency as outlined in the College of the Redwoods Emergency Procedure Booklet, (evacuation to a safe zone, shelter in place, lockdown, assist others if possible, cooperate with First Responders, etc.).
6. If safe to do so, notify key administrators, departments, and personnel.
7. Do not leave campus, unless it is necessary to preserve life and/or has been deemed safe by the person in command.

Student Support Services

The following online resources are available to support your success as a student:

- [CR-Online](#) (Comprehensive information for online students)
- [Library Articles & Databases](#)
- [Canvas help and tutorials](#)
- [Online Student Handbook](#)

[Counseling](#) offers assistance to students in need of professional counseling services such as crisis counseling.

Learning Resource Center includes the following resources for students

- [Academic Support Center](#) for instructional support, tutoring, learning resources, and proctored exams. Includes the Math Lab & Drop-in Writing Center
- [Library Services](#) to promote information literacy and provide organized information resources.
- [Multicultural & Diversity Center](#)

Special programs are also available for eligible students include

- [Extended Opportunity Programs & Services \(EOPS\)](#) provides financial assistance, support and encouragement for eligible income disadvantaged students at all CR locations.
- The TRiO Student Success Program provides eligible students with a variety of services including trips to 4-year universities, career assessments, and peer mentoring. Students can apply for the program in [Eureka](#) or in [Del Norte](#)
- The [Veteran's Resource Center](#) supports and facilitates academic success for Active Duty Military, Veterans and Dependents attending CR through relational advising, mentorship, transitional assistance, and coordination of military and Veteran-specific resources.

- Klamath-Trinity students can contact the CR KT Office for specific information about student support services at 530-625-4821