

ART 560/660 Graduate

Professor: Patsy Cox E-Mail: patsy.cox@csun.edu
Time: M/W 11-1:45
Place: Virtual/ADC 509
Zoom Link: <https://csun.zoom.us/j/746026487>
Phone: (818) 677-3011(main studio number)/ X-2986
Office Hours: M/W 7:30-8am, 4:45-5:45

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Prerequisite: Graduate-standing; instructor consent.

ART 560. Studio Problems in Ceramics Design (3-3-3-3): Investigation of artistic problems in ceramics and/or glass design, exploration and experimentation leading to resolution in artistic statements. Problems in increasing complexity and evidence of greater depth of artistic concept required in the sequence of course work. One hour per week in seminar; 5 hours per week in supervised studio work.

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COURSE DESCRIPTION DETAIL AND OBJECTIVES

This class is based in experimentation and you are expected to refine your ideas and body of work as you matriculate toward your thesis exhibition. This experience is providing you the opportunity to develop a strong coherent individual body of work. It is also an opportunity to become exposed to the world of Ceramics in the context of the art world. You are responsible for the formulation of the course content with my consultation. We will focus on individual needs specified by a written proposal. You should submit specific plans for investigation including number of works and any glaze testing aspirations. You must obtain a calendar and we will schedule your progress. This is a self-directed course and you must be proactive in your research and in the production of your work. Plan to make more work than you think possible and use your time wisely, you are expected to have dedication and discipline in your approach to time spent in the studio. You are urged to fill any technical gaps in your knowledge of ceramics through scheduled lectures and research. Graduate students from other disciplines will be expected to pursue some curiosity they have with clay into their semester proposals. This could be as small as making efforts to explore the material to learning the process of ceramics from beginning to end.

Lectures and demonstrations are held throughout the semester covering all processes of ceramics. You are welcome to attend any or all lectures and demonstrations. We will begin each class session with a lecture, an artist presentation or a video screening. Everyone in class is required to present an artist lecture, you must be present and on time. Informal discussions will be held on all screened content.

ART DEPARTMENT STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES (SLO)

- Students will acquire competent knowledge and skills in various art media, concepts and methodologies.
- Students will produce a competent body of individual and collaborative work suitable for a liberal arts degree, for the local, national and global marketplace.
- Students will solve visual problems at a competent level, including understanding/application of the elements of art and principles of design.
- Students will utilize and apply critical thinking skills to communicate ideas for their intended audience at a competent level in visual, oral, and written formats.
- Students will acquire historical and contemporary knowledge of diverse cultural and aesthetic contexts, including political, visual and material culture.

GRADUATE VISUAL ART STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES (SLO)

- Students will be able to recognize art as a significant form of expression and communication that can be appreciated by studying the meaning of art and what it is to be an artist.
- Students will be able to experience and value visual thinking and creative problem solving in art, as well as recognize the concurrent importance of perception, experimentation, innovation and critical thinking.
- Students will be able to understand the history and traditions of art and their relevance to social and community concerns as well as the art of different cultures.

Covid-19 safety protocols

CSUN is permitted by LACDPH to hold on-campus classes on the condition that everyone adheres to the following protocols:

- Complete a health self-screening survey through the CSUN app before coming to campus and follow corresponding instructions.

•Monitor your health. Take your temperature once a day. If you have a fever of 100.4 or other symptoms of COVID, or are just feeling ill, call your doctor or the Klotz Student Health Center at 818-677-3666.

•Please do not come to campus if you feel sick.

When on campus, please adhere to the following:

•Maintain at least six (6) feet distance from others

•Wear a face covering

•Wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds

•Avoid touching eyes, nose, and face

•Follow university signage on walkway paths and distancing markers for lines

•For more information, visit the CSUN as One webpage at csun.edu/csunasone.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND REQUIREMENTS

•If you expect to succeed, dedication is essential. Besides class time, you are expected to spend a bare minimum of 12 hours per week outside of class time on your work. You need this time develop a series of works that show a strong investigation of individual ideas, techniques and concepts.

•You are not the only person in the studio and you are expected to clean up after yourself anytime you are in the studio. The studio gets messy very quickly and can potentially become a health hazard; leaving your area messy will not be tolerated. If you are working remotely—be mindful of keeping your space extra clean.

•Students should keep up to date on upcoming shows, reviews and publications.

•Students will be urged to apply to juried shows in addition to university held events.

•Students will be expected to engage in the testing of materials including clay bodies and glazes, methods and new approaches of working with clay. These tests will be taken into consideration as vital research and are seen as a component to your body of work.

•You are required to complete the list of tasks on the back of this sheet and submit materials as appropriate.

•Only those students enrolled in the class are allowed to attend, do not bring friends, relatives, pets or children to class.

•The student conduct code and standards of ethical behavior should be followed in accordance with this course. Students are expected to comply with established class standards as well as the Student Conduct Code. Students who display disruptive, threatening or abusive behavior in class are subject to student discipline. Faculty may eject a student from a single class session when necessary to end seriously disruptive or threatening behavior. Such actions will be reported to the appropriate campus officials. These procedures are promulgated pursuant to the authority granted to the CSU Trustees in Section 66017 of the California Education Code and contained in Sections 41301, 41302, and 41303 of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.

http://www.csun.edu/studentaffairs/pdf/standarts_student_conduct.pdf

ATTENDANCE

•**Attendance is mandatory.** We will meet every Monday and Wednesday via the Zoom link provided. Poor attendance will affect your grade. The community aspect and dialogue in your class is essential to your growth. As graduate students you are expected to attend every **MONDAY and WEDNESDAY** class meeting. Be on time and prepared to begin class at 8am.

•All students are to attend graduate critiques held once a month.

•Students are expected to participate in discussions, critiques and present work no less than four times a semester.

•Students are expected to meet with me individually **AT LEAST** once a month.

**Major religious holidays will be recognized as excused absences.*

GRADING

Grades will be based upon **SUCCESSFUL** completion of projects as specified by your approved proposal. This grade will be based on the formulation of ideas as well as command of the material **YOUR WORK** (40%), completion of the tasks listed in this syllabus (40%), participation in critiques/attendance (30%). It is vital that you learn to articulate your ideas and be able to accept criticism from the class. The ability to comment on work that is not your own is also a must. Make the extra effort to make your thoughts heard; it is a part of your grade.

A=90-100%

Superior work

B=80-89%

Great work

C=70-79%

Average work

D=60-69%

Below average work

F=below 59%

Failure to grasp concepts, complete assignments, poor attendance, disruptive to the learning process, etc.

DUE DATES

Critiques will be held at least once a month, see course outline for specific dates. The tasks listed on this sheet also have due dates, please refer to the course outline and submit materials as appropriate.

MATERIALS

- There are many ceramics texts that are useful for general/technical information as well as those that are more theoretical (*Consult Resource List*). You should continue to add pertinent texts to your library.
 - You *should choose at least ONE* of the Whitechapel: Documents of Contemporary Art texts from the attached resource list and include which one you've chosen in your semester proposal.
<https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/series/whitechapel-documents-contemporary-art>
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PROJECTS

You will submit a proposal as to the body of work you plan to focus on this semester and is subject to approval. Proposals must differ in some way from past submissions and must include the exploration of something new and uncharted in your experience with clay. Your proposal should discuss your ideas about your work and the goals you hope to achieve this semester. In your proposal you should state your intentions beyond school i.e. working artist, educator, grad school and what that timeline looks like. Also include the title of the Whitechapel text that you are committing to for the semester. This proposal is due **Monday, January 27th** to cox.patsy@gmail.com. Final UPDATED websites will be considered your final portfolio and must show improvement from the last submission AND new work. I will consider your updated website your final portfolio for the semester.

• *This semester students will be held strictly to approved proposals as well as accomplishing the following:*

MA/MFA Students graduating this semester: Your priority is the fabrication of your work as well as the written component of your thesis. You must submit an updated draft outline on Google docs by **Monday, February 17th**. You will then update subsequent drafts of your thesis on Google docs that adhere to the attached course outline. Review the website for graduate studies carefully and mark deadlines in your calendar.

<http://www.csun.edu/research-graduate-studies/thesisdissertation-guidelines>

Review the formatting guidelines carefully and structure your thesis accordingly.

<http://www.csun.edu/sites/default/files/FormatGuidelines-8-2014-b.pdf>

Also visit the funding sources page and apply for any travel support programs at least 4 weeks ahead of time.

<http://www.csun.edu/research-graduate-studies/funding-sources>

• **Project MAKE.** This is the first time I am assigning a prompt in the graduate class. Think about what strictly functional object you used to like to make, that was process oriented, that you made well and enjoyed making and make 10 of them. The assignment is that you must sell at least one of them to someone you don't know by the end of the semester utilizing social media or other online platform. We will have a discussion on this exercise on **Monday, May 3**.

• **Good ole' Artist Lecture.** We have spent years bolstering this exercise with various texts, interviews and exchanges. Approach this as if you were just recently invited to give a 30-45 minute artist lecture followed by 15 minutes for Q & A. The "not so ole'" part is that you are presenting this on Zoom. A few things to think about: How to engage on Zoom?! Can you make your presentation more enticing with the tools available to you in Zoom? How can you make this a not to be forgotten experience for your audience? Is video appropriate to include? How much is too much? We will record this and give both verbal and written feedback (unrecorded).

• **Participate in Virtual Dialogue.** We will continue to use this forum to share links and information. You are required to "surf the web" and identify artists, topics, blogs, events that you think are interesting and could pertain to the reading assignments for the semester and post them to the group site for discussion. You are required to post at least one "interesting find" every two weeks to total at least 7 posts for the semester. The other members of the group will be 400 level Ceramics students; alumni and periodically I will invite a surprise guest to comment on your posts.

• **Websites.** An initial group review of your existing website will take place on **Wednesday, February 17th**. Website information should include updated IMAGES, image specs, artist statement, **biography** and resume. Your website should include ALL finished work you made for the semester and the link should be send to me at cox.patsy@gmail.com. I will consider this your final portfolio for the semester. This is due on **Wednesday, May 12th**.

• **Submit to at least one juried show,** make a copy of your application and turn it in. You must apply to one or several off campus calls and must submit a copy of your submission to at least one of them. Due on **May 12th**. (*Consult resource list*)

• You must attend at least three virtual experiences listed on the resource list. We will have informal discussions in class about what you've seen. If the group has not attended a variety of the events by mid semester a formal paper may be assigned. The resource list is not exhaustive and other venues and exhibitions may be appropriate for the discussion.

• *Each of these tasks are considered assignments and should be accomplished while you create a body of work.*

JANUARY

M25 Introduction and Orientation
 W27 email semester proposals to cox.patsy@gmail.com include your most current artist statement (word doc.)
 Presentation of your semester proposal from in the space that you are currently working

FEBRUARY
History/Theory

M1
 W3 Initial Website Review/Social Media Plan—Group session
 M8
 W10 **Group Critique and discussion—Steps toward your semester proposal**
 M15
 W17 Thesis UPDATE due to Google docs—Individual sessions
 M22
 W24

MARCH
Places/Professional Practices

M1
 W3
 M8 **Group Critique and discussion**
 W10 *Workshop—Artist Statements—RT*
 M15 **SPRING BREAK HOLIDAY—NO CLASS (NCECA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE)**
 W17 **SPRING BREAK HOLIDAY—NO CLASS (NCECA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE)**
 M22
 W24
 M29
 W31 **CESAR CHAVEZ HOLIDAY—NO CLASS**

APRIL
People

M5
 Thesis edits to Google docs—Individual sessions
 W7 Artist Lecture: Rory Nester
 M12 **Group Critique and discussion**
 W14 Artist Lecture in Context: Brian Ramirez
 M19 Final thesis edits to Google docs—Individual sessions
 W21 Artist Lecture: Katia Stewart
 M26
 W28 Artist Lecture: Jasmeet Chatrath

MAY
Future

M3 Results of Project MAKE Discussion
 W5 Artist Lecture: Sherry Shieh
 M10
 W12 **Group Critique and discussion**
 DUE DATE: Final Live Website Link, written exhibition review AND COPY OF SHOW
 SUBMISSION

M17 **FINALS: Time 8-10am—all work and belongings must be removed from the studio**

**This is a tentative schedule and is subject to change.*