



# HOUSATONIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Course: Ceramics-I**

**Course Number: ART\* 161**

**Credit: 3**

**Course Description:**

An introductory study in ceramics. Students will learn basic clay skills for the construction of ceramic pieces. The course focuses on processes involved in creating aesthetic and utilitarian works through established techniques and through experimentation with materials. Students will learn the essentials of surface decoration, working with clay, glaze application, and kiln firing.

**Prerequisite: None**

**General Education Competencies Satisfied:**

**HCC General Education Requirement Designated Competency Attribute Code(s):**

AESX                      **Appreciation of the Aesthetic Dimensions of Humankind**

**Additional CSCU General Education Requirements for CSCU Transfer Degree Programs:**

None

**Embedded Competency(ies):**

None

**Discipline-Specific Attribute Code(s):**

FINA                      **Fine Arts elective**

**Course objectives:**

**General Education Goals and Outcomes:**

**Appreciation of the Aesthetic Dimensions of Humankind:** Students will understand the diverse nature, meanings, and functions of creative endeavors through the study and practice of literature, music, the theatrical and visual arts, and related forms of expression.

**Course Objectives:**

**Course Specific:**

1. Learn construction techniques. (Pinch Pot, Coil, Wheel, Slip Casting)
2. Engage in methods that result in quality design and craftsmanship.
3. Demonstrate methods that result in utilitarian design and craftsmanship.
4. Utilize decorative methods and glazing.
5. Demonstrate problem solving skills relative to ceramic processes.
6. Develop technical knowledge through experience of working with materials.
7. Understand the process of firing ceramics.
8. Utilize standard techniques, tools and materials used to create ceramic pieces.
9. Utilize and Communicate concepts and terminology.

10. Introduce basic wheel throwing techniques.

**Course Content:**

**1. Properties of clay:**

- a. Earthen ware
- b. Stoneware
- c. Porcelain

**2. Clay Construction Techniques:**

- a. Pinch pot
- b. Coil
- c. Slab
- d. Wheel
- e. Casting

**3. History of Ceramics**

- a. Ancient pottery
- b. The Housatonic Museum of Art Collection
- c. Contemporary pottery and designs
- d. Pottery with expressive intent

**4. Creative Stages:**

- a. Developing preliminary studies
- b. Responding to the sensuous and structural characteristics of clay.
- c. Glazing
- d. Firing
- e. Finish product

**5. Terminology:**

- a. History and terminology of ceramics.
- b. Aesthetic criteria and analysis