

CERM 2304 Ceramics Introduction

COURSE INFORMATION

Course title – Introduction to Ceramics- Ceramics 1
Course prefix and number – CERM 2304 – CRN: 11284
Course meeting location – Fox Fine Arts Studio room 250
Course meeting times – Tuesday and Thursday, 9 am – 11:50 am

INSTRUCTORS CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor's name – Dina Perlasca
Instructor's office # - Fox Fine Arts room 250 B
Instructor's office hours –by appointment.
Instructor's email - dpperlasca@utep.edu

INSTRUCTORS INTRODUCTION

Dina Perlasca is a Mexican American artist from The Paso del Norte Region, where she grew up on the border of Mexico and the U.S. Dina lives with her children in El Paso Texas, border of Cd. Juarez Chihuahua Mexico, to where she travels often for family visits. Dina has an active studio practice at Bravo Studios in the Research Interdisciplinary Building at The University of Texas at El Paso. She obtained her BFA in Ceramics from The University of Texas at El Paso and her MFA in Ceramics at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces NM. She has been a ceramic sculpture instructor at the El Paso Museum of Art in her undergraduate years as well as an Art Consultant in the Gadsden District in Santa Teresa NM. Dina has also ventured into personal creative adventures such as being the ranch manager for 2 years at her grandfather's Hacienda Xicalango in the middle of the Huastecan jungle mountains, at the heart of the Mexican Republic in the State of Hidalgo. She is currently teaching undergraduate ceramics and design at The University of Texas at El Paso and at Eastern New Mexico University in Portales NM. Perlasca is constantly exhibiting her artwork regionally and nationally and holds the Communications and Membership Liaison position in the Board of Directors at Artaxis

REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS

Clay will be provided by the ceramic area as well as “on loan clay tools and bag” Clay bag and clay tools should always be kept in a safe place, locker recommended. Each student is responsible for their bag and tools and will be returning them at the end of the semester. If there is an item that has been lost the student is responsible to replace it before the last day of classes on Dec 7th, 2023. Please keep in mind that you must account for shipping time as these tools are only available online through several online sources such as newmexicoclay.com, amazon.com or dickblick.com
Failure to return the bag and all the tools will affect your grade by one letter grade.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Ceramics 2304 is an introduction to the discipline of Ceramics. This course will provide instruction and practical building experience as it relates to the design and production of ceramic sculpture and functional forms. Each student will conceptualize, design and build completed ceramic projects that cover this wide range of expression. Additionally, there will be one terminology exam. Students will develop skills required to plan and execute building problems with ceramics and engage in a group work environment fostering collaboration and critical assessment. This course will utilize and reiterate concepts and terminology previously covered in Foundation Design course work. Ceramics 2304 is a studio practice course designed primarily to serve the needs of the studio-based art major. Course style can be described as “hands-on” studio/lab with demonstrations, lectures, in-class and out of class work time. In-class worktime is structured to provide individualized instruction and assistance with the design/build process. Out of class work time will be structured and guided, but the student will need to manage their time and person off campus workspace. This course will require significant additional worktime outside of class. Students should anticipate spending an additional 6-10 hours outside of class per week to satisfactorily complete this class.

COURSE PREREQUISITE INFORMATION

Students taking Ceramics 2304 are required to have completed ARTF 1301, ARTF 1302, ARTF 1303, and ARTF 1304, or instructor approval. Ceramics 2301 may be taken concurrently with ARTF 1303 and ARTF 1304. A student seeking prerequisite waiver must contact the instructor.

COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR 2304 INCLUDE

- An introductory experience in the development and building/formation of ceramic sculpture and functional ceramics.
- An introduction to the history of ceramics.
- An introduction to the technical aspects of ceramic production, including glaze mixing, glaze application, and kiln firing.
- Development of improved visual communication skills as they relate to 3-dimensional art.
- Development of self-expression, creative thinking, and planning skills.

COURSE OUTCOMES

Students who complete this course will have:

- Experience and fundamental competency in the planning and building/formation of ceramic sculpture and pottery.
- Foundation competency and confidence in the use of the ceramic's facilities equipped with ceramic forming tools.
- An improved understanding of the history of ceramics.
- An improved understanding and competency of the contemporary art world.
- An improved understanding and competency in their ability to realize and express their ideas both verbally, and in 3D terms.

Note: Competency is defined, for this course, as a developed understanding and mastery of skills and knowledge needed to complete a task to a successful beginning level. Competency can be demonstrated while designing a project, building a project, using the equipment in the ceramic's facilities, etc. Competency is a measure of how well you understand and use a process or skill. Confidence is defined as a student's willingness and self-trust in their own abilities to use the skills and processes learned during this course. Confidence is built throughout the semester and is demonstrated by the way that a student develops skills or competencies and their willingness to utilize these new skills.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This course is designated as a hybrid course, which requires work outside of the UTEP studios. This may take the form of at-home artwork assignments, online research, individual and/or group critiques. As such, you will be required to have a digital device that will support these remote tasks. You will need a decent internet connection. Please note that we will use of Blackboard throughout the semester. In other words, you will be logging in on Blackboard often. All assignments will be posted on Blackboard, and you will be tasked with taking quizzes, exams and uploading written assignments and photographs of your artwork to discussion folders.

COURSE STRUCTURE

We will meet in person on Mondays through Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00am to 11:50am. There will be monitored open studio hours at UTEP for you to complete your work outside of class time until. The Focus on Function class starts ten minutes after your class is over so I please ask everyone to be conscious of this and to be respectful and start cleaning 20 min to 30 min before class ends so we can maintain a nice studio for everyone. Monitored Hours and open studio times will be posted on the doors of the ceramic studio. For the most part we have an open studio policy during the week, just be mindful of when other classes are in session. I will announce also through Blackboard the schedules for this semester within the first two weeks of class.

EXAM

There will be one examination covering terms and concepts used in Ceramics 2304. This exam will constitute 10% of the final course.

CERAMIC STUDIO ETTIQUETE

- Be on time
- Clean up after yourself every time you are in the studio
- Be courteous to each other
- Remove your work and tools from studio community areas after you are done working
- be on time

ASSIGNMENTS

Ceramics 2304 is designed around projects that include:

- Assignment to be introduced individually based on technique and student proposals
- Assignment Terminology Exam. Students will complete a cumulative ceramic terminology/vocabulary exam. The terms and vocabulary will be based on the materials and processes covered throughout the semester.
- Assignment Clayflicks: ceramics in film. Written reviews and reaction papers
- Assignment Podcast review: audio ceramics!
- Assignment Digital Clay: CFile contemporary ceramics research paper

Most of the studio-based art assignments have a written paper component that is part of the overall assignment. Details will be covered with each individual assignment.

-Assignments will be introduced via a presentation by the instructor and a detailed assignment sheet (in person or via Blackboard). The assignments must be submitted in a completed condition at the time of the project grading critique. Grades established for these primary project assignments will constitute 90% of the final grade for this course. The exam on terminology will constitute 10% of the final grade.

-Please note that the Professor reserves the option to change the assignments from those described.

COURSE COMMUNICATION

-Active communication is key to any successful relationship. I ask that you communicate with me if you have any questions, concerns, or have life issues that may be impacting your course participation.

-In addition to meeting in class, we can meet in person by appointment. I do ask that you email me in advance to let me know if you would like to meet so I can prepare for that meeting.

-The best way to contact me is through the UTEP email system. My email address is dpperlasca@utep.edu. I will make every effort to respond to your email in a timely manner.

-Please be aware that I send out course announcements via Blackboard, which go to your UTEP email address. I expect you to check your UTEP email regularly.

GRADING STANDARD AND CRITERIA

Evaluation of student performance for this course is done in the following manner:

-All grades are calculated using percentages and converted into letter grades according to the following scale:

90% & above	= A	excellent quality work
80% & below 90%	= B	above average work
70% & below 80%	= C	average work
60% & below 70%	= D	below average work
Below 60%	= F	unsatisfactory work, failing

-The primary project grades will be established using full-class and individual critiques at the instructor's discretion. All students are expected to participate in all critiques, which include discussion of their own projects as well as the projects of other students. At the completion of each project and discussion, the instructor will evaluate the project success by assigning a rating of 0-10 for each of the 3 criteria, namely Concept, Concern, and Craftpersonship. Concept will evaluate the quality of the idea for the project. Concern will evaluate dedication, diligence, and effort with which the student designs and completes the project. Craftpersonship will evaluate the skill and quality of the material manipulation within the project. The resulting 3 criteria ratings will be averaged together to establish a project percentage for each assignment. The project grades will constitute 90% of the course final grade.

-The exam on terminology will constitute 10% of the final grade.

-A final course percentage will be calculated from the project and exam grades.

-Once a final course average is calculated, attendance penalties (if applicable) will be deducted, and the final grade established.

CLASS CONDUCT

-Sick Policy – If you are not feeling well, or if you are sick, then you should not come to this class under any circumstances. You should instead seek medical care, and/or recuperate at home. Email me or call me when you are able and let me know the circumstances, and I will help you to catch up in class when you are feeling better. If you are pregnant or have other physical issues such as allergies to dust, respiratory issues, anything that I should be aware of, please inform me of this immediately, and we will work to make you safe and comfortable. If a family member is ill, and you need to care for that person, please email me or call and let me know what your situation is.

-Guests – Guests are not permitted at any time during class. Please tell your friends, family members, partners, that they may see you before or after class time. You are expected to always remain in class and may not step-out to visit with guests during class. You will be held responsible for adhering to this policy, and I will give you one warning. After that, I will ask you to leave class and you will be counted absent for that class period.

-Children – Children are not permitted at any time, ever, to be in the studios. The studios can be very dangerous places and constant supervision requires unfocused course work.

-Gifts – Gifts of any kind cannot be accepted. While the thought is appreciated, professionally speaking, it is not permissible.

-Pagers and cell phones – Please turn off your phones and pagers during class time. You will be asked to leave if your phone or pager goes off during class and be counted absent for that class period.

-Music – Music is not allowed during any instruction, lecture or during critiques. Students may listen to music at a low volume with headphones during any other class time if it does not disturb other students. It is expected that these devices will be switched off when asking questions of the instructor and or if the instructor is addressing the class as a group for comments or directions.

-Studio Time – The studio will only be open for you to work in it during class time due to high traffic of other design and drawing classes, do take advantage of this time. Be aware of other classes and professors and exit your classroom when class ends to allow other to use the space.

-Studio Safety – All safety procedures will be explained to you throughout the semester, and every consideration has been taken to create a safe environment for you to work in.

-Cleanliness -You are required to clean up your work area in the studio every day that you work in the studio. If you leave the studio, you must clean up. Please put all of your tools, materials, etc. away in your lockers, and sweep/wipe down tables and throw trash away once you are finished using the labs. If you have difficulty cleaning up after yourself, you will receive a special tutorial on how to clean up after class. Art Lockers are available for check-out through The DoART Office, #350A.

-Personal Safety – If you must work alone, late at night, please be sure to let someone know where you are, and please keep a cell phone with you. If you feel unsafe for any reason, you should call the

UTEP police immediately (747-5611). Additionally, if you would like an escort to your car at night, please call the UTEP Police department, and they should accommodate your needs. Please inform me if there is a problem, and I will address it immediately with the proper authorities.

- Work Removal – Finished works must be removed by the date set by the instructor of this course. All works left in the studio after this date will be removed and disposed. Any tools and supplies left will be considered orphaned and will become the property of the department.

Incompletes, Withdrawals, Pass/Fail: -Incompletes or “I” grades will be considered for students completing satisfactory or better work and having serious legitimate situations beyond their control requiring additional time to complete the course requirements. All “I” grades are at the discretion of the instructor and the approval of the Department Chair.

-Students hold full responsibility for withdrawing from this course if that procedure is elected. Withdrawals must be completed on or before the final date to drop a course with a “W”. Students missing this deadline will be issued a grade for the performance in the course.

-ARTF 1303 Basic Design II is a grade-based course and is not available for audit or pass/fail options.

UNIVERSITY POLICY STATEMENTS

Cheating/Plagiarism: Cheating is unethical and not acceptable. Plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper without giving credit to the source of that information or wording: it is also not acceptable. Do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself. You may not submit work for this class that you did for another class. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action, per UTEP catalog policy. Refer to <http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/> for further information.

DISABILITIES

All reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities, including learning disabilities will be made and or provided. This course does require certain manual dexterity and physical abilities to complete the required projects. Please see me personally before or after class in the first two weeks or make an appointment, to discuss any special needs you might have. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Disabled Student Services Office in the East Union Bldg., Room 106 within the first two weeks of classes. The Disabled Student Services Office can also be reached in the following ways: Web: <http://sa.utep.edu/cass/> Phone: 915-747-5148 Email: cass@utep.edu

UTEP FOOD PANTRY

The University of Texas at El Paso, Memorial Gym, Room 105, 101 W. Robinson El Paso, Texas 79968 E: foodpantry@utep.edu P: (915) 747-8053

COVID 19 RESOURCES

The COVIDaction@utep.edu link is still active and is an available resource for those who don't know what to do in COVID-19 related incidents. In addition, even though, it is not required to self-report, we do recommend for individuals to report and receive guidance based on the CDC guidelines.

<https://www.utep.edu/ehs/covid/> : this link is the most up to date UTEP policy, regarding COVID. If you have any other questions, please let me know and I will do my best to help you.

Please cut out this part and return to Professor Perlasca on the second day of class upon securing a locker near the ceramic room.

CERAMIC STUDENT TOOL KIT LOAN AGREEMENT

Locker # _____ TOOL KIT # _____

Ceramic Tool Kit and Bag shall be returned to the Lender (UTEP Ceramic Studio) in as good condition as when received by the Borrower (UTEP Ceramic Student), except for reasonable wear and tear. During the Loan Period of the Fall Semester August 28th to December 7th prior to return, the Borrower (UTEP Ceramic Student) agrees to assume all responsibility and or replacement of any lost tools. A Complete Tool Kits and Bag must be returned by December 7th, lack of return will affect your grade.

By signing this document, you agree to adhere to the Ceramic Student Tool Kit Loan Agreement policies and procedures.

Students Name: _____ Ceramic Time Class and Level: _____

Student signature: _____ Date: _____