

Beginning Potter's Wheel

Artist-Instructor: Dana Nicloy

6-week pottery class outline is as follows:

Class 1: Welcome to Big Arts Ceramics Studio. Meet and greet. Go over protocols, safety and studio procedures. Answer questions. Class will begin with an instructor demonstration then all students get to work wedging clay and starting the center the clay.

Class 2: class begins with an instructor's demonstration. Recap class 1, focusing on centering your ball of clay and throwing cylinders on the pottery wheel.

Class 3: class begins with an instructor's demonstration. Moving from cylinder to bowls. Start trimming pieces.

Class 4: class begins with an instructor's demonstration. Cover shaping of cylinders into various forms such as vases, pitchers, etc...

Class 5: class begins with an instructor's demonstration and lesson on glazing artwork. where we will work towards finishing trimming any artwork from the prior week and start glazing bisque pieces.

Class 6: Final session - students finish glazing their artwork the first half of the class followed by a class Critique and Q&A of finished artwork. You will be working with "real" stoneware clays and glazes, the same materials we use in the production of our mid-fired stoneware. Everything you create will be safe for food, microwave, dishwasher, and oven use.

Please note: that all pottery may be subject to issues such as cracking, blistering, and glaze running due to the firing process, which can affect the functionality of your piece.

While we strive to minimize defects, they are a natural part of the pottery experience. We recommend wearing appropriate clothing that you don't mind getting clay on, trimming your fingernails, tying back long hair, and removing any hand accessories. Please note that finished pottery pieces that are not picked up within 7 days will be discarded.

Curriculum Objectives: After successfully completing this course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the ability to perceive and describe formal qualities and expressive content in ceramic products.
2. Demonstrate technical skills needed to produce products with aesthetic qualities.
3. Demonstrate techniques of forming pottery.
4. Use vocabulary related to ceramics/pottery.
5. Use criteria for making judgments about ceramics/pottery.
6. Demonstrate an awareness of the history of pottery.