ART-230
Section 33364
Wheel Throwing
Units: 4
Spring 2019
Monday/Wednesday 9:00-11:40 am
Location: WAH 107
Instructor: Julia Haft-Candell
Office: WAH 107
Office Hours: Mondays 8-9am or by appointment
Contact Info: haftcand@usc.edu

Course Description
An introductory course using wheel throwing techniques for ceramics to explore a variety of forms through three-dimensional exercises. Topics covered include basic wheel throwing techniques: centering, throwing and trimming, in addition to conceptual development, firing, glazing, and ceramic history past and present. Classes will consist of technical demonstrations, lectures, slides, work time, and critiques.

Learning Objectives
• The student will have a basic understanding of the principles of ceramics.
• The student will have basic technical proficiency with regard to wheel throwing, firing ceramics, and glaze calculation.
• The student will be able to critically engage in discussions related to the production and interpretation of ceramic
vessels/art, as well as the interpretation of contemporary sculpture in other mediums.

• The student will have an enhanced and or improved knowledge of what constitutes ceramics and recognize its use in applications as varied as utility based production, design, craft, fine art, medicine, science and industry.

Attendance
Class attendance is required. Attendance and punctuality in all class meetings is a basic responsibility of every USC student. This is a studio course in which attendance and hard work is always expected of you. You will be dropped one entire letter grade for each class you miss after three unexcused absences. Three tardies or early departures equal one absence. A total of 8 or more unexcused absences will result in the assignment of a failing grade with no exceptions.
All students have access to the studio outside of class 24/7. If there is another class in session, the student must get permission from the instructor. There is a locker that has a key to the ceramics studio and you will be given the locker combination the first week of class. I encourage you not to work alone at night. Call Campus Cruisers (x 04911) for transportation or someone to walk you home late at night. If they don’t respond, call the Department of Public Safety (x06000).

Description and Assessment of Assignments
Clay Projects-The course is structured around three main shapes you will learn on the wheel, and each shape will have related assignments. For each assignment you will have a “last day of wet clay” deadline, as well as a glazed and fired deadline. These deadlines are strict, and your grade will be negatively affected if you do not adhere to them. Concept, technique, creativity and ambition are considerations in determining your
grade. At the required final critique the entire body of work you make will be assessed for growth during the semester.

***Detailed clay assignments***

1. **The Cylinder**
   a. 4 cylinders: 4 inches tall
   b. 4 cylinders: 5 inches tall, 2 functional, 2 sculptural
   c. 4 cylinders: 6 inches tall, 2 organic, 2 geometric
   d. 4 mugs with handles thrown off the hump, must be trimmed
   e. 8 vessels of variety of sizes and shapes that make up an installation considering negative space.

2. **The Bowl**
   a. Function: 4 large bowls 10 inches diameter with specific functions
   b. Decoration: 4 porcelain lamp shades/lanterns (i.e. upside-down bowls) using surface decoration techniques

3. **The Thrown Slab**
   a. Plates: 4 plates of a general same size (at least 8 inch diameter) with no cracking
   b. Nonfunctional sculpture using thrown slabs, cylinders and handbuilt parts. At least 18 inches in either direction.

**Artist Research**- In addition to your clay assignments you will be required every Monday to upload to blackboard and share with the class an image of an artwork of your choice.

**Art Review**- You will be responsible to attend one gallery or museum during the semester and will be required to write a short review on what you see.

**Participation**- Includes class discussions and critiques as well as regular clean up after yourself. The classroom can get dangerous if too much mess is left, and it is everyone’s responsibility to
help maintain a safe and clean environment. Your participation in regular cleaning is required, as is participation in the final clean up at the end of the semester, no exceptions.

**Grading will be based on the following:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clay assignments</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Review</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artist research</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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</tbody>
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A  All assignments done on time and meeting assignment criteria. Attendance, participation, and attitude excellent. Artistic and technical development evident in work. Exceptional creative energy.

B  All assignments done on time and meeting assignment criteria. Attendance, participation, and attitude good. Artistic and technical development evident in work. Good creative energy.

C  All assignments done on time and meeting assignment criteria. Attendance, participation, and attitude adequate. Artistic and technical development evident in work. Adequate creative energy.

D  All assignments completed but performed below average. Completing to little or unsatisfactory work. Poor attendance.

F  Did not complete all assignments.

**Assignment Submission Policy**

I will check that you are finished on the last wet clay deadlines, and I will check again that your work is complete after the
firings and on critique days. On critique days you will need to present at least the amount of wares required by the assignment. Pieces should be trimmed, glazed, and not be cracked. Make enough extra pieces for each assignment that you can meet the minimum requirement. You can remake pieces for each assignment throughout the semester to improve your grade.

Additional Policies
This class is about practice, and the more you work, the better you’ll get. Depending on the week you will need to spend up to 6 hours/week outside of class time working in the studio. You will need to make extras, and might at times need to remake projects. Everyone is bad at wheel throwing at the beginning, so I will be grading mostly on effort and ambition at first, then on follow-through of learned techniques and visible progress, and finally conceptual understanding and evidence of a wider understanding of art and the material.

All assignments are given a wet clay deadline date and a critique date. You must be present for critique. Your participation in the dialogue of the class is important and is part of your grade for each project.

If at any time you have questions about your grade, it is your responsibility to ask me about it, don’t wait until the end of the semester.

Students are responsible for placing their work on the proper cart for firing and to have all of their projects fired for the critique.

Everyone enrolled in the class will be responsible for general studio maintenance. You are responsible for keeping the common workplace clean.

No texting of any kind in class (you’ll get dust all over your phone and ruin it!), and all phone calls should be done outside the studio.
Materials
With the clay voucher that you pay for at the bookstore you will get 5 bags of clay. Each additional bag is $10 and can be purchased with cash only from the lab tech Farnaz Sabet.

Students will need the following by the second day of class:
- Closed toe shoes
- All metal needle tool
- Small sponge
- Wooden and rubber ribs
- Fork
- Sketchbook
- Padlock for storage
- Drawing pencil and eraser
- An apron or old clothes you can get dirty

Safety
- No headphones
- Students should wear proper clothing, closed toe shoes and may never go barefoot in the studio or in outdoor work areas.
- Students may not bring friends who are not registered in a ceramics class into the facility in order to teach them how to throw on the potter’s wheel or use any of the equipment or tools.
- Students also should consider their own specific health concerns and inform the instructor if such concerns need consideration or accommodation.

Course Schedule:
1/7, 1/9- Intro and Demo on the Cylinder
1/14- At least 4, 4” cylinders thrown for discussion on wet work
1/16- At least 4, 5” cylinders thrown, discuss functional vs. sculptural, apply these ideas to the cylinders
1/21- MLK Day, no class
1/23- At least 4, 6” cylinders thrown, discuss organic vs. geometric, apply these ideas to the 6” cylinders.
1/28- Trimming demo
1/30- Throwing off the hump demo
2/4- 4 Mugs thrown, last wet clay day project 1
2/11- glaze demo, bowl demo
2/13- work on large bowls
2/18- President’s Day, no class
2/25- Part One Critique (all cylinder based assignments)
2/27- Surface decoration lecture/lantern demo
3/11, 3/13- Spring Break
3/18- last wet clay day for all bowl related assignments, art review due (via email)
3/20- Thrown slab/plate demo
3/25- Thrown Slab demo
3/27- Work day
4/1- Critique Project 2
4/3- Work day
4/9- Last wet clay day for the semester
4/16- Last bisque for the semester
4/23- Last glaze fire for the semester
4/29- Study Day
5/3- Final Critique 8-10am

Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

Academic Conduct:
Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words - is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct.

Support Systems:
Student Counseling Services (SCS) - (213) 740-7711 - 24/7 on call
Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention. engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1 (800) 273-8255
Provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-4900 - 24/7 on call
Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm. engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp

Sexual Assault Resource Center
For more information about how to get help or help a survivor, rights, reporting options, and additional resources, visit the website: sarc.usc.edu

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)/Title IX Compliance - (213) 740-5086
Works with faculty, staff, visitors, applicants, and students around issues of protected class. equity.usc.edu

Bias Assessment Response and Support
Incidents of bias, hate crimes and microaggressions need to be reported allowing for appropriate investigation and response. studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support

The Office of Disability Services and Programs
Provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange relevant accommodations. dsp.usc.edu

Student Support and Advocacy - (213) 821-4710
Assists students and families in resolving complex issues adversely affecting their success as a student EX: personal, financial, and academic. [studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa](studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa)

**Diversity at USC**  
Information on events, programs and training, the Diversity Task Force (including representatives for each school), chronology, participation, and various resources for students. [diversity.usc.edu](diversity.usc.edu)

**USC Emergency Information**  
Provides safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible. [emergency.usc.edu](emergency.usc.edu)

**USC Department of Public Safety**  
- UPC: (213) 740-4321  
- HSC: (323) 442-1000  
24-hour emergency or to report a crime.  
Provides overall safety to USC community. [dps.usc.edu](dps.usc.edu)