



Beginning Pottery

Semester: Summer 2024

Days: Tuesdays, January 23 – March 12

Times: 6:30-8:30 PM

Instructor Name: Tim Sullivan

Course Description

In this class, students will learn the basics of pottery through the lifecycle of clay. Students will learn how to throw pottery, trim feet, pull handles, and glaze their work as well as the general safety of working with clay and ceramic glazes. Class goals will include an understanding of all parts of the pottery process and final production goals of six to eight ceramic works (ideally two mugs, two bowls, two vases and two of student choice).

What will you learn?

Within this course students will learn the foundations of pottery to create mugs, bowls, and vases. They will be introduced to proper studio etiquette, cleaning techniques, and receive demonstrations on all beginning pottery methods.

Materials

Students are responsible for bringing the following materials with them to class:

All material can be purchased at House of Clay in OKC

- Pottery Tool Kit-Including:
 - Metal rib
 - Wood rib
 - Wire tool
 - Needle tool
 - Wood knife
 - Ribbon/loop tool
 - Sponge
- Clay clothes. Remember clay is messy and while aprons are provided, they are not perfect.

The following items are provided by the Firehouse Art Center through the materials fee:

- Clay
- Dip glazes



Class Schedule

First Class:

Students will bring clay and Beginner Pottery set to this class. Students will be given instructions on safety procedures for class. As well as a demonstration in prepping clay, wedging, and throwing cylinders (the basis of all forms). Students will practice centering clay and pulling cylinders. Students will then finish the day by learning proper techniques for cleaning wheels and closing the studio.

Second Class:

Students will continue to practice throwing cylinders. Students will be introduced to the anatomy and lifecycle of ceramics. Students will learn how to wrap cylinders for weekend storage.

Third Class:

Students will learn to center and trim their cylinders as well as how to pull/attach handles for mugs.

Fourth Class:

Students will be given a demonstration in bowls. Students will work to create bowls and mugs this day to satisfy goals.

Fifth Class:

Students will be given a final demonstration on vases (optional form).

Sixth Class:

Students will work semi-independently this day to satisfy goals for class. This will be the final day of production for students.

Seventh Class:

Students will be introduced to the kiln and will finish trimming and adding handles to work this day. The instructor will give a glaze demonstration.

Eighth Class:

Students will spend the class glazing to ensuring that their work and space is clean. All final work will be available for pick up the following week during the Firehouse's standard operational hours of 10 am to 5 pm, Monday-Friday.