

ARTS-248: INTRODUCTION TO GLAZES

Effective Term

Fall 2026

CC Approval

12/05/2025

AS Approval

12/11/2025

BOT Approval

12/18/2025

COCI Approval

02/19/2026

SECTION A - Course Data Elements

CB04 Credit Status

Credit - Degree Applicable

Discipline

Minimum Qualifications	And/Or
Art (Master's Degree)	

Subject Code

ARTS - Arts

Course Number

248

Department

Arts

Division

Arts and Humanities (ARAH)

Full Course Title

Introduction to Glazes

Short Title

Introduction to Glazes

CB03 TOP Code

1002.30 - Ceramics

CB08 Basic Skills Status

NBS - Not Basic Skills

CB09 SAM Code

E - Non-Occupational

Rationale

Fixing errors adding DEI

SECTION B - Course Description

Catalog Course Description

Designed for the student who wishes to understand how glazes are developed, prepared and used. This course includes the history of ceramic glazes, methods for developing and applying glazes, materials used in glazes, and practical experience in glaze testing and evaluation.

SECTION C - Conditions on Enrollment

Open Entry/Open Exit

No

Repeatability

Not Repeatable

Grading Options

Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass

Allow Audit

Yes

Requisites

Advisory Prerequisite(s)

Completion of Arts-140 or Arts-141 with a minimum grade of C.

SECTION D - Course Standards

Is this course variable unit?

No

Units

3.00

Activity Hours

108

Outside of Class Hours

54

Total Contact Hours

108

Total Student Hours

162

Distance Education Approval

Is this course offered through Distance Education?

No

SECTION E - Course Content

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Create glazes and ceramic works that utilize historic and contemporary references, practices, theories and materials while evaluating these glazes and works using proper visual art terminology.
2. Safely handle and maintain materials, studio facilities, and equipment.

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate and identify the chemical symbols for basic elements.
2. Analyze the raw glaze materials, coloring oxides, and relate the role each element has in a glaze formula.
3. Test glazes using empirical methods: one line blend, one tri-axial blend, and one-color series, and evaluate results.
4. Plan and create one piece of work to be glazed with a selected test glaze.
5. Demonstrate understanding of history, theory, methods, and materials.

Course Content

1. History of glazes: early development, types, Seger formula
2. Materials, chemical formulas: essential elements, materials, coloring
3. Testing glazes: trial and error, empirical, scientific method
4. Testing procedures
5. Glaze classification: visual, tactile, technical
6. Glaze qualities: defects, practical and aesthetic considerations
7. Kiln firing and loading

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction

Types	Examples of learning activities
Lecture	Image and video-enhanced lectures covering core concepts, terminology, and historic development of ceramic glazes followed by all-class or small-group discussions. This studio art class will be taught with both formal and ongoing integrated lecture. Students will receive hands-on group demonstrations as well as one-on-one instruction, demonstration and direction. Lectures and demonstrations will often if not always be accompanied by visual aids and/or real hands-on experience.
Lab	Instructor-guided lab time to apply concepts and skills to course content through guided exercises. Lab time will include both one-on-one and group instruction.
Critique	Oral or written group critiques analyzing finished examples of student work related to specific course assignments. Peer critiques reinforcing student's capacity to think critically about course assignments.
Observation and Demonstration	Glaze forming and testing demonstrations covering techniques, concepts, and material applications.
Other	Student presentations on historic and contemporary use of glazes from a diverse range of cultures.
Field Trips	Students in this course may view artwork in the professional contexts of a gallery or museum. This activity will reinforce the student's understanding of historic and contemporary approaches to ceramics.

Methods of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation

Types	Examples of classroom assessments
Portfolios	Each student's "course portfolio" will be made up of assignments from the semester. The portfolio will be evaluated by the instructor and student at "final critique." Generally the creativity, craftsmanship, presentation and demonstrated improvement of the portfolio as a whole will be evaluated.
Exams/Tests	Tests and exams may be used to ensure each student is able to identify, understand and practically apply specific processes and techniques relevant to ceramic glazes.
Projects	Student self-evaluations, peer evaluations and instructor critique will be used to evaluate each project. Class participants may be given the opportunity to improve, elements and or redo each project before the end of the term and the final review of all projects as a whole within the "course portfolio."

Assignments

Reading Assignments

Selected readings from student proposals, textbook, class handouts, periodicals or library collections.

For example:

1. Students will read instructor-provided handouts on glaze testing formats, concepts and terminology relative to this course level.
2. Students will research an historic or contemporary glaze recipe.

Writing Assignments

Written critical self-analysis.

For example:

1. Write an essay analyzing the characteristics of your base glaze.
2. A written self-evaluation of course work presented to the instructor at final critique.

Outside-of-Class Assignments

Completion of glaze tests and ceramic works that illustrate viable solutions to each assignment.

For example:

1. Using a line blend, and a triaxial blend complete at least 50 glaze test ultimately aimed at a specific goal.
2. Design a ceramic piece that will utilize the dominant characteristics of a glaze. In other words, build a ceramic work for a glaze.

SECTION F - Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Material Type

Manual

Author

Val Cushing

Title

Cushing's Handbook

Publisher

published by the author

Year

1994

Material Type

Textbook

Author

John Britt

Title

A Complete Guide to high-fire Glazes

Edition/Version

1st

Publisher

Union Square & Co

Year

2007

Rationale

This is the most current addition of this a standard text for this subject matter.

ISBN #

1600592163

SECTION G - Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity

How does your course and/or course outline of record reflect strategies for accommodating and engaging diverse student populations, advancing equitable outcomes, and fostering inclusion for all students?

Students will be engaging in the study of both technical and artistic contributions from a wide range of cultures and civilizations. All materials required for the course including manuals and text books will be readily available to all at the ceramics studio.

Course Codes (Admin Only)**CB00 State ID**

CCC000143887

CB10 Cooperative Work Experience Status

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

CB11 Course Classification Status

Y - Credit Course

CB13 Special Class Status

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

CB23 Funding Agency Category

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

CB24 Program Course Status

Program Applicable

Allow Pass/No Pass

Yes

Only Pass/No Pass

No