Clay Studio Lvl1 Study Guide

SEMESTER REVIEW Aug 2020

Culture and Events: (Info about…)

- **Where does Clay come from? What is Kaolin?-**
- **How many types of clay did we work with?-**
- **Know Projects: Be able to- Identification & Comment**

Construction Tool & Creating Technique Terms:

- **Bat**- The flat round disk/tile used to work/throw on or to dry out clay after throwing on a wheel. Plastic bats for the wheel and "wood" Masonite for hand built projects.
- **Bone Dry-** Air dried and unfired clay, clay with no water. The chalky and very breakable stage when the clay is ready to fire the first time.
- **BTU-** (British Thermal Unit) A traditional unit of heat. Amount of heat required to raise 1 pound of water, one degree fahrenheit.
- **Calipers**- A device used to measure the dimensions or diameter of objects.
- **Centering**-The process of applying pressure to a wedged mass of clay on a spinning wheel. This process balances the clay into even rotation to start the throwing process.
- **Clay-** A fine and moist earth of decomposed rock and sediments.
- **Coiling-** Attaching rolls of clay together to form pottery.
- **Earth Clay-** A type of clay made of finer particles of clay body. This clay matures and vitrified at a low fire temperature (Cone 05-06) and appears white as bisqueware.
- **Extruding-** The process of shaping moist clay by forcing it through an extruder or die shape.
- **Foot-** The part of a clay piece that sits on the surface or table. Also known feet if attached to the body of the piece. The foot area is usually thicker clay that needs to be trimmed with a loop/ribbon tool in the leather hard stage.
- **Fluting-** A decoration technique used to change a flat smooth cylinder into a surface with valleys and ridges.
- **Greenware**- Pottery that hasn't been fired. Completely air dried clay that is ready to be bisque fired. Greenware breaks like chalk and can be reused once rehydrated with water.
- **Handbuilding**- Pottery made without the use of a potter's wheel, either by coiling, pinching, slabbing or a combination of all three.
- **Kaolin**- Pure Clay or clay mined from the ground in its purest form.
- **Leatherhard**- Clay that is stiff and damp, but no longer 'plastic'. It can be trimmed, cut and joined without being damaged. It is also known as 'cheese-hard' because of its consistency and feel.
- **Lip-** Also known as the rim. The top part of the wall of a clay piece.
- **Loop/Ribbon Tool-** Wood handled tool with a "u' shaped flat metal piece attached to it. Used to trim or carve away clay.
- **Mold-** Any object used to form or shape clay. Bowls Dishes for hand building - Plaster (two piece) for slip casting.
- **Monster Clay-** A wax/oil based clay made for professional sculptors. This clay cannot be fired or made permanent. Heat makes this clay flexible and workable.
- **Needle tool-** A tool used to cut, carve, or pierce clay. Wooden handle with a straight metal
- **Pug Machine-** The machine potters use to recycle clay from a bone dry state to workable raw or new clay stage.
- **Polymer Clays-** A modeling clay made based on polymer polyvinyl chloride (PVC) or "plastic". This clay contains no minerals from the earth and cannot be fired. Some polymer clays can be heat set in an oven.

- **Pressing/Slabbing**- A method of shaping clay by squeezing it into a mold.
- **Pulling**- Compressing clay with your hand to shape handles for a pot.
- **Raw/New Clay-** Clay in its softest workable form. Also known as plastic clay in this (first day) stage the clay has the most water in it.
- **Scoring**- Making marks on the edges of two pieces of clay before joining with slip.
- **Shapers & Ribs**- Wooden or metal tools used to help shape clay on the wheel.
- **Slab**- A clay sheet rolled to a specific thickness. Soft slabs can be draped over or into a form to produce a specific shape and allowed to stiffen.
- **Slip** - Liquid clay. Can be used as a decoration or to help attach clay pieces together.
- **Slip (Casting) Clay**- A low firing (cone 05) liquid clay that is gray in color. Used by pouring into a plaster mold. Let to absorb or thicken then poured out. Use to make mass produced clay pieces or projects.
- **Sprig**- A decoration technique where you press a design shape onto the surface of soft or leather hard clay. The design is a raised or relief surface.
- **Stoneware Clay-** A general term for clays that fire at higher temperatures. This clay matures and vitrifies at (Cone 5- 6) 2190*F and appears tan or toned as bisqueware.
- **Throwing**-The process of shaping clay on the potter's wheel.
- **Trimming/Turning/Footing**- The process of shaping leather hard clay by holding cutting tools against it as it turns on the wheel.
- **Terra Cotta**- A reddish brown clay commonly used to make flower pots. A lower general quality clay.
- **Vitrify-** To convert into, or cause to resemble, glass or a glassy substance, by heat and fusion. To be converted into glass.
- **Wedging**- Kneading and mixing clay into an even consistency and removing air, prior to throwing or hand-building. Two methods of wedging are the 'rams head' or the spiral.

<u>Glazing Decoration Terms:</u>

- **Brushing-** Applying glaze with a brush.
- **Dipping-** A method of applying glaze to a piece of pottery by immersing it in a container of glaze.
- **Engobe-** The decoration technique of applying a colored clay "slip" to the surface of leather hard clay. Then you can scratch through the engobe to reveal the color of the clay beneath in a positive negative space design/decoration.
- **Glaze-** An impervious coating applied to the surface of pottery, resembling glass.
- **Pouring-** A method of pouring glaze into a clay piece and spinning the work until the entire inside is covered.
- **Underglaze-** A method of applying a detailed glazes design under a clear transparent layer of glaze. The highest detail and most controllable decoration method.
- **Low Fire Glaze-** Glazes in gallon bottles that fire at Cone 05-06.
- **High Fire Glaze-** Glazes in gallon buckets that fire up to Cone 5-6.
- **Crystal Glaze- "**Jungle Gem" A type of glaze that contains crystals or chunks of glass that melts in the firing process to show a random textures in the glaze surface of a project. Crystal glazes are low fire and safe for food uses.
- **Raku Glazes-** Low fire glazes which can be brushed, dipped or poured over the piece. These glazes are made to appear unique and iridescent in a raku fire but can be fired in an electric kiln. Raku glazes are not food safe.
- **Wax Resist-** A method of decoration in which liquid wax is applied to portions of bisque ware after which glaze is brushed, sprayed or poured over the piece. Wax will repel glazes.
- **Acrylic Paint-** Decoration of clay works or pieces by applying mixed paint by brush. This method allows for the highest level of control and detail, however painting is for decorative purposes only, this method is not food safe.

Firing Terms:

- **Bisque Fire-** The first firing of any bone dry unglazed clay pottery. This firing is usually the highest cone temperature to make
- **Cones-** Another term for kiln temperature during firing. Cones are made from compressed ceramic material formulated to melt at specific temperatures within the kiln.
- **Firing-** Making clay products permanent through heat fusion at high temperatures in a kiln.
- **Glaze Fire-** The second firing of glazed or decorated clay pottery.
- **Kiln-** A structure built or an appliance made to fire clay at high temperatures.
- **Stilts-** Porcelain tripods on which glazed work is fired.
- **Low-fire-** Clays or glazes that are fired within the kiln temperature range of cone 06 to cone 02.
- **High-fire-** Clay or glazes that are fired from cone 5 to cone 12.
- **Raku Fire-** A type of firing process that originated in Japan in which the clay is starved of oxygen and carbon bonds to the clay surface. A very unpredictable surface results and most raku glazes are not food safe.

SEMESTER CLAY STUDIO PROJECT REVIEW:

Hand Built Wheel

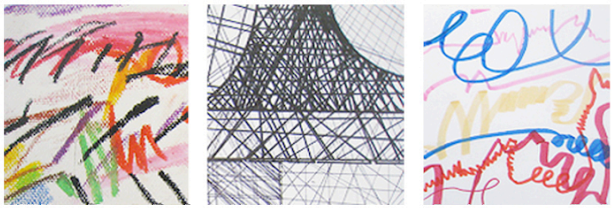
- Intro. Clay Studio Tile/Emoji- Stages of Clay
- Clay Slab Container
- Coil Container
- Pinch Pot Container Closed or Open From with Feet/Base
- Handle it Container- Handle as Decoration Design
- Spirit Animal/Clay Heads
- Slip Casting Project- Plaster Mold Process/Decoration
- Polymer/Monster Clay Sculpture
- Slab Proj. with String/Piercing Tech.
- Wheel Thrown with a Handle
- Handbuilt Proj. Remake- Lighter & Bigger Version

Potters Wheel

- Intro. Wedge & Centering
- Straight Wall Cylinder(s) - 6~Wavy Wall Cylinder
- Throwing a Bowl - Convex or Concave Wall Form
- Trimmed Foot Cylinder- Ribbon/Loop Tool Proj.
- 'Two' Tall Cylinder - Scratch-Together use Clay Calipers
- Plate/Dish Proj. - Ginger Jar Lids
- Cocoa/Coffee Mug- Handle it Proj.
- Closed Form Egg(s)
- Wheel Piece with String/Piercing Tech.
- Flower Pots
- Wheel Project Remake- Make it Lighter &/or Taller

Art Elements

(Elements of the Visual Language)



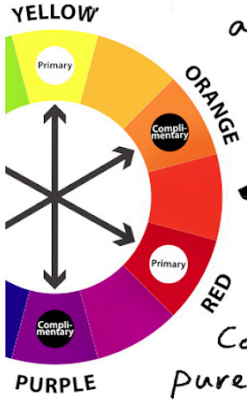
Line: different lines express different emotions and ideas. a line is a path made by a moving point...

Artworks are 'built' using the visual elements. These elements are an expressive language.

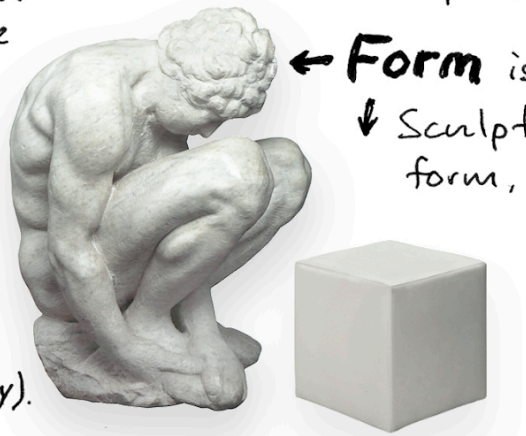


Shapes by Matisse

Shape: shapes can be freeform or geometric. A shape is an are enclosed by a line



Colour Another word for colour is 'hue'. Colours can be very pure (with a high intensity). Colours can be lightened or darkened using white or black. This is called the brightness or the 'value of the colour.



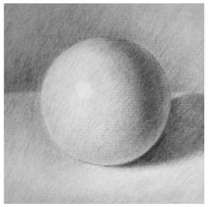
Form is 3D shape.

Sculpture uses form, of course.





Texture is the roughness or smoothness. Also called 'surface quality'





Value is the lightness or darkness of something. It is also called **tone**.

different values or tones created by shading.



Space

You can't have shape or form without having space. Here the 'negative space' creates the image.

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