CERAMICS MINOR REQUIREMENTS (24 UNITS)

Students enrolled in the ceramics minor will be introduced to the rich traditions of ceramic practice—from wheel throwing to 3-D modeling—while encouraging the use of materials and methods as vehicles for individual expression in contemporary art. They will be exposed to lectures and readings in the history of clay and critical writings on the subject. As students advance in the level of their studies, they can choose to follow a traditional approach to clay and/or pursue exploration and experimentation with the medium including freedom to create mixed-media pieces or to bring technology into their work. The goal is to create a strong foundation in clay significant to the career path of their choosing.

16 units must be unique to the minor and outside of your home department.
Successful completion of the following courses with a minimum of straight “C.”

Students interested in this minor are required to:
1) Have a declared major, and complete a minimum of 32 units of college-level courses with an overall GPA of 2.75 or higher.
2) One course in progress or completed towards the minor prior to submitting application.
3) Submit an application to the Roski Student Affairs Office. Applications are available in HSH 101 or online at http://roski.usc.edu/undergrad/minors/info.html

Required Lower-Division Courses (8 units):

FACE 112: Ceramics (4 units) * Required before student intends to enroll in FACE 312.
This is an introductory-level studio course that is intended to give a basic yet broad understanding of ceramic techniques and aesthetics through demonstrations; lectures; visits to, and subsequent reviews of, exhibitions; class critiques; and readings.

FACS 150: Visual Culture and Literacy I (4 units)
This course gives an introduction to modern and contemporary visual culture with emphasis on the major aesthetic theories and practices of the past 150 years.

Lower-Division Course(s) (4 units) chosen from the following:

FACE 212: Wheel Throwing (4 units)
Wheel Throwing is an introductory ceramics course that uses wheel-throwing techniques to pursue visual results in several three-dimensional exercises. Students learn how to use these techniques to realize their own creativity and artistic visions.

FACE 213: Clay and Glazes (2 units) Prerequisite: FACE 112 * When offered.
This class is designed with the artist in mind, with the purpose of establishing a foundation in clay and glaze materials for making ceramic art. In lectures and hands-on lab exercises, students will learn about and experiment with ceramic materials and glaze technology in an artist’s approach to ceramic work.

FACE 214: 3-D/Actual and Virtual (4 units) * When offered.
This course is an inventive introduction to clay and computer modeling. Students are introduced to beginning techniques of hand-building with clay and to basic computer modeling, key-frame animating, rendering, and editing in Autodesk 3ds Max. Students are encouraged to develop projects that combine material and digital media and provoke conversations between the two.

FASC 106: Sculpture I (4 units)
Sculpture I is a practical and theoretical introduction to sculpture as dimensional manipulation. This course will guide you through an exploration of form, mass, gravity, surface, structure, and associative recognition in three-dimensional art. Primary materials and attendant techniques introduced will be clay, paper, plaster, cardboard, found objects and wood.

FASC 136: Modeling and Mold making (2 units)
Modeling and Mold Making is an introduction to plaster mold making using clay and wax for both ceramics and sculpture. This includes impression molds, single-part molds, two-part molds, and multiple-part molds, as well as an exploration of various casting materials. This course is designed to teach students how to make plaster molds for casting multiples in clay, wax, and other materials.
Three Upper-Division Courses (12 units) chosen from the following:

**FACE 312: Advanced Ceramics (4 units)**  
**Prerequisite:** FACE 112

Students enrolled in this course will pursue an advanced level of work, exploring a variety of techniques, clays, and firings within a framework of class assignments that challenge their conceptual and aesthetic abilities. Exposure to contemporary trends in the field will be introduced and discussed through the Galen Ceramics Lecture Series, field trips to exhibitions, video and slide presentations, and directed readings.

**FACE 412: Topics in Advanced Ceramics (4, max 12 units)**  
**Prerequisite:** FACE 312  
*May take it up to 3 times for credit – 12 units total.

This course comprises direct examination of aesthetic concepts, investigation of personal ideas, and development of a creative visual language in ceramics. Students will continue to gain exposure to current trends in the field through the Galen Ceramics Lecture Series, field trips to exhibitions, video and slide presentations, and directed readings. There will be a continued dialogue in class involving pertinent issues in the field, as well as each student's articulation of his or her own work.

**FACS 350: Art Theory and Criticism (4 units)**  
**Recommended Preparation:** FACS 150

Developments in the 20th century: general theories put forth by philosophers, social scientists, and cultural commentators. We will look directly at films, fiction, plays, poetry, and visual art to see how it fits into that intellectual context as well as the musings of art critics.

**FASC 436: Art and Technology (4 units)**  
*Experience in Adobe Photoshop is highly recommended.

The emphasis of this class is conceptual thinking, directed research, and personal investigation in the development of individual project proposals that investigate three-dimensional video capture and graphic production. Focus is on the appropriate stereoscopic or 3-D graphic technology in the communication of student projects. Production technologies include a mini stereoscopic video camera, Autodesk Maya for producing dimensional graphic objects in virtual mono and stereo formats, and Rhino 4.0 and zPrint for the production of actual 3-D objects.

### Ceramics Minor Sample Course Sequence

* This is one way to fit all the requirements into three semesters.

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