

I. Faculty Information

Name: Chris Matusek

Google Voice: 708.653.0315

Email: matusek@morainevalley.edu

** Student must use MV e-mail for official school correspondence; note there is a 72 hr. reply time for email.*

MV Office Info: Phone: 708.974.4300; Mailbox: F130; Office Hours: By appointment ONLY

II. Course Identification

Credit Hours: 3

Contact Hours: 6

Prerequisites: None

Co-requisites: None

Room: F165

Meeting: MTW from 9–12:45p

Open Studio Hours: Posted outside F165

Website: <http://www.visuallyclear.info/mv.html>

III. Course Description: MAKING ART using CLAY as the medium.

- a. Create clay forms using traditional ceramic techniques; our focus will be hand-building.
- b. Covers glazes, decoration and kiln firing.
- c. Explores design problems and solutions.
- d. Includes historical and cultural development of ceramics as an art form.
- e. May or may not include an introduction to the Potter's Wheel.

IV. Course End Competencies: The student will:

- a. Learn about concepts & processes involved in art making
- b. Use clay / clay materials as a medium to hand-build forms using pinch, coil, slab and additive / subtractive bas-relief sculptural techniques.
- c. Learn surface decoration techniques: clay / slips / engobes / glazes.
- d. Understand kiln loading technique and kiln-firing concepts and
- e. Develop and express their individual, artistic voice based off of accepted art standards / research.
- f. Do research through library work, required readings and field trips.
- g. Understand the complexities of throwing on the potter's wheel.

V. Course Objectives

This course explores art making and the use of clay as a vehicle of expression. It fosters the discovery of the student's unique, visual voice through the integration of: (1.) research; (2.) history of ceramics; (3.) art history; (4.) contemporary issues; and (5.) personal investigation and reflection.

The student will gain knowledge of the ceramic media used in this course while learning to communicate their ideas visually. The student will build a visual language and strengthen the verbal skills needed to express their ideas. They will develop expertise in a variety of ceramic manufacturing, surfacing techniques, and the ceramic process: clay preparation, wedging, forming, drying, greenware, firing, bisque, and surfacing.

Each project involves personal inquiry as well as technical considerations that are supported by research. The student is evaluated upon their individual progress, commitment to work, willingness to explore, preparedness, coachability, attendance, note-taking, sketchbook, visual journal, preliminaries, and final product. **The goal is to link concept, creative comprehension, and technical proficiency.**

Course structure: **This is a "hands on" class. Clay is messy, be prepared to get dirty.** A typical class may include any or all of the following: lectures, hands-on demonstrations, discussions requiring active participation, individual projects, studio projects, guest presenters, field trips, field work, research, student presentations, critiques, peer teaching and evaluation.

VI. Textbooks

- a. *Required:* Instructor handouts, online resources (blogs and tutorials) and research
- b. *Optional:* *Hands In Clay* by Charlotte Speight

VII. Supplies—Required ceramic tools

Bring all supplies to every class. If the student comes to class without supplies they will lose points and/or be marked absent.

For Construction

- Clay tool kit: pin tool, large and small ribbon tools, cutting wire, small sponge, metal and wooden rib, wooden knife — — — — —>
- Clay modeling tool kit: assorted small ribbon tools
- Round turn table—also known as a Tupperware spice rack
- Three heavy gauge plastic garbage bags
- Kitchen fork
- 12 inch ruler
- Old rewards / gift



For Decorating

- Brushes with soft bristles—small, medium, large; bamboo handle variety are the best
- Artist pallet, plastic plate or piece of plexi-glass
- Containers with lids: small and medium
- Wooden or metal spears for cooking
- Toothbrush

Other Supplies

- Container for tools
- Spray bottle
- Work clothes—aprons, t-shirt, coveralls, rubber gloves, etc.
- Masking tape and Sharpie marker—label everything
- Large sponge for clean up
- Scissors
- Magazines
- Sketchbook / paper with writing implement (pen and pencil)—bring everyday!

Optional supplies

- Assortment of old stainless-steel cutlery, Dental tools, etc.

VIII. General Information Sheet

<https://mvconnect.morainevalley.edu/student/resources/Documents/General%20Information%20Sheet.pdf>. There is more useful information on MV Connect under Student Resources.

IX. Cheating and Plagiarism Policy

Students are expected to be honest in their class work. The college regards cheating or plagiarism in the classroom, testing center and laboratories, and on assignments or examinations, as a serious offense. The penalty for cheating or plagiarism will result in the grade of “F” for this course. (See *Code of Academic Integrity* on page 42.)

X. Code of Student Conduct

The mission of MV is to educate the whole person in a learning-centered environment, recognizing our responsibilities to one another, to our community, and to the world we share. Consistent with MV mission and core values of integrity, response-ability, respect, fairness, and diversity, it is expected that students will govern themselves appropriately.

The Code of Student Conduct defines the standards of conduct and establishes procedures to provide a full and fair opportunity for review of alleged student misconduct. Each student is responsible for knowledge of and compliance with the Code.

A hard copy can be found in the Student Life Office (Room U115) or online at morainevalley.edu/conduct. To file a report or to request more information, call the assistant dean at 708.974.5390.

XI. Mobile Devices

The use of mobile devices during class time is prohibited (this includes texting, talking on the phone, checking email or social media, surfing the web, listening or watching media, and etc). This is considered disruptive behavior.

XII. Withdrawal

Any student who does not withdraw officially from a course may receive a grade of “F” depending on course progress or course attendance, which will become a part of the student’s permanent record. The withdrawal date is listed in the General Information Sheet. The student should promptly schedule an appointment with the instructor if any situation threatens their performance in this course.

XIII. Attendance

The student earns points for their daily attendance. In absence the student is responsible for ALL materials covered that day. There are no excused absences, the student is here or they are not. *Tardies*: Two tardies or leaving before the end of the class equals one absence. *Absences*: Two absences from scheduled meetings require special dispensation and will be reflected in their grade. Three absences may result in Failure.

XIV. Testing Center, Evaluation—quizzes and exams

There will be both written and oral (called critique) quizzes / exams. Self-evaluation sheets / artist statements for each project. The student will not be required to use the Testing Center in this course.

XV. Make-up and Extra Credit Policy

No make-ups or extensions will be allowed for any in-class assignments, homework, projects, quizzes, exams, etc. There are no extra credit opportunities.

XVI. Projects

There will be multiple projects that will evaluate their ability to apply the tools, techniques, and processes involved in creating artwork—using clay as the medium. Projects include homework, preliminaries (thumbnails/roughs, sketches, comps), exercises, hands-on demonstrations, visual journal entries, research, readings, writings, discussions, bibliography (if needed), and artist statement(s). Plan to spend a minimum of 4–6 hours per week on homework.

Firing: Work must pass firing inspection.

In order for work to be fired it must be well constructed by approved construction methods meeting project and size requirements; it must also have been completed in a current MV ceramics course. We will not fire work that is broken, badly cracked, in tiny pieces, or too fragile to be loaded into the kiln.

XVII. Critiques - Attendance on all critique days is mandatory.

There will be a series of critiques throughout the semester—both in-progress and at the completion of each project. A critique is a small presentation of student artwork. During a critique discuss concepts, individual approach to the project, any problems that were encountered, and the solution(s) that were discovered to overcome the problems. There will be no excuses, except under extreme conditions, for work not presented during critique. Missing a deadline for any reason has a detrimental effect on their grade; a grade of an “A” is not possible if a deadline is missed.

XVIII. Participation, Punctuality, Preparedness, and Presence

This section includes: attendance, preparedness, coaching, in-class participation, homework, & course-end competencies. The student is expected to come to class prepared AND ready to work each day. The student is responsible for ALL class materials ALL the time. Coming to class unprepared equals one absence.

XIX. Grading Policies

Grades are based on the student’s comprehension of the basic course-end competencies, comprehension of major concepts, and the completion of all assignments/projects by the deadline. Grade points are earned for research, preliminaries, a written description of the project and its evolution (artist statement), completeness, timeliness, quality of work, participation in class involvement activities and critiques.

The most valuable thing all students bring to class is their honesty, best effort, willingness to explore, and humor. Always ask questions, challenge, participate, and share your opinion with the instructor and classmates. Sometimes the most valuable insight will come from your peers.

Factors that determine grade

- a. Completeness, timeliness, and quality of artwork
- b. Ability to integrate skills learned in this course and other courses
- c. Efficient use and understanding of material

- d. Effectiveness of visual communication
- e. Appropriateness of solution to stated creative problem and ability to problem solve
- f. Level of craftsmanship and presentation
- g. Ability to develop work independently
- h. Ability to visualize concepts and refine ideas
- i. Participation in class critiques, professional attitude toward your work and that of others
- j. Work habits should demonstrate self-discipline, effort, and organization
- k. Presentation skills

The Assignment of an “A” Grade Standard (90-100) grade points

The student understood and followed through on suggestions, progressively learning the concepts, terms, and techniques, which lead to an excellent, individually developed concept. Technically, the assignment was exceptionally executed. The student enthusiastically participated in class activities. The only way that a student can earn an A is if the assignment is turned in by the stated deadline.

- Attendance—regular attendance is mandatory.
- Completion of all class projects including artist statements.
- Studio / homework time that is not class time—minimum of 3–6 hours / week
- Presentation
- Visual Journal
- Mid-term and/or Final

COACHABILITY

- Did the student upgrade their work when the professor gave feedback?
- Did the student incorporate the instructions they received that were particular to them?
- Did the student go beyond what is easy to do?
- Did the student demonstrate growth and learning beyond where they were when they first came to this class?
- Is the student willing to incorporate learning even when it is difficult for them, or when it is not obvious why the instructions were being given?

NOTICE OF COPYRIGHT

Materials in this course—unless otherwise indicated—are protected by United States copyright law [Title 17, U.S. Code]. Materials are presented in an educational context for personal use and study and should not be shared, distributed, or sold in print—or digitally—outside the course without permission.

As a student your ability to post or link to copyrighted material is also governed by United States copyright law. The law allows for students to post or link to copyrighted materials within the course environment when the materials are pertinent to course work. Instructors—or other staff of the institution—reserve the right to delete or disable your post or link if in their judgment it would involve violation of copyright law.

Point Breakdown

Grades are based on a point system.

The grading scale is as follows: A: 90–100, B: 80–89, C: 70–79, D: 60–69, F: less than 60

Measurements—Form, Surface, Preliminaries, Coachability, Timeliness, Artist Statement, Completion, Accomplishing Goals, Critique

- **Projects 60 Total Points**
 - **Project 1—15 Total Points**
5—Form, 5—Surface, 5—Preliminaries, Coachability, Timeliness, Artist Statement, Completion
 - **Project 2—15 Total Points**
5—Form, 5—Surface, 5—Preliminaries, Coachability, Timeliness, Artist Statement, Completion
 - **Project 3—15 Total Points**
5—Form, 5—Surface, 5—Preliminaries, Coachability, Timeliness, Artist Statement, Completion
 - **Project 4—15 Total Points**
5—Form, 5—Surface, 5—Preliminaries, Coachability, Timeliness, Artist Statement, Completion
- **Presentation—10 Total Points**
- **Visual Journal—10 Total Points**
- **Participation, Punctuality, Preparedness, and Presence—10 Total Points**
- **Final Exam—10 Total Points**

COURSE SYLLABUS**Art 282-001: Independent Studio, Ceramics****Moraine Valley Community College (MV)****Summer 2018**

Student Name _____

ATTENDANCE SHEET

Week	M	T	W	Notes
1				
2				
3				
4			Free	

Week	M	T	W	Notes
5				
6				
7				
8				

Notes:

STUDENT AGREEMENT	
MVCC Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breach of the MV Code of Student Conduct will be dealt with according to school policy—including warning/dismal. Homework will be approximately 4–6 hours / week.
Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I understand that an absence is an absence, I am either present or absent. Two tardies equal one absence. Three absences may result in failure. I am required to attend critique; work without attendance is considered late. If I miss a class, I am responsible for my own learning, this means catching up through contacting other students.
Core Project Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> My work may not be fired in the kiln if 1.) I do not follow all instructions—size restrictions, due dates, technical and theoretical requirements or 2.) It was not made at MV. By enrolling in this class, I am agree to do all in-class work, homework, research, note taking, being prepared and participating in class. I am responsible for all information given in every class. I will take notes and bring them to every class as reference for projects. I understand that deadlines are not negotiable.
Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning is my responsibility. What I get out of this class is totally and completely a function of what I put into it. My grade is earned, it is a reflection of my ethic, preparedness, listening, completion of homework and projects, and work. The more I get done during class time the less homework I will have. I understand that by being focused and keeping breaks to a minimum I will do better. I am responsible for my preparedness, bringing <i>all materials / supplies</i> to every class. Coming to class without my necessities means I get marked absent for class. Being coachable means being open to suggestions and taking pointers. I am expected to go beyond the level I arrived at in order to learn.
Professional Courtesy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will act professionally at all times. I will exhibit a professional attitude towards my professor, peers, my work and that of others. I will address my professor appropriately. I will keep conversation in the studio at a minimum, in low-tone, and appropriate for a classroom environment. Conversation ceases when the professor speaks. I understand the dates to withdraw as listed on MV website. I understand mobile device usage in class is prohibited. I will turn my devices off. Being on my cell during class will result in being marked absent.
Sign if you agree	<p><i>I have read the syllabus, safety guidelines and student agreement; I agree to their terms.</i></p> <p>NAME (print) _____</p> <p>(sign) _____</p>

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MV Art Studio Safety Rules and Guidelines, General User Agreement

General Safety Awareness:

Everyone will be instructed as to the location and use of all studio safety equipment: Emergency phone numbers and phone locations, Fire extinguishers, Emergency exit and take shelter procedures, and First Aid kit

- Exits, fire extinguishers, alarm pull stations and pathways must be kept free of debris, objects, or projects.
- Immediately report any injury, no matter how trivial, to the instructor or lab aide. You have the right to complete an accident report if you choose to do so.

Studio Safety and Awareness

- MSDS SHEETS are located in the studio classrooms; you may see them upon request. MSDS books include lists all of the art materials used in each studio, and describe any potential health impacts. See your instructor for more info.
- For liability and insurance reasons, only students who are enrolled in a studio class during the current semester are allowed to work in any studio. Persons not currently enrolled in a MV studio class are not allowed in the classroom or studios.
- You must check in or sign in with the lab aide if you will be working in a studio outside of class time. This is not necessary in the drawing and painting studios.
- If you are using chemicals, hazardous materials, or dangerous equipment, there must be an Instructor or lab aide in the studio space. This is not necessary in the drawing and painting studios.
- For your own safety, and the safety of those around you, if your judgment or behavior

seems impaired or erratic the instructor or lab aide will ask that you not use equipment or materials for the day.

- If you have any medical concerns or physical limitations that the instructor should know about, please tell them on the first day of class or lab.
- Wash your hands frequently to remove chemicals and residue. We recommend you keep fingernails short and clean them when you are done working.
- No eating or drinking is allowed in the studios. Snacks and beverages are allowed in classroom by instructor permission only.
- Absolutely no smoking is allowed in the art studios or anywhere in the Fine and Performing Arts Center.
- Refrain from using perfumes, colognes and scented hand creams as we are striving for a scent-free, toxin-free environment.
- Take frequent breaks during work and never work to the point of exhaustion or pain. Change positions frequently. Bend at the knees when lifting.

Chemicals and Hazardous Materials

- If you are pregnant or planning a pregnancy, check with your physician regarding exposure to potentially dangerous materials. Be sure that your doctor understands exactly what substances you will be working with in class.
- Chemicals and hazardous materials have the ability to cause immediate damage to your eyes, nose, and throat if not handled properly. Follow the directions given to you by your instructor carefully and let them know if you have any questions; more information is available in the MSDS books found in each studio.
- Broken skin or rashes provide a direct route into your body for

hazardous materials and chemicals. If you have damaged skin please wear gloves or protective clothing.

- Products that contain metal oxides or solvents can easily be absorbed through the skin or ingested with food. Use personal protective equipment and always wash up after using hazardous materials.
- You are not allowed to use materials that contain dangerous heavy metals such as lead, cadmium, or barium in the studios.
- If you wish to bring in art supplies from home you must receive approval from the Instructor prior to using them in class. You are responsible for providing a material safety data sheet (MSDS) for each product to the Instructor for our records.
- No solvents of any type, other than water, may be used in the art studios. In the painting and printmaking studios a few specific chemical solvents are allowed. See your instructor for more information.
- When working with materials that generate irritating fumes or particulates, you must utilize a spray booth. This includes spray adhesives, paints and fixatives. See your Instructor for more information.

Tools and Equipment

- There are many specialized tools in the studios that need to be used properly. Any tools or equipment that belong to the school that are damaged or lost while in your possession will become your responsibility to replace or repair. Use of studio and lab equipment is not allowed unless an instructor or lab aide is present in the studio. This does not apply in the drawing and painting studios.
- Do not attempt to use materials or operate machinery and equipment before you have

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been shown how to use it safely and properly by your instructor.

- If you need assistance with an emergency, you or someone you designate should call the MV Police Department using a red phone that you will find in a nearby location. Be prepared to tell them your exact location including building and room number as well as a description of what has happened. Remain on the phone and follow the directions given to you.
- If you get chemicals or hazardous materials in your eyes immediately move to the medicine chest in your studio and use the eyewash provided. Let others around you know if you need assistance. Inform your instructor.
- In case of a fire emergency, pull the nearest fire alarm and exit the building. Wait for the all clear before entering back into the building.
- In the event of a severe weather emergency consult the safe shelter map near the door and exit to your designated area. Wait for the all clear before returning to your studio or classroom.

Housekeeping

- You are responsible for leaving your work area clean and tidy. If there is a chemical or other spill, please notify the instructor immediately so that it is cleaned up properly.
- Never pour any chemicals or hazardous materials down the drains. This does not apply to standard darkroom chemicals in the photography darkrooms and studio.
- Put away all tools and equipment in their designated storage area when you are finished using them.
- Keep floors free of slip and trip hazards such as water, scrap materials, dust, tools, and extension cords.

- Remember that each student is responsible for his or her own health and safety. Please keep the studios clean and accident free

Painting

- All containers in storage must be in good condition with manufacturer labels and lids that fit and close tightly.
- Solvent contaminated rags and paper towels should be disposed in the RED containers.
- All other trash, including dry acrylic paint, clean plastic gloves, and paintbrushes should be put into the regular trashcans.

Printmaking

- All containers in storage must be in good condition with manufacturer labels and lids that fit and close tightly.
- Solvent contaminated rags and paper towels should be disposed in the RED containers.
- All other trash, including dry acrylic paint, clean plastic gloves, and paintbrushes should be put into the regular trashcans.
- In studios with hazardous chemicals no clothing that leaves skin exposed—other than face, neck, arms and hands—is allowed. It is recommended that you utilize an apron to protect your body and clothing.
- If you get chemicals or hazardous materials on your skin immediately flush the area with clean tap water from a sink or other source for 15 minutes. Let others around you know if you need assistance. Inform your instructor.

Sculpture/3-dimensional Design

- In studios with heavy machinery, no sandals, flip-flops, crocs or any shoe that

does not completely cover the foot.

- Safety glasses with side shields or safety goggles are mandatory when using all power tools or hazardous materials. Prescription glasses are not safe eye protection and are not acceptable. Contact lens use is not recommended when working on projects that generate fumes or particulates.
- A face shield is required for any work that has the potential to produce flying particles.
- Earplugs should be utilized when operating power tools or processes that produce excessive noise.
- Never leave a machine when it is running.
- Long hair or loose clothing must be restrained when using any equipment with moving parts or torches. Do not wear gloves when operating equipment with moving parts.
- Report any irregularity in the machine operation to the instructor so that the machine can be checked and/or repaired.
- Safety guards are not to be removed from the equipment.
- Studio Safety and Awareness: DUST
- Do not sweep the tables or floors or cause dust to rise or blow in the air
- Use large wet sponges for cleaning up
- Do not run the fans when working
- If clay, glaze or plaster spills on the floor, pick up as much as possible, discard it in the garbage, and sponge the floor
- Wear a respirator or a white dust mask when working with clay or plaster in the dry state
- If a student has any bronchial or lung ailments or sensitivities, report this to your professor

Ceramics

- Do not ingest any of the wet or dry clay or glaze materials

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- Studio Safety and Awareness:
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- Do not run the fans while working
- If clay, glaze or plaster spills on the floor, pick up as much as possible, discard it in the garbage, and sponge the floor
- Wear a respirator or a white dust mask when working with clay or plaster in the dry state
- If a student has any bronchial or lung ailments or sensitivities, report this to your professor

I have read and understand completely all of the **MV Art Studio Safety Rules and Guidelines** that are outlined above as well as those found in the syllabus and other class handouts. I will abide by these rules and guidelines with the understanding that if I fail to do so, or fail to sign this form, I will be barred from working in any labs or studios, which will result in my receiving a failing grade in the class. I was given time to ask questions about the syllabus and these guidelines.

Class: ART 125-001 SU2018

Instructor: Chris Matusek

Printed name: _____

Signature/Date: _____

MV Email: _____

Other Email: _____

Emergency contact / phone number: _____


A Special Message to Moraine Valley Community College Students

We're pleased you have chosen Moraine Valley Community College to start or continue your college education. You have made a wise decision that will positively impact your future.

Now is the time for you to make another wise decision! Once you have completed your goals at Moraine Valley, before you leave the college to enter the workforce or transfer to a four-year university, we encourage you to obtain your associate's degree or career certificate. There are many reasons you will want to participate in our "Agree to Degree" initiative.

Here are some good reasons to "Agree to Degree":

- You will possess a recognized higher education degree or certificate.
- Your degree or certificate can lead to higher salaries, according to the U.S. Department of Education. It also can lead to an increased likelihood of finding employment, particularly in a poor economy.
- Your degree shows future employers or college admissions officials that you are serious about your marketability, your education and your future.
- College graduates earn 65 percent more on average than high school graduates, according to a College Board report from 2010.
- During recessionary times, employment rates have been higher among college graduates than for those with less education.
- The future labor market will require even more college graduates, economists predict.
- Data indicates that 60 percent of jobs by the year 2020 will require a college credential.
- Credential holders are more likely to retain jobs. Unemployment for community college grads is typically 30 percent lower than for high school grads, as reported in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.
- Many successful people credit their associate's degree as the foundation of their career achievement and the turning point in their lives.
- A report from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation found that college graduates will be more likely to promote environmental sustainability, be more likely to volunteer, vote, contribute to charity, serve on boards and run for office.
- Graduates, according to the Gates Foundation, help the national workforce be competitive and productive in the global economy.
- You will be better prepared! According to Rosenberg McKay, people change jobs up to 10 times in their working lives—and when you have a college degree, you have an edge.
- You will feel the pride of actually holding your diploma in your hands.
- Parents can personally role model for their children the value of higher education and of obtaining a college degree.



You deserve the personal satisfaction that comes from knowing you have reached your goals, and having the proof in your hands that shows the level of success you have achieved.

To learn more, go to morainevalley.edu/admiss/degree and review the requirements for graduation, as well as print and complete the graduation petition.

We encourage you to **Agree to Degree. GO FOR IT – DO IT FOR YOU!**