

AH 310-001

*Studies in East Asian Art*

*Asian Ceramics*

Monday/Wednesday/Friday, 12:00 – 12:50  
Fine Arts Building Room 208

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**SYLLABUS**

**Course Overview**

Ceramics are among the world's most ubiquitous forms of material culture, often both useful and aesthetically pleasing. This course explores the development of ceramics in Asia through the interconnected issues of style, technology, consumption (use), distribution, and trade. Ceramic forms made for table use, storage, architectural ornament, ritual, and display will be studied in the context of the cultures for whom they were created. The impact of Asian ceramics traditions on the growth of world "art ceramics" will also be considered.

**Course Objectives**

The focus of this course is on historical ceramics in East and Southeast Asia. We will learn to recognize historical ceramics from each of the areas studied, and to understand their context of use. We also will learn about the basic ceramic forming and decorating techniques native to the countries studied. We will explore not only cultural background of the areas studied, but also the ways that ceramics worked to forge cultural connections between geographic areas, including links between Asia and Western nations. Through visual images, physical works, and shards, we will attempt to gain the fullest possible understanding of the ceramic types studied. Finally, through the course paper, we will each examine one or more ceramic types in detail, examining material, technique, cultural context, and style.

**Course Requirements**

**Exams:**

Three exams totalling 70% of final grade.

**Paper:**

Further details concerning the paper will be distributed during the first half of the semester. The paper will count for 30% of the final grade.

**Required work: China exam – 25%; Korea exam – 15%; Final exam – 30%; Paper – 30%; = 100%**

**Grading scale: 90%+ - A; 80-89% - B; 70-79% - C; 60-69% - D; below 60% – E.**

## **CLASS SCHEDULE**

**January 9** – Introduction to Course; writing sample

**January 11** – Overview of Asia: Geography, History, Language

**January 14** – Overview of Ceramic Materials/Types; Introduction to Archaeology

### **CHINA**

**January 16** – Introduction to China

**January 18** – Neolithic China: Yangshao and Longshan Wares

**January 23** – The “Terracotta Army” and Qin Dynasty Funerary Ceramics

**January 25** – Han Dynasty Earthenwares and Stonewares for Burial and Use

**January 28** – Six Dynasties and Tang Dynasty Tomb Ceramics and Early Celadons

**January 30** – Song Ceramics I – Yaozhou, Jun, Ding, and Cizhou Wares

**February 1** – Song Ceramics II - Longquan, Qingbai, and Black-glazed Stonewares

**February 4** – Celadons and Decorated Porcelains of the Yuan and Ming Dynasties

**February 6** – Advances in the Qing Dynasty and Contemporary Ceramics in China

**February 8** – Exam on Chinese Ceramics and Practicum

### **KOREA**

**February 11** – Overview of Korea and Early Korean Earthenwares

**February 13** – Unified Silla Earthenwares and Goryeo Celadons

**February 15** – Korean Buncheong Stoneware

**February 18** – Jeoson Dynasty Porcelain

**February 20** – Practicum on Historical Korea; Contemporary Korean Ceramics

**February 22** – Test on Korea.

### **SOUTHEAST ASIA**

**February 25** – Overview of Southeast Asia

**February 27** – Vietnamese Decorated Porcelainous Stonewares and Celadons