

## **COURSE CONTENT**

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| <b>Course Code</b>    | DA5006 (DA9014)                          |
| <b>Course Title</b>   | Handbuilding with Clay: Form and Surface |
| <b>Pre-requisites</b> | NIL                                      |
| <b>No of AUs</b>      | 3  |
| <b>Contact Hours</b>  | 39 hours studio contact                  |

### **Course Aims**

In this course you will experience an introduction to techniques and concepts of hand building with clay within the Singaporean context at the historical Dragon Kiln Pottery, Singapore. You will engage with iterative processes of re-interpretation and transformation of traditional techniques from cultural groups such as the Teochew dialect group and Peranakan culture. Learning from this course will enhance an understanding of Singaporean culture, as well as directly informing further studies in product design and interaction design.

### **Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)**

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

1. Integrate surface design and form concepts to create narrative clay tiles both representational and abstract.
2. Develop ceramic tile making techniques using handbuilding, pinch and coil, slab roller, mold making, in laid clay surfaces, surface design, and firing techniques.
3. Apply principles learnt in class to develop an individual ceramic pictorial language.
4. Present and discuss ceramic tile processes, concepts, and finished work with clarity.
5. Critique your own ceramic artwork and your peers' work in a clear and constructive manner.

### **Course Content**

The course is conducted in a studio setting at the local dragon kiln just outside the NTU campus. Under instructor supervision, you will observe the progress of everyone's work, and contribute critique as the work is being made. Learning is a collective experience in the studio setting. You will be encouraged to articulate your creative process as you are immersed in materials and the challenges of making. It is a communal pedagogically iterative process of appraising, examining, evaluating and reflecting. You benefit from a cross-pollination of ideas and input of your peers, and so full attendance is very important.

The semester begins with handbuilding techniques using pinch, slab and sculpting techniques, moving into decorative techniques of press stamps and in laid color clays. You will gain experience in press molds and stamp making and decorative tile techniques. You will also gain understanding of clay properties and techniques of firing. Gradually you will become more independent with your work. The semester ends with each student creating a series of tiles using multiple techniques that correspond to each other in form and concept.

The course also offers opportunities to collaborate with local museum exhibitions and or

international students, artists and communities.

Course content includes:

- Introduction to materials:
  - Handbuilding techniques with clay, slab rolling, coil and pinch techniques,
  - Sculpting techniques
  - properties of clay low fire and high fire
- Painting with colored slips
  - Two toned clay
  - Colored slips for painting clay surfaces
- Elements of form & design
  - Movement: Directional lines leading the eye from one time to the next
  - Creating space with low relief and high relief sculpting techniques
  - Balance, contrast, emphasis, Rhythm
- Stamp making and decorative use
  - Proportions of the head
  - Seeing and mixing flesh tones
- Low relief moldmaking techniques
  - Simplifying form
  - Seeing and mixing night tones
- Indigenous Firing techniques and Contemporary low fire techniques
  
- Historical and cultural view of tile production world wide