COLLEGE (check one):  Arts and Sciences     X     Business     Education
Proposal Submitted By: Jon McMillan             Date Prepared: 11/7/2015
Course Title: Wheel Throwing
Department/discipline and course number*: Art and Art History/ ARTS 227
*This course number must be approved by the Office of the Registrar before the proposal is submitted.

Number of credits proposed: 3  Prerequisites: ARTS 105: Design Principles
Will this be a new, repeatable “special topics” course? (Do you want students to be able to take this new course more than once if the topic changes?) NO X YES

Date of first offering of this new course: FALL SEMESTER, year Fall Semester, 2016
Proposed frequency of offering of the course: 1-2 times per academic year
List the faculty who will likely teach the course: Jon McMillan
Are ANY new resources required? NO X YES Document in attached impact statement

This new course will be (check all that apply):
Required in the major General Elective X
Elective in the major X General Education**

**AFTER the new course is approved, a separate proposal must be sent to the General Education Committee.

Catalog Description:
Introduction to working with clay on the potter’s wheel and the ceramic process. Students will create functional and sculptural forms while exploring high temperature glazes by firing both gas and electric kilns. Building and firing processes will be further informed through the study of historical and contemporary precedents.

COURSE HISTORY
Was this course taught previously as a topics or experimental course? YES X NO
Course Number and Title of Previous Course Semester Offered Enrollment
ARTS 281AA: Topics: Wheel Throwing May Session 2013 9
ARTS 281AA: Topics: Wheel Throwing Spring 2015 15
ARTS 281AA: Topics: Wheel Throwing Fall 2015 13

CHECK HERE if the proposed course is to be equated with the earlier topics or experimental offerings. This means that students who took the earlier “topics” course will only be able to take the new course if they made a C- grade or lower in the earlier course.

NOTE: If the proposed course has not been previously offered as a topics or experimental course, explain in the attached rationale statement why the course should be adopted even though it has not been tried out.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS:
1. Rationale Statement (Why is this course needed? What purposes will it serve?)
2. Impact Statement (Provide details about the Library, space, budget, and technology impacts created by adding this new course. Include supporting statements from the Library, IT Department, etc. as needed.)
3. Sample Syllabus

Department Chair Approval: Carole Garmon Date: 11/10/2015
CCC Chair Approval: Date: 11/18/15
UCC Chair Approval: Patricia Reynolds Date: 12/7/2015
New Course Proposal- ARTS 227: Wheel Throwing

Rationale Statement:

The addition of this course to the Department of Art and Art History’s offerings will allow students to focus on a difficult and time consuming ceramic process. The development of technical skills and a personal voice with the potter’s wheel demands much more time than the current ceramics curriculum allows. For example, in Ceramics 1 (ARTS 223), students spend two weeks working on the wheel. While some have moderate success with simple forms, most struggle to create more than squat, heavy cylinders during this brief introduction. Unfortunately, devoting more of ARTS 223 to the pottery wheel detracts from the other processes and information that I must cover. In contrast, the students who have taken the Special Topics course (ARTS 281AA), which focuses solely on wheel throwing, have shown incredible growth in their work. They have also built more technical skill, which allows them to focus on conceptual and aesthetic growth in upper level courses, in keeping with the Department’s overall curricular structure.

This new course will enable students to explore more broadly at the start of the semester, improving their technical skills over time and taking more risks along the way. They will also have the chance to spend more time refining their expression after building a skill set, resulting in unique work of higher quality. The addition of ARTS 227 will also benefit the Ceramics 1 curriculum by providing more time to cover hand-building processes in that course. I plan to teach ARTS 227 once each year and occasionally in the summer. It will take the place of one section of ARTS 311A: Ceramics 2, which until recently was offered each semester, but suffered low enrollment last year. The 200 level ceramics courses are consistently in high demand with majors and non-majors alike, and this adjustment will provide more opportunities for interested students.

Students who have taken ARTS 281AA in the past have responded positively to the course curriculum in evaluations, and demonstrated significant progress in their work. I hope to allow future students the same opportunity by adding ARTS 227: Wheel Throwing to the course catalog.

Impact Statement:

Adding this course will not impact current facilities or programs outside of the Ceramics Studio (Melchers 111), and will not require any new materials, equipment or services.

Attachments:

- Sample Syllabus, Fall 2015
Course Description

This course focuses on the development of skills, techniques and expression with clay using the potter’s wheel. Students will work towards the creation of unique functional pottery that addresses formal and sculptural concerns while reflecting the personal voice of the artist. Work will be finished using high temperature firings in both electric and gas fired kilns. Students will leave the course with an expanded vocabulary of forms and decorating processes related to wheel throwing and the creation of useful objects.

Learning Outcomes: By the completion of this course, students will:

- create a body of functional pottery using techniques based on the wheel throwing process
- develop an understanding of the design and production of useful ceramic objects
- utilize the potter’s wheel to create sculptural forms
- participate in the firing of high temperature gas and electric kilns
- analyze and interpret ceramic art through the critiquing process

Materials

- Basic Pottery Tool kit, or Mudtools kit
- Fettling Knife
- Serrated Metal Rib
- Bucket
- Towel or Apron
- Brushes (natural fiber: assorted sizes and shapes)
- Leather Chamois
- Rubber ribs (Kemper or Mudtools)
- Calipers
Clay

- Standard 153 Stoneware from Libertytown Arts Workshop- 50-100 lbs

Requirements

Text: A Potter’s Workbook, Clary Illian, ISBN 9780877456711

Projects: Students will complete four main assignments as well as several smaller exercises. Each project will focus on different forming and firing techniques. All assignments must be turned in on time to avoid grading penalties.

Research: Students will be required to engage in research outside of class to complete each project. This includes keeping a sketchbook for the development of ideas and the recording of notes on firings and glazes. Sketchbooks will be collected for grading twice.

Participation: Participation in all areas of this class is mandatory. This includes the loading and firing of kilns, class discussions and critiques, and the mixing of clay and glazes. MOST IMPORTANTLY, THIS INCLUDES THE CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE OF THE STUDIO.

Conduct: All cell phones must be turned off and put away during class. Ear phones are not permitted during class time. Students engaging in disruptive behavior are subject to disciplinary action, including grade reductions and/or removal from the course.

Grading: Each project will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Use of information and techniques discussed in class
- Technical proficiency in the ceramics process.
- Aesthetic concerns like form, line, surface, design, etc.
- Willingness to explore, be creative, and try new ideas and techniques
- Progress - improvement in technical and conceptual areas. Growth

Assignments turned in after the due date will have their final grade reduced by ten points for each day late

**Final Grades** will be determined using the following breakdown:

- 4 Main Projects-------------------60 points
- 2 Secondary Projects----------10 points
- Participation----------------------20 points
- Sketchbook------------------------10 points

Be aware that a “C” grade reflects the average of a group. If you want a higher grade, you must go above and beyond the basic requirements of this class. This includes being involved, asking questions, taking care of the studio, and above all, spending time working in the studio outside of class.

Attendance

A primary responsibility of students is class attendance. Learning is an experience that requires active participation, and the University expects student responsibility regarding their scheduled classes. In Studio Art classes, attendance is taken at the beginning of class and you are expected to arrive on time and remain until instructor dismisses the class. You are permitted three absences, excused or otherwise. Any further absences will lower your final grade. Please visit: [http://publications.umw.edu/undergraduatetcatalog/academic_policies/enrollment](http://publications.umw.edu/undergraduatetcatalog/academic_policies/enrollment) for more information regarding religious observances and jury duty.

New Course Proposal Cover Sheet (July 2013)
Students who expect to be absent for more than a full week of classes may contact Academic and Career Services to report the absence. Academic and Career Services will contact the instructors as a courtesy. There are no excused absences at the University of Mary Washington. Make up work is entirely at the discretion of each instructor and may require documentation.

Expect to spend at least four hours per week outside of class time in the studio- ceramics requires discipline, patience and attention to detail. You should also anticipate spending additional time researching, sketching, and thinking about your work.

Safety

Students will be instructed as to the safe and proper use of studio equipment. Do not use any studio equipment until you have received this instruction. If you are unsure of equipment procedures, or have concerns about the functionality of studio equipment, discontinue use and ask me.

Honor Code

All work and written assignments produced by each student in the course is expressly his/her own and is completed according to the requirements for the specific assignment. Melchers 111 is open to all students enrolled in ceramics courses. Tools and materials are to be used in the studio and should not be removed without instructor approval. Infringements of this policy will be referred to the Honor Council.

Disability Services

The Office of Disability Services has been designated by the University as the primary office to guide, counsel, and assist students with disabilities. If you receive services through their office and require accommodations for this class, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss your approved accommodation needs. Bring your accommodation letter with you to the appointment. I will hold any information you share with me in confidence unless you give me permission to do otherwise. Refer to the UMW Directory and the UMW Academic Catalogue for more information.

*This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.