Our ceramics students develop strong skills in hand building, wheel throwing, mold making and glazing while being introduced to the history of ceramic art, the theory of making ceramic art and the chemistry of ceramics.

Our courses are designed to introduce you to a broad range of creative approaches and encourage your own personal expression and artistic investigation as you develop mature artistic ideas and your individual aesthetics.

Our program promotes a diverse approach to making, including designing and creating utilitarian ceramic objects and pottery; rendering figurative to abstract sculpture, and mixed-media objects to gallery installations.

You can expect to explore ideas of utility, production, innovation, collaboration and materiality. Studio courses are designed to address contemporary issues and provide a balance of conceptual development and material exploration.

You will learn how to develop a body of work from start to finish, acquiring the skills necessary to conceptualize, construct, glaze and fire their own pieces. Introductory through advanced classes present methods for approaching formal, functional and conceptual concerns specific to ceramics, with instruction about ceramic history from ancient to contemporary interwoven through each course level.

Students in the ceramics specialization have gone on to graduate schools and artist residencies/internships, and have found careers as artists, teachers, curators, ceramic technicians and more. Ultimately, studying ceramics leads students to think creatively, to be inventive when solving problems and to express themselves imaginatively; these are skills that are essential to every field.

FACILITIES
Students have daily access to a well-equipped studio with separate well-ventilated, fully-stocked glaze and clay mixing rooms. The studio is furnished with 15 electric wheels, a digital slip printer, a slab roller and a clay extruder. There are studio computers available in our classroom with Adobe Creative Cloud, Microsoft Office, and 3-D design software for students to use. Students have access to 3-D printers, a laser printer and a vinyl cutter. Ceramics also has a dedicated mold making area equipped for plasterwork and a Slip-o-Matic mixer for slip casters.

Our indoor kiln room is outfitted with four gas kilns: three downdraft kilns and one large updraft car kiln, there are also, four large electric kilns and a small test kiln. Our outdoor kilns include a wood kiln, a soda kiln and a raku kiln.

The final semester of study culminates in an exhibition at the 4,000-square-foot Surplus Gallery. There are regular opportunities for students to participate in pop-up ceramic exhibitions, visiting artist workshops and pottery sales. The ceramics classroom and studios are located in the Pulliam Industrial Wing on the main SIU campus.

RECENT VISITING ARTISTS IN CERAMICS
Glenn Adamson, Margaret Bohls, Tim Berg and Rebekah Myers, Steven Lee, Linda Lopez, Mathew McConnell, Theaster Gates, Garth Johnson, Katie Parker and Guy Michael Davis, Mark Pharis, Tammie Rubin and Zach Tate.
YEAR ONE
FALL (15 CREDITS)
Foundation Studio A (AD100A) 3
Intro. to Drawing I (AD110) 3
English Composition I 3
Core Mathematics 3
UNIV 101U 1
Core Human Health 2

SPRING (15 CREDITS)
Foundation Studio B (AD100B) 3
Intro. to Drawing II (AD120) 3
English Composition II 3
Intro. to Oral Communication 3
Core Social Science 3

YEAR TWO
FALL (15 CREDITS)
Beg. Ceramics (AD204) 3
Beg. Sculpture (AD203) 3
Intro. to Art History (AD207A, B or C) 3
Core Science (Physical) 3
Core Social Science 3

SPRING (15 CREDITS)
Intermediate Ceramics (AD304A) 3
Beg. Jewelry & Metalsmithing (AD205) 3
Intro. to Art History (AD207A, B or C) 3
Core Science (Life) 3
Core Multicultural 3

YEAR THREE
FALL (15 CREDITS)
Intermediate Ceramics (AD304B) 3
Intermediate Metalsmithing (AD305A) 3
Glass Survey (AD214) 3
Beg. Digital Art and Design (AD219) 3
BFA Seminar (AD389) 3

SPRING (15 CREDITS)
Advanced Ceramics (AD404A) 3
Intermediate Sculpture (AD303) 3
Kiln-Formed Glass (AD314A) 3
Studio Elective 3
Art History Elective (300-level or above) 3

YEAR FOUR
FALL (15 CREDITS)
Advanced Ceramics (AD404B) 6
Studio Electives 6
Art History Elective (300-level or above) 3

SPRING (15 CREDITS)
Advanced Ceramics (AD404D) 6
Senior Thesis (AD404C) 3
Studio Electives 6

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Call 618/453-4313
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