

Syllabus: TOS 121 Traditional Arts: Pottery

**Course Information** 

Course Prefix/Number: TOS 121

Semester: Spring 2018 (8 Week Course)

Class Days/Times: Sat. 9:00 am- 2:30 pm

**Credit Hours: 3** 

**Course Title:** Pottery

Room: Central Campus, Building 300

Room 303

**Instructor Information:** 

Name: Elizabeth Ortega

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**Office hours:** Monday – Friday (*Main Campus*)

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Tuesday & Thursday (Central Campus)

7:00 am - 4:00 pm

# **Course Description:**

This course will serve to preserve and perpetuate students' working knowledge of historical and contemporary Tohono O'odham cultural arts. Students will receive hands on training on how to use natural and contemporary materials to construct finished products. The assignments will be posted on *Canvas* and will focus on oral history readings, videos about Tohono O'odham Potters and written assignments.

# **Course Objectives:**

- 1. Explore the historical development and cultural use of O'odham pottery.
- 2. Observe different forms and techniques of pottery.
- 3. Gather materials for use in pottery making.
- 4. Reflect on the experiences and relative personal growth associated with creating pottery via journal entries.
- 5. Research different styles of pottery making from other Indigenous groups.
- 6. Discuss the connection of self-identity to wellness and wellbeing.
- 7. Inclusion of guest Speakers that are O'odham Potters to enhance course learning.

# Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs): Upon completion of this course, students will be able to;

- 1. Identify the appropriate materials used in traditional O'odham pottery.
- 2. Demonstrate proper care and use of pottery materials.
- 3. Describe the historical and cultural significance of O'odham pottery.
- 4. Recognize and identify the different forms of O'odham pottery.
- 5. Complete a simple pottery project.

#### **Course Structure:**

The course will be taught using a "hands on" approach with some time spent studying the history and cultural significance of pottery. Guest artists will be invited to share their pottery making techniques and personal stories of being an O'odham potter. Students will gather and prepare materials for completion of a finished pottery piece. Students will keep a record of their progress and personal reflections in a journal and will also do a research paper and presentation.

### **Texts and Materials:**

• *Papago Indian Pottery* by Bernard L. Fontana, William J. Robinson, Charles W. Cormack and Ernest e. Leavitt, Jr.

### **Materials:**

- Pottery Kit
- Bucket
- Journal
- Additional supplies and reading material will be posted on canvas.

Assignments	Points Available	Points Earned
Research Paper	10 points	
Class Presentation	15 points	
Journal	10 points	
Material Identification and Preparation	15 points	
Participation and discussions	10 points	
Pottery Project	25 points	
Final Exam	15 points	
Total	100 points	

Description of items to be evaluated:

### **Research Paper:**

For this assignment, students should conduct research on the history of O'odham potters and the role it has played in O'odham society. Do you think the art of pottery making will survive in the coming years? What are some survival strategies that will assist in keeping pottery making an enduring part of the O'odham culture? *This assignment is due March 03, 2018 (Approximately 2 ½ pages)* 

### **Presentation:**

Students will be expected to present on the results and findings of your research. Your presentation should be done using a Power Point format. Presentations will be conducted the last two weeks of class but can be done earlier if the student is ready to present. (At least seven (7) slides).

#### **Reflective Journal:**

Students will keep a written journal and make regular entries after each class. The entries will reflect upon the readings and/or other classroom-related activities. Entries will also reflect on how their class experience is shaping their concept of the O'odham Himdag and T-Ṣo:ṣon as well as how knowledge of pottery making contributes to wellness and wellbeing. *The journal should contain a minimum of 10 entries*.

## **Material Identification and Preparation:**

Students will identify and prepare materials properly for use in class projects and assignments. The identification and preparation will be assessed through a written quiz and as well as through physical demonstrations. (*This will include, the videos posted on canvas and assignments*).

# **Participation and Discussions:**

Students will be encouraged to attend all class sessions as well as material gathering field trips and to contribute to class discussions and exercises.

# **Pottery Project:**

Students will complete a pot or art piece from beginning to end using the proper materials and techniques which they will gather and prepare on their own.

# **Final Exam:**

Students will have a final exam that will cover the history, cultural significance, material identification and preparation of pottery making.

# **Himdag** Cultural Component:

Students will participate in the production and preservation of an art form that represents the O'odham tradition and culture. There are very few O'odham potters that still practice the traditional form of pottery making so it is often difficult to obtain traditional forms of pottery. The students will be able to associate the importance of the land to the O'odham *himdag* by producing a pot from the natural resources of the land.

### **Course Outline:**

- 1. Origins-Oral history
- 2. Knowledge on pottery materials and tools
- 3. Techniques-historical and contemporary
- 4. Presentation on research
- 5. Paint and glaze
- 6. Fire the pottery
- 7. Showcase of completed projects

### Policies and expectations:

(1) Attend class regularly (2) Complete in-class and out of class assignments (3) Attend any planned field trips. 4) Final Exam, Research and Presentation (5) Complete all class projects and presentations.

#### Attendance:

You are expected to arrive to class on time and actively participate each class period. Some class assignments begin at the start of class and may be missed if you do not arrive on time. If you miss all or a portion of the class, then you are solely responsible for obtaining missed class material. Complete attendance is mandatory during student presentations otherwise presentation points will be forfeited. Three (3) consecutive absences may result in withdrawal from the class. You may ask to be excused from class for religious observation and practices, for illness, for travel or for personal or family emergency. If you will be absent, please notify the instructor before class time or as soon as possible if it is an emergency.

# Academic Integrity:

Violations of scholastic ethics are considered serious offenses by Tohono O'odham Community College, the Student Services Department, and by your instructor. Students may consult the TOCC Student Handbook sections on student code of conduct, on scholastic ethics and on the grade appeal procedure. Copies are available at Tohono O'odham Community College.

All work done for this class must be your own. While you may discuss assignments with other class members, the final written project must clearly be your own.

Students submitting assignments through e-mail or canvas are advised to make copies for their protection.

# ADA Compliance:

Tohono O'odham Community College strives to comply with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you have a learning problem, physical disability, or medical illness that requires you to have any special arrangements, please inform your instructor at the beginning of the semester so your academic performance will not suffer because of the disability or handicap.

#### Classroom Behavior:

- Because of insurance limitations, non-registered visitors are not allowed at class sessions or on field trips.
- Food and beverages are allowed in the classroom as long as you clean up
- Cell phones and other electronic devices that distract students are not allowed
- Students creating disturbances that interfere with the conduct of the class and the learning environment will be asked to leave.
- Students sleeping or wearing headphones in class will be marked absent

#### Course Feedback:

A student or the instructor may request a student conference at any time during the semester.

#### **Instructor Withdrawals:**

Students, who have missed three (3) consecutive classes, not submitted any assignments nor taken any quizzes by the fifth week, are assumed NOT to be participating in the class and will be withdrawn. Students may withdraw from class at any time during the first 2/3 week of the semester without instructor permission and without incurring any grade penalty. Please be sure to withdraw yourself if you do not expect to complete the class, otherwise you may receive an "F" grade.

### *Special Withdrawal (Y) grade:*

The "Y" grade is an administrative withdrawal given at the instructor's option when no other grade is deemed appropriate. Your instructor must file a form stating the specific rationale for awarding this grade. "Y" grades are discouraged since they often affect students negatively. Your instructor will not award a "Y" grade without a strong reason.

#### SPECIAL NOTE TO STUDENT:

For privacy and security reasons, instructors are advised NOT to give grades over the telephone. Your instructor will make every attempt to follow the above procedures and schedules, but they may be changed in the event of extenuating circumstances.

**DISCLAIMER:** This syllabus is designed to evolve and change throughout the semester based on class progress and interests. You will be notified of any changes as they occur.