

Process/Skill Inventory

At some point in your studies in clay in any good BFA program you should become familiar with most of the following materials, techniques, processes, and equipment. Do not be intimidated by this list. You will learn much of this by participating in classes and studio activities over a period of years, but it is important to inventory your knowledge and skills as you progress so that you can purposefully address whatever is missing.

Clays and Claybodies

- Raw clays
- Claybody components
- Low-fire whiteware
- Terracotta
- ^6 Oxidation Claybodies
- High-fire porcelain and stoneware bodies for:
 - Reduction
 - Salt/soda
 - Woodfire

Damp-Clay Forming

Techniques

- Pinch-forming
- Coil-forming
- Large coil forms
- Slabs with rolling pin
- Soft-slab construction
- Stiff-slab construction
- Throwing
- Off-the-hump
- Closed forms
- Thrown-and-altered
- Paddle-and-anvil
- Rib-and-hand
- Plaster press molds
- Rigid foam slump molds

Surface Decoration on

Greenware

- Impressing
- Bisque stamps/roulettes
- Combing
- Profile ribs
- Carving
- Modeling
- Faceting
- Fluting
- Piercing
- Incising

- Terra sigillata
- Polishing
- Burnishing
- Sprigging
- Appliqué
- Slips
- Floc. and defloc.
- Slip-painting
- Slip-trailing
- Slip-resist
- Slip-layering
- Sgraffito
- Wax sgraffito
- Mishima
- Dry-sanding
- Scraping

Glazing Processes and Ceramic Chemistry

- Glaze lab safety
- Toxicity of materials
- Brushing glazes
- Dipping glazes
- Pouring glazes
- Layering glazes
- Spraying
- Engobes/underglazes
- Oxide patinas
- Glaze resists
- Overglaze painting
- Wax glaze sgraffito
- Glaze mixing
- Low-fire oxidation glazes
- Midrange oxidation glazes
- High-fire reduction glazes
- Salt/soda glazing
- Wood-fire glazes
- Ceramic raw materials
- Glaze modifiers
- Colorants
- Ceramic Stains

- Glaze faults
- Glaze Testing
- Chemistry of clays/glazes
- Insight Glaze Software

Kilns and Firing Processes

- Firing safety
- Bonfire/pit-fire
- Low-fire oxidation
- Mid-range oxidation
- High-fire reduction
- Salt firing
- Soda firing
- Sagger firing
- Wood firing
- Digital/analog pyrometers
- Programmable elec. kilns
- Top- and front-loader kilns
- Theory, operation, design, construction of gas kilns
- Types of kiln burners
- Refractories
- Basic refractory repair
- Baso valve safety system
- Kiln ventilation

Studio Equipment

- Studio safety
- Kick and electric wheels
- Slab roller
- Extruder
- Clay mixers
- Pugmills
- Triple-beam balance
- Spray guns
- Spray booth
- Dust extraction equipment