CLASS TITLE: INSTRUCTIONAL LAB TECHNICIAN I - CERAMICS

BASIC FUNCTION:

Under the direction of a Dean, and in coordination with instructional staff, monitors and maintains an instructional ceramics laboratory and provides students with assistance.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES:

Supervises the use of the ceramics studio, glaze area, and kiln area.  

In charge of scheduling, loading, and firing the kilns.  

Issues materials and equipment (clay cards and glaze chemicals) and keeps records.  

Assist students, in accordance with the instructor, with problems related to the operation of making ceramics (i.e. wheel throwing, hand building, and glazing.)  

Stores equipment (scales, balances) and keeps the studio and sinks orderly and clean.  

Maintains inventory records of supplies and equipment and prepares requisitions as needed.  

May supervise the work of student assistants.  

Perform related duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:

KNOWLEDGE OF:

Basic principles of a wheel throwing ceramics studio  
Basic knowledge of glaze technology  
Knowledge of firing natural gas kilns, updraft kilns, raku firing, and open pit firing  
Health and safety practices and precautions applicable in a ceramics lab studio and kiln area

ABILITY TO:

Use a wide variety of ceramics processes.  
Understand firing the kilns to different temperatures (low fire earthenware, and high fire stoneware, etc.)  
Keep detailed and precise records of glazes, firing schedules, etc.  
Operate kilns, pug mills, ball mills, and scales.  
Work effectively and cooperatively with students and instructional staff.  
Schedule the work of lower-level personnel assigned to the laboratory.

Established June 1998
INSTRUCTIONAL LAB TECHNICIAN I (continued)

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Any combination equivalent to completion of two years college level course work in ceramics and two years related work experience.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

ENVIRONMENT:

Ceramics studio/lab instructional environment

PHYSICAL ABILITIES:

Hearing and speaking to communicate with students and faculty
Dexterity of hands and fingers to operate and maintain ceramics equipment
Seeing to observe ceramics aesthetics
Lifting heavy equipment and supplies
Reaching to retrieve and file records

HAZARDS:

Exposure to glaze chemicals and operation of spray booth, bench grinder, and kilns