



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

CUVCER401A Experiment with techniques to produce ceramics

Release: 1

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Modification History

Version	Comments
CUVCER401A	This version first released with <i>CUV11 Visual Arts, Craft and Design Training Package version 1.0</i>

Unit Descriptor

This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to proactively experiment and innovate with various ceramics techniques and ideas to develop an individual style or voice.

Application of the Unit

People with a command of ceramics techniques apply the skills and knowledge in this unit. They may produce work at a pre-professional level for sale in a range of outlets, such as markets and fairs.

Work is undertaken independently with supervision and guidance as required.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

No licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of endorsement.

Pre-Requisites

Not applicable.

Employability Skills Information

This unit contains employability skills.

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Element	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes of a unit of competency.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the required skills and knowledge section and the range statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the evidence guide.</i>

Elements and Performance Criteria

1. Develop proficiency with a range of ceramics techniques and media	1.1 Evaluate the potential for new approaches to ceramics work based on capabilities of techniques already used 1.2 Adapt or introduce new tools, equipment and materials to achieve different effects 1.3 Extend the capabilities of ceramics techniques through experimentation 1.4 Take account of the safety and sustainability considerations for different techniques and media
2. Develop ideas for ceramics	2.1 Articulate creative and other goals for ceramic work 2.2 Research, adapt and use relevant ideas and approaches from other practitioners with consideration of intellectual property requirements 2.3 Apply knowledge of different ceramics techniques to inform ideas 2.4 Allow techniques and ideas to work together to inform each other 2.5 Consider the professional potential and other criteria for work when developing ideas 2.6 Refine and confirm ideas based on experimentation, research and collaboration with others
3. Organise ceramics resources	3.1 Assess specific resource requirements for the chosen work 3.2 Research and access potential sources of supply for ceramics resources 3.3 Evaluate cost and other constraints that impact on the development of work 3.4 Evaluate and respond to presentation considerations for finished ceramics 3.5 Set up or coordinate resource requirements according to safety and other workplace requirements
4. Create finished ceramics	4.1 Create ceramics, using techniques and media selected from research and experimentation 4.2 Review and refine ideas and approaches based on ongoing experience with the production of work 4.3 Use safe and sustainable work practices throughout the production of ceramics 4.4 Document and record the development of the work and the

	research and ideas that inform it
5. Evaluate own ceramic work	5.1 Reflect on own work in terms of conceptual development and technical execution 5.2 Identify areas for future improvement, especially in terms of own skill development 5.3 Discuss completed work with others and respond positively to feedback

Required Skills and Knowledge

This section describes the skills and knowledge required for this unit.

Required skills

- communication skills to:
 - discuss ideas and techniques in own work
 - create a record of the ceramic work
- initiative and enterprise skills to:
 - experiment with ceramics techniques and use results to enhance work
 - apply critical thinking and analytical skills when developing ideas for ceramics
- learning skills to:
 - refine and improve a range of techniques
 - evaluate quality of own work and identify ways to enhance own skills
- literacy skills to undertake research about the work of other ceramics artists and arts practitioners
- numeracy skills to:
 - evaluate resource costs
 - calculate material requirements
- planning and organising skills to plan work tasks and resources
- problem-solving skills to identify and resolve technical issues in ceramics work
- technology skills to use the internet as a research tool.

Required knowledge

- role of experimentation in developing and refining ideas for ceramics and how it relates to the development of an individual style
- ways to adapt, extend and combine the capabilities of a wide range of ceramics materials and techniques
- physical properties and capabilities of an extended range of materials and tools used in ceramics
- characteristics of different materials under different treatments and the potential of these characteristics to achieve different effects
- formal elements and principles of design and how they may be used, adapted and challenged in ceramics work
- research methodologies used by artists
- historical and theoretical contexts for ceramics and how they may be used to inform individual practice
- sources of raw, part-processed and processed ceramics materials
- sources of other resources needed in a professional ceramics practice
- intellectual property issues and legislation to be considered by independent arts practitioners
- sustainability considerations for the professional operation of a ceramics practice
- OHS requirements for the set-up and operation of ceramics work space.

Evidence Guide

The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge, range statement and the Assessment Guidelines for the Training Package.

Overview of assessment	
Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit	Evidence of the ability to: • develop ideas and techniques through a process of research and experimentation • produce multiple finished ceramic items or a single major work that demonstrate a command of techniques • apply knowledge of ceramics techniques, equipment and materials and the ways they may be adapted and combined • participate in the operation and monitoring of kilns and firing processes • use safe ceramics work practices.
Context of and specific resources for assessment	Assessment must ensure access to: • tools, equipment and materials used in ceramic work.
Method of assessment	A range of assessment methods should be used to assess practical skills and knowledge. The following examples are appropriate for this unit: • evaluation of technical execution of work pieces produced by the candidate • direct observation of ceramics work in progress, including exploration of, and experimentation with, techniques • questioning and discussion about candidate's intentions and the work outcome • review of portfolios of evidence • review of third-party reports from experienced practitioners. Assessment methods should closely reflect workplace demands (e.g. literacy) and the needs of particular groups (e.g. people with disabilities, and people who may have literacy or numeracy difficulties, such as speakers of languages other than English, remote communities and those with interrupted schooling).
Guidance information for assessment	Holistic assessment with other units relevant to the industry sector, workplace and job role is recommended, for example: • CUVPRP401A Realise a creative project.

Range Statement

The range statement relates to the unit of competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. Bold italicised wording, if used in the performance criteria, is detailed below. Essential operating conditions that may be present with training and assessment (depending on the work situation, needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts) may also be included.

Techniques may include:	• applied surface treatments: • glazes • inlay with other clays or other materials • oxides • handbuilding: • coiling • pinching • slab-roll methods • moulding, including mould making • slipcasting • subtractive surface treatments: • impressing • incising • piercing • stamping.
Tools and equipment may include:	• brushes and toothbrushes • carving tools • electronic equipment used in design work • kilns: electric, gas, wood or raku • knives and blades • measuring devices • protective clothing • rolling pins or other rollers • spatulas • tongs.
Materials may include:	• glazes and oxides • materials for mould making: • casting plaster • resins • wax • other materials for inlay that leave impressions or stains, etc. in the ceramic work after firing • range of clays

	• slip.
Safety and sustainability considerations may include:	• federal, state and territory legislation, regulations and standards • personal protection • recycling • safe disposal of waste.
Research may involve:	• approaching individuals with relevant expertise • attending lectures and talks • conducting material and technical experiments and tests • seeking out information in books, journals and newspapers • searching the internet • visiting exhibitions, galleries and museums.
Ideas may be influenced by:	• artistic aspirations • current capability with techniques • historical and theoretical contexts • subject matter or theme for the work, such as: • built environment • land and place • natural world • political, cultural and social issues • the body • spiritual concerns.
Intellectual property requirements may relate to:	• extent to which the work may be used • form of acknowledgement or credit • procedures for seeking permission to use the work of others, including systems for the administration of copyright • protocols for the adaptation of work by others.
Professional potential may relate to:	• cost of production • existence of an established market • how to promote or sell the work • market trends • professional development.
Criteria may relate to:	• audience • client and user expectations • environment in which ceramics will be viewed • local government and planning authority regulations • materials • quality of final product • techniques • timelines

	• tools • weather considerations.
Process followed to refine ideas may include:	• adjustment to subject matter or theme • adjustment to take account of elements and principles of design • adjustment to use extended capabilities of techniques.
Sources of supply may include:	• commercial outlets • found objects and materials • manufacturing or factory waste • nature.
Cost and other constraints may relate to:	• availability of materials and tools • budgeting • environment in which ceramics will be viewed • sponsorship • timeframe.
Presentation considerations may include:	• availability of space • cost • practical considerations • presentation context • timeframe.

Unit Sector(s)

Visual communication – ceramics