

**MULTNOMAH ART CENTER**

**HAND AND WHEEL**  
**CLASS CURRICULUM**  
**BEGINNING, INTERMEDIATE, ADVANCED\***

**VICTORIA L. SHAW**

**SESSION ONE:**

Teacher and class introduction. Orientation to studio: process, equipment, resources, chemical hazards. Introduction to hand-building through demonstration. Hands-on experience with pinch pots and individual creation of personal stamp for identification of all future work. Each student has at least two finished, hand-built pieces at the end of this session which are bisqued for Session Three.

\*Intermediate and advanced students will determine their course of study with the instructor in the first session.

**SESSION TWO:**

Slide presentation of functional and non-functional work using hand-building and throwing and combinations of the two techniques, and, lastly, installations of clay work in a wilderness setting with the intention of expanding students' imagination. Further techniques in hand-building including coil pots and slab construction.

**SESSION THREE:**

Demonstrations of glazing techniques and the nature of glazes. Students glaze at least one piece for the cone 9-10 reduction fire. Demonstration and introduction to wheel throwing with an emphasis on centering the clay on the wheel.

**SESSION FOUR:**

Students will glaze the second piece from the first session using low-fire technique developed in 15<sup>th</sup> century Japan (in conjunction with the Zen tea ceremony) commonly recognized as Raku. The firing takes place during the session and students will take their finished piece home. During the Raku firing, there is further demonstration on wheel throwing by the instructor. Students will learn the techniques of "opening," "pulling up," and creating a cylinder during this session

**SESSION FIVE:**

Instruction will be given on trimming a cup. This session is devoted to the students working independently with the instructor observing and offering advice on improving techniques. This session emphasizes the individual direction a student may want to pursue.

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There is no pressure to throw on the wheel if a student wishes to continue hand-building. Emphases is on individual creativity rather than following a prescribed schedule.

### **SESSION SIX:**

Demonstration of pulling handles for cups, pitchers, etc. Students are encourages to continue working on the wheel or hand-building, depending on the direction of the individual student's interest.

### **SESSION SEVEN:**

Continued practice on throwing a cylinder and control of shaping the cylinder. Demonstration of throwing a bottle and techniques of collaring. Instruction and further guidance for hand-built projects. Instruction on trimming techniques.

### **SESSION EIGHT:**

Demonstrations of throwing a bowl and a plate. Students will glaze work that has been bisque fired from previous sessions.

### **SESSION NINE:**

Students will work, self-directed and will continue glazing work that has been created to date.

### **SESSION TEN:**

Critique, pot-luck, and raku firing for work bisqued from previous sessions. Completion of evaluations. Final glaze session for high-fire..