

ARCH416 Archaeological Drawing Spring 2023

Dr. Penelope Mountjoy

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Class Meetings:

DAY: Monday -Wednesday HOURS: 17:15-19:45

Course Description

This course develops basic techniques in the drawing of pottery and other archaeological small finds, such as figurines, metal, stone, and bone. Half the course is spent on pottery, partly because this is the skill usually required of the illustrator by excavation directors and partly because the drawing of pots and sherds involves a number of different techniques, which are also applicable to the illustration of small finds. The course is important as students need the fundamentals of how to see objects which they learn in drawing them. They can then apply and expand on these fundamentals when working with newer recording technologies such as digital recording, and 3-D scanning and imaging. Indeed, to make the imagery work the student needs to know how to see an object, which they learn from drawing.

Course Resources and Activities

The students are divided into two separate groups for the first two class sessions only. The reason for this is to give each student the personalized help he/she needs with mastering the beginning of drawing objects. The course begins with 11 sessions on pottery and complete pots. We concentrate especially on pottery, because this is what is usually required on excavations. Also for pottery a whole range of techniques is used, which can then be applied to the drawing of other materials. Pots used in the class are copies of originals. They include: MM Kamares, Mycenaean, Geometric, Corinthian, and Classical. From pottery, we move on to sherds for an additional 4 class session.

Two class sessions are spent on teaching students the technique of laying out and mounting their drawings. The first session teaches students to layout and mount their work on pots and sherds and the second mounting session is for their work on small finds. The first session is during midterm week and the final session is at the end of the semester.

After pottery there are two sessions on figurines, two on metal objects, one on chipped stone, one on ground stone and two on bones. Not many sessions are needed on these, because students have already learnt the basic techniques, therefore we concentrate on the conventions used in drawing these objects.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Draw both pots and small finds. It's two different types of drawing but they use the same basic technique
- Learn to analyze the components of shape and design
- Learn to triangulate
- Learn to plot points on millimeter paper
- Learn various techniques of measurement by using tools such as triangles, extended lead (used as adjusts to measuring), dividers (as measurement of width), slide rules (as measurement of thickness), drafting pens (Rotring pens, for inking)
- Patience is gained because it is necessary for the pots to be drawn accurately, which means slowly with attention to detail

Course Requirements

Assignments

Pots

Students need to draw and ink a minimum of five pots.

- A large number of rims, bases and body sherds of different dates from Neolithic up to Byzantine

Figurines

Students chose one (or two) figurine from the following:

- Mycenaean figurines: Phi and Psi and Tau
- Geometric and Archaic

Small finds

- A minimum of three bronze objects (kitchen spoon, souvlaki stick with ornate handle ie. Minoan goddess, nails and screws)
- One chipped stone (3 views: front/back/side)
- One ground stone (2 views: front/side)
- Bones: metatarsal, humerus, fibula, tibia

Grading and Evaluation

Your grade for this course will be based on the following distribution:

Attendance and participation is mandatory as all work is done in class

Each of the above three assignments is graded equally based on

- Accuracy
- Presentation

Attendance: Students are expected to report for class promptly. Absences are recorded and have consequences. Illness or other such compelling reasons which result in absences should be reported immediately in the Student Affairs Office.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: If you are a registered (with your home institution) student with a disability and you are entitled to learning accommodation, please inform the Vice President for Academic Affairs and make sure that your school forwards the necessary documentation.

Reference Books

Bibliography

Boardman, John. *Athenian red figure vases the Archaic period*. London: Thames and Hudson, 1975.

Boardman, John. *Athenian red figure vases the Archaic period*. London: Thames and Hudson, 1975.

Coldstream, John Nicholas. *Greek Geometric pottery: a survey of ten local styles and their chronology*. Exeter: Bristol Phoenix Press, 2009.

Hayes, John W. "Roman Pottery: Fine-Ware Imports." *The Athenian Agora* 32 (2008): Iii-343.
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/25481899>.

Mountjoy, Penelope A. *Mycenaean decorated pottery: a guide to identification*. Göteborg (Sweden): P. Åströms, 1986.

Mountjoy, Penelope A. *Mycenaean pottery: an introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Committee for Archaeology, 1993.

Class Schedule

Session	Topic
Pottery Complete Pots	
1	Introduction to Class Beginning of pottery and complete pots 1 st Group –provide each group with personalized help in order to master the beginning of drawing objects
2	Introduction to Class Beginning of pottery and complete pots 2 nd Group –provide each group with personalized help in order to master the beginning of drawing object
3	Continue work on pottery and complete pots
4	Continue work on pottery and complete pots
5	Continue work on pottery and complete pots
6	Continue work on pottery and complete pots
7	Continue work on pottery and complete pots
8	Continue work on pottery and complete pots
9	Continue work on pottery and complete pots
10	Continue work on pottery and complete pots
11	Complete work on pottery and complete pots
Sherds	
12	Introduction to sherds
13	Continue working on sherds
14	Continue working on sherds
15	Complete work on sherds
16	1 st mounting and layout session of pots and sherds

Figurines

- 17 Introduction to figurines
- 18 Complete work on figurines

Bronzes

- 19 Introduction to bronzes
- 20 Complete work on bronzes

Chipped Stone

- 21 Introduction and complete work on chipped stone

Ground Stone

- 22 Introduction and complete work on ground stone

Bones

- 23 Introduction to bones
- 24 Complete work on bones
- Final layout and mounting session of small objects