Practicum in Ceramic Analysis
Anthropology 328.2
Spring 2005

Prof. Vincas Steponaitis (vin@unc.edu)
Office: Alumni 108
Hours: Tu 11-12, and by appointment (email or call 962-3846)

Course Description: This course focuses on ancient ceramic technologies and how they can be reconstructed archaeologically. Methods related to the study of ceramic technology are stressed.

Course Structure: There will be two meetings per week. In general, each topic will be covered with one or more lectures, followed by a lab designed to give you some practical experience. Sessions will be informal, hopefully with lots of verbal give-and-take. You will also select an independent project, on which you will present two oral reports and write a paper.

Course Requirements: In addition to the assigned readings, requirements include periodic lab assignments (30%), oral reports (10%), a term paper (30%), and a final exam (30%). Class participation is essential. It will be taken into account by reducing your grade 10% for each unexcused absence. If you must miss class, please discuss it with me in advance if possible. If this is not possible, then please contact me as soon as possible afterwards. In general, illness or unavoidable family obligations (like weddings) are the only valid reasons for an absence.

Course Web Site: The syllabus, lab exercises, and other relevant information will be posted on the course web site at <http://rla.unc.edu/courses/Anth328/>.

Honor Code: Students are expected to adhere to UNC's Honor Code <http://honor.unc.edu/>. All written work must be accompanied by a signed pledge attesting that the student has neither given nor received unauthorized aid in completing the assignment. (One can use the short form and simply write "Pledge" followed by a signature.)

Textbooks:

Tentative Schedule:
1/13 Introduction
1/18-2/24 Ceramic production: principles and reconstruction
3/1-3/8 Vessel function: analysis of shape and use-wear
3/10 Student projects: progress reports
3/22-3/24 Chemical and mineral characterization
3/29-4/14 Special topics (clay testing, use wear, residues, craft specialization, etc.)
4/19-4/26 Student projects: final reports
4/28 Wrap-up and course evaluation
5/3 Final exam (8 am)
5/5 Paper due
Readings

1/16-2/22  Ceramic Production: Principles and Reconstruction


2/27-3/10  Vessel Function: Analysis of Shape and Use-Wear


3/29

**FIELD TESTING OF CLAYS**


4/5-4/7

**ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND POLITICAL DIMENSIONS**


4/8-

**MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS**


