

Anthropology 418
Lab Methods: Ceramics
Spring 2024

Lab Exercise 5
Rim Diameters and Profiles

1. Before you is a tray (A) containing five unglazed rim sherds. Each person at the table should estimate the rim diameters of the five sherds independently, using the rim-diameter templates provided. Also estimate the percentage of the circumference represented by each rim. Enter everyone's independent measurements of each sherd into a single table and briefly answer the following questions: How closely do your measurements agree? Do some sherds show more disagreement than others? If so, what is the root cause of the disagreement? In general, what factors about any given sherd make it easier or harder to estimate its rim diameter accurately? (Be sure to include your table when you hand in the assignment.)

2. You also have a second tray (B) containing six glazed rim sherds. *For at least two of the sherds*, please do the following:

- * Estimate the diameter of the rim using the template.
- * Also using the template, estimate the percentage of the circumference represented by each rim.
- * Draw a rim profile at a scale of 1:1.

3. *For at least one sherd* (from either tray), create a cutaway vessel reconstruction, like the ones in your handouts. (Hint: this is easier to do with vessels that have a relatively small rim diameter, no larger than the piece of paper on which you're drawing. You will be judged on the accuracy and "geometry" of the drawing, not on its artistic merit.)

When you hand in this assignment, all your profile drawings should be correctly oriented and nicely arranged on the page. Remember to include the straight lines indicating the lip.