



Walters State Community College Course Syllabus

Course Information

Course Number and Name: CULA 1232 Advanced Cake Decorating

Section ID: 80544.202380

Semester and Year: Fall 2023

Credit Hours: 2

Start Date: October 11, 2023

End Date: December 08, 2023

Course Format: CON - Conventional Methodology

Catalog Course Description: In this advanced cake decorating course, students build on previously acquired skills to make several different theme cakes and wedding cakes. Royal icing and fondant will be used to create lace designs, candies and fruit fillings. This course includes techniques for working with brides and tips on how to safely transport large wedding cakes. Prerequisite(s) CULA 1231. **F, S-as needed:**. (T).1 hour lecture and 2.5 hours laboratory.

Meeting Details: M; 04:00PM - 09:00PM; MMH 117

Course Drop Deadline: November 17, 2023

Instructor Information

Name: Lisa Varnado

Office Location: MMH 117

Office Hours: By Appointment

Office Phone: 865-774-5817

Email: Lisa.Varnado@ws.edu

Supervisor Name: Joe Cairns

Supervisor Phone: 865-774-5816

Secretary Name: Deb Peachey

Secretary Phone: 865-774-5817

Required Textbook(s) and Materials



Professional Cake Decorating

Authors: Garrett

Publisher: John Wiley & Sons, Incorporated

Edition: 2nd

Supplemental or Optional Materials

- **Students are required to supply their own decorating supplies**(tips, knives, pastry bags, cake boards and boxes)
 - Fondant and Gum paste modeling tools
 - (2) Fondant Smoothers
 - X-acto knife
 - 10" round cake drum in white, silver, or gold for final
 - 10" square cake box for final cake
 - 6-8 plastic cake dowels
 - Metal Bench Scraper (no handle, or rounded handle flush with the scraper)
 - Off-set spatulas – 1 small and 1 large
 - Icing colors
 - Scissors
 - Toothpicks
 - Straight pin
 - OPTIONAL: any additional special tools, cutters, etc needed for your final cake design
- Member of the American Culinary Federation and provide proof of such to Deb Peachey to be placed in your file; this is required by the American Culinary Federation. The cost is \$85.00 yearly for student culinarians. You can register for membership at [Greater Smoky Mountain Chapter, Knoxville, TN.](http://GreaterSmokyMountainChapter.Knoxville.TN) or acfchefs.org

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

- In this class, the student will learn different techniques for smoothing the iced cakes, a variety of borders, and an array of flowers for arranging on the cakes. Students will be introduced to

rolled fondant for decorating and covering cakes and flower making, and decorating theme and wedding cakes.

On completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- List and define the fundamentals of good personal hygiene and demonstrate good personal hygiene and health habits in a laboratory setting
- Use acceptable procedures when preparing potentially hazardous foods to include time/temperature principles
- Develop cleaning and sanitizing schedule and procedures for equipment and facilities
- Identify equipment and utensils used in cake preparation, cake decorating and discuss proper use and care
- Demonstrate proper selection of equipment and utensils for specific application and proper care, washing methods and storage
- Describe various tips and demonstrate proper selection to complete assigned tasks
- Identify ingredients used in cake decorating
- Demonstrate preparation and the procedure of leveling and torting cake layers, and icing and decorating techniques
- Practice to develop advanced decorating and finishing techniques for cakes
- Describe and discuss the method of preparation for fondant and buttercream
- Demonstrate the method of preparation for rolled fondant and buttercream
- Develop advanced decorating and finishing techniques by knowing a variety of borders and flowers and apply the knowledge to decorate novelty cakes and wedding cakes
- Demonstrate proper measurement techniques used in wedding cake decorating
- Illustrate the use of rolled fondant and the preparation for covering cakes
- Produce a tiered wedding cake using techniques learned
- Define and describe rolled fondant, royal icing and gum-paste (Pastillage)
- Discuss the methods of preparation for gum-paste (Pastillage) and royal icing
- Prepare rolled fondant and use in the decoration of cakes, making of confections or modeling of fruits or figurines
- Prepare gum-paste (Pastillage) and royal icing
- Prepare fondant covered wedding cake
- Evaluate the quality of the decorated cakes and wedding cake in regards to specified details
- Identify proper methods of waste disposal

Instructional Approach and Methods

This class will include lecture with periodic testing and lab assignments. This is a lab class and not a lecture class; you cannot make up work or learn if you are not here.

1. Evaluation based on instructor observation of participation and production in all class activities.
2. Daily Grading based on following criteria
 - a. Mise en place –
 - Clean, complete uniform with white undershirt only under the chef coat
 - On time for class
 - Required textbook, materials/tools for class assignments
 - b. Cleaning duties as assigned-
 - Storage of all ingredients and products
 - Cleaning and storing of all equipment and utensils
 - Proper cleaning of all lab areas
3. Lab Grading based on following criteria
 - a. Work station, work habits, clean-up-
 - Properly and thoroughly cleaning work space throughout the day
 - b. Time Management-
 - Planned production schedule to multitask
 - All assigned projects/items prepared and ready on time
 - c. Waste control-
 - Use correct conversions and scaling/measuring of ingredients
 - Use correct mixing/technique
 - Watch to prevent waste/good yield percentages
 - d. Technique /skill -
 - Prepared according to recipe/formula instructions and techniques-suggested use of proper technique.
 - e. Quality of finished products-
 - Taste, look and presentation.
 - Products of a sellable quality
 - f. Teamwork-
 - Appropriate conduct and language.

- Teamwork requires that all students contribute their fair share to the workload so that the class can accomplish its goals in a timely and satisfactory manner.
- Brigade assignments completed

4. Competency levels for grading criteria:

0 = No regard for class requirements; did not follow guidelines stated in syllabus, handbook or assignment

1 = Poor; Work was unsatisfactory, needed total supervision, did not grasp assignment

2 = Fair; Acceptable work, needed some supervision, understood assignment but did not complete what was assigned

3 = Good; the end results were good, needed little supervision, understood the assignment well

4 = Very Good; No supervision needed and every aspect of the work assignment was understood and completed

5. Professionalism is a must! The student that is/or has been in a class with uniform required must be in full uniform with jacket buttoned at all times throughout the class, including cleaning. Failure to abide by these policies (hygiene, jewelry, wrist accessories, nail, hair, and uniform dress code) will result in the loss of daily participation points. The first violation will result in a 25% loss of daily grade. The second violation will result in a 50% loss of daily grade. The third infraction and all thereafter will result in a loss of all daily points in class.
6. Be aware that sanitation and cleaning habits have great value in the bakeshop. You must be wearing gloves when handling all ready-to-eat foods; this includes all items that require no cooking before serving. Also includes all cake decorating processes.

Assessment, Evaluation and Testing Procedures

Class Activity	Percentage of Grade
Daily Participation	9%
Lab Evaluation	28%
Fondant Preparation & Use on Cakes	10%
Gumpaste Project	10%
Model Fondant Figures	10%
Cake Final Project	20%
C.H.E.F. Event Credit	12%

Clean Up	1%
TOTAL	100%

Grading Scale

A	600 – 540 (90 – 100%)
B	539 – 480 (80 – 89%)
C	479 – 420 (70 – 79%)
D	419 - 360 (60 - 69%)
F	359 - 0 (59% and below)

Assignments

1. Present your final cake project for grading no later than **Monday, November 27, 2023 by 7 pm.**
NO LATE CAKES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Final Cake Project: 2-Tier Holiday Party Cake

Each week, your class will build on the skills needed to complete this project.

- (1) Gum Paste or Fondant Topper (save from gum paste and fondant assignments)
- (3) Additional hand-molded decorative elements, within your chosen theme (save from gum paste and fondant assignments)
- (2) Fondant Borders (ribbon or molded)
- Royal icing assignment (save in the fridge to use on final cake. Attach second tier with royal icing, secure topper and/or florals with royal icing.)
- Bake and level cakes
 1. 6-inch cake (2-layer cake with minimum height of 4 inches)
 2. 10-inch cake (2-layer cake height of 4 inches)
- Prepare Buttercream
- Prepare fondant
 1. Rolled fondant for cakes
 2. Fondant for ribbon borders
- Stack, fill, frost both 6-inch and 10-inch cakes
- Cover both 6" and 10" cakes with fondant

- Stack 6-inch tier on top of 10-inch tier with proper supports
- Complete Cake with all required components
 1. Cake board must be grease resistant, covered, and substantial to support weight of cake
 2. 6- and 10-inch cakes to be stacked with dowels between for support
 3. Cake topper on 6-inch cake with proper support underneath
 4. All decoration and figures in place
 5. **Present for grading by 7 pm on Monday, November 27, 2023.**

Grading rubric will be posted separately on eLearn

Class Participation

This is a lab class and not a lecture class; students are expected to attend all scheduled classes, and you cannot make up work or learn if you are not here. **It is your responsibility to notify Instructor if you will be late or absent. There will be no make-ups for hands-on evaluations or projects.**

If a student misses three (3) or more classes, the student will NOT meet the minimum class competencies required to pass. A doctor's note will be accepted for up to one excused absence, but you are still responsible for the material covered in that class.

Students are expected to be on time; arriving after the class begins will severely affect your daily grade. Tardiness or leaving early is recorded and reflected in daily participation points.

Students must attend the first day of class or contact the instructor prior to the first class if they intend to remain in the class. Absences are counted from the first scheduled meeting of the class. An explanation for the cause of all absences must be to each instructor. If possible, students should inform instructors in advance of planned absences.

To be most successful in this class:

“Read each formula all the way through before beginning to scale.” Many times, you can prevent an error or save yourself clean-up time by understanding the entire process before starting or asking questions if something is unclear.

Make sure to clean each bench or mixing area immediately when you are finished using it; do not leave a mess behind when you leave.

In order to keep all products the freshest possible, we follow a strict rotation system: First in, First out. The oldest product, the product to be used first, is always in the front and on the top. This goes for

shelves, as well as racks in the freezer. When everyone follows this system, we will always serve an outstanding product!

Instructor will provide assistance in learning new methods and techniques as the variety of menu dictates. This course will follow the grading scale as outlined for final assigned letter grade.

Course and Class Policies/Procedures

Class will meet on Mondays 4:00 pm – 9:00 pm (Oct 16 - Dec 4). Classroom - Bakery Lab MMH

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Hybrid class requirements may make it necessary for class competencies to be assigned online with out of class assignments as directed by instructor. It is your responsibility to check eLearn regularly for updates and due dates.

Every day will be a practical hands-on lab grade; grading rubrics for daily participation and lab are used to calculate points in each class. The focus will be placed on ability to follow directions, completing assignments and quality (appearance, texture, crumb, and taste).

Online/Web-Enhanced Course Supplementary Information

Virtual Office Hours	Available by appointment only
Library Information	
Technical Support	
Web Addresses/Resources	
Guidelines for Communication: Email, Discussion Posts, Chat	WS email, eLearn, and Microsoft Teams will be the preferred methods for online communication.

Additional Course Requirements/Details/Information

C.H.E.F. Event Requirements

(Culinary- Hands-on – Experience- First)

Each semester, students are **required** to participate in 10 hours (2 credit hour class) of learning experience events as part of the culinary program. These hours earned through volunteering to participate in events outside of your scheduled classes. Multiple dates and times are available; students should only volunteer for events suitable to their class schedule. If a particular educational

experience is either a course or degree requirement or a voluntary extracurricular activity, you must decide whether to participate. However, if you choose not to fulfill the required amount of event hours, you may fail to satisfy the course or degree requirements. Each hour worked is valued at 5 points that will reflect in your overall grade for class. All events completed in the present semester. Completion of half of required event hours are recommended before the mid-semester break, with the remaining hours to be completed prior to Finals Week.

Participation of C.H.E.F. events worked is reflected in your grade for all culinary classes; failure to complete event points will inflict up to a letter grade drop.

You may register for the events via a link provided on E-Learn (C.H.E.F. event Sign Ups link in content section of eLearn). When completing the sign-up form, please review the date & time for each event before agreeing to volunteer for the activity. You will be required to provide a valid e-mail address (not eLearn) when signing up for events. This e-mail address is to send a reminder notice at least two business days prior to the event. Each event will require a separate sign-up. If you sign-up for an event and are not able to attend, you must contact Deb Peachey (865-774-5817) a **minimum** of 24 hours in advance of the event.

Academic Program Standards/Policies/Accreditation Information

Culinary Requirements:

Professionalism of each student graded using criteria based on the following items:

- Clean, complete Uniform
 - Dirty uniforms will not be allowed:
- On Time for class
- Appropriate conduct & language
- Teamwork
- Because of the amount of material to be covered in class and the expected level of professionalism, unnecessary talk will not be tolerated. Students who do not comply are to leave the class.
- Cell phone usage is discouraged in class unless approved by Instructor.
- Class is not dismissed until the Instructor authorizes students to leave. Students leaving prior to Instructor dismissal will lose all daily participation points.
- Lab Cleaning Assignments as posted in the Closing Checklist are to be completed by each class before students are dismissed from the class.

- Books, knife kits, etc. are to be placed in LOCKERS ONLY; do not leave in unlocked classroom, on work tables, or in work/production areas
- Requires flexibility in schedule as required to fulfill duties
- Requires prolonged sitting or standing
- Requires some physical exertion to manually move, lift, carry, pull or push heavy objects or materials
- Requires stooping, bending and reaching
- Requires concentration in a noisy environment
- Requires ability to transport food to other locations as necessary

Class Meal Policy:

Maples Institute for Culinary Arts:

The policy for students participating in a meal producing /serving class will be as follows:

- Food will be provided only when left after service
- Students will be instructed by the Chef in the producing class at what time plates can be prepared
- Student "Family Meal" is a bonus and not required. If provided meal may not be the same as what is being served to the paying guest
- Food will be evenly divided so all students in classes have a plate
- Food will be placed in clam shells and placed in hot box or refrigerator
- Meal CANNOT be consumed until all class duties are completed at which time it can be eaten on campus or taken home
- Classes must end on time with all assigned duties complete

Beverages/cups may only be placed in the designated beverage area. No beverages are allowed in the lab production areas.

If a student is not in a production class or scheduled event, food will not be provided, to include:

- Food produced during lab class.
- Food left over and stored in walk-in or reach-in
- Food left over and stored in freezer
- Food prepared from other serving classes

Academic Honesty

Faculty expect all students to refrain from acts of academic misconduct including but not limited to:

1. Plagiarism - refers to using another person's ideas or writing without giving proper credit to the original source. Indulging in this type of conduct will subject the student to disciplinary sanctions, which may be imposed through the regular institutional procedures of Walters State Community College as outlined in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism will result in a grade of "0" for the paper/exam/presentation. Student Conduct and Disciplinary Sanctions contained in the college Catalog/Student Handbook apply (see policy 04:18:02 Disciplinary Sanctions).

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to the following:

- a. Using cut/paste tool from original document with no references given.
 - b. Copying another student's work and submitting it as one's own.
 - c. Forging or otherwise altering signatures.
 - d. Giving or falsifying academic documents or materials.
2. Cheating - construed as attempting to deceive or mislead which includes, but is not limited to the following:
 - a. Utilizing old tests, projects, notes or written papers.
 - b. Providing unauthorized information to a fellow student about exam content.
 - c. Receiving unauthorized aid from any source with quizzes, examinations, or other assignments.
 - d. Seeking information in an unacceptable manner during/preceding an exam or other assigned work (cheat sheet, verbal exchange, looking at another person's paper or electronic device, utilizing headphones, using textbook when the test/quiz is not an open book test/quiz, using textbook test bank etc.).
 - e. Consulting with a classmate or others when taking a computerized test.
 - f. Disregarding other specific policies and procedures outlined for a particular class.
 - g. Utilizing unapproved technology/electronic equipment during testing (i.e.: mobile devices such as cell phones, smart devices, or tablets, etc.).
 - h. Using the same Internet Protocol network address (IP address) as another student for testing without approval from the course faculty.
 3. The use of any generative artificial intelligence (AI) tool, such as OpenAI's ChatGPT, Google's Bard, or any other pre-trained language model (commonly referred to as "chatbot"), must be cited for any assignment where it has been used and may not be used unless specifically allowed by your instructor. Please see your instructor or the course policies within the syllabus if you have questions.

Student Resources

TUTORING SERVICES

Students in need of tutoring assistance are encouraged to contact the Office of Student Tutoring located as follows:

- Morristown Campus - Student Services Building Room L107 - (423) 585-6920
- Niswonger Campus - GRNV 226 - (423) 798-7982
- Sevierville Campus - MMH Room 210 - (865) 286-2787
- Claiborne Campus - Room 123A - (423) 851-4761

Specific tutoring assistance in mathematics and writing is available in-person and online as follows:

- Morristown Campus - English Learning Lab - HUM 120 - (423) 585-6970

[Walters State English Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](https://www.waltersstate.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab)
[ws.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab](https://www.waltersstate.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab)

- Morristown Campus - Mathematics Lab - MBSS 222 - (423) 585-6872

[Walters State Mathematics Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](https://www.waltersstate.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab)
[ws.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab](https://www.waltersstate.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab)

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

Students who need assistance with computing and technology issues should contact the IET Helpdesk by phone at Morristown: (423) 318-2742; Niswonger: (423) 798-8186; or Sevierville: (865) 286-2789 or on-line access.

[Walters State Helpdesk \(opens in new window\)](https://www.waltersstate.edu/helpdesk)
[helpdesk.ws.edu](https://www.waltersstate.edu/helpdesk)

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES SUPPORT SERVICES

Students with disabilities must register with Student Support Services each semester in the Student Services Building, Room U134 (phone (423) 585-6892) if they need any special facilities, services, or consideration.

[Walters State Student Support Services \(opens in new window\)](https://www.waltersstate.edu/student-services/disability/)
[ws.edu/student-services/disability/](https://www.waltersstate.edu/student-services/disability/)

SUICIDE PREVENTION STATEMENT

Walters State is committed to and cares about all students. Support services are available for any person at Walters State who is experiencing feelings of being overwhelmed, hopelessness, depression, thinking about dying by suicide, or is otherwise in need of assistance. For immediate

help, contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by calling or texting 9-8-8 or the Trevor Lifeline at 1-866-488-7386. Veterans may also contact the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 (press 1) or Text 838255.

Walters State has a relationship in place with the following community agencies to provide services (may include crisis referral services, prevention screenings, etc.):

- Cherokee Health Systems 423-586-5032
- Frontier Health 423-467-3600

College Policies

STUDENTS HANDBOOK AS OFFICIAL GOVERNING DOCUMENT

This class is governed by the policies and procedures stated in the current Walters State Community College Student Handbook. All students attending Walters State Community College, regardless of the time, location, or format of the class, must abide by the rules and regulations outlined in the current Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook and the current Walters State Timetable of Classes.

[Walters State Catalog \(opens in new window\)](https://catalog.ws.edu/)
catalog.ws.edu/

[Walters State Timetable of Classes \(opens in new window\)](https://ws.edu/admissions/registration/)
ws.edu/admissions/registration/

PURPOSE, LIMITATIONS AND MODIFICATION OF SYLLABUS

This syllabus sets forth the expectations for the course content, work, and grading as well as expectations for student performance and conduct. The syllabus does not constitute a contract between the student and the instructor or the College. The information contained here is subject to change at any time. The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus at any time with written notification to the students. Though changes are possible, it is expected that the course will be conducted as described in this syllabus for the semester/year specified in the Course Information section of the syllabus. This syllabus is only valid for the semester/year specified and course requirements are not guaranteed for future semesters.

COURSE GROUND RULES

- Students must attend the first day of on-ground class or contact the instructor prior to the first class. Failure to do this may result in being dropped from the class. Excessive absences may substantially lower the course grade.

- Regular class attendance is a student's obligation for any course regardless of format. (See the Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook). If a student misses class, it is his or her responsibility to contact the instructor regarding missed assignments and/or activities and to be prepared for the next class assignment.
- Students enrolled in web courses must follow the course attendance policy defined for online attendance during the first week of class and throughout the term. Failure to do this may result in being dropped from the class during week one OR may result in the accrual of absences which may negatively impact the student's grade in the course.
- Students who have not paid fees on time and/or are not correctly registered for this class and whose names do not appear on official class rolls generated by the Walters State student information system (MyWS) will not be allowed to remain in class or receive credit for this course.
- Electronic devices must not disrupt the instructional process or college-sponsored academic activity. Use of electronic devices is prohibited unless use of the device is relevant to the activity and use is sanctioned by the faculty member in charge. Electronic devices that are not relevant to the activity or sanctioned by the faculty member in charge should be set so that they will not produce an audible sound during classroom instruction or other college-sponsored academic activity.

FINANCIAL AID

Students receiving any type of financial aid or scholarship should contact the Financial Aid Office before making any changes to their schedule. Schedule changes without prior approval may result in loss of award for the current term and future terms.

All forms of student Financial Aid may be jeopardized or lost due to the lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress in one or multiple courses. Lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress may negatively impact a student's degree/certificate completion pace and further jeopardize Financial Aid eligibility.

CANCELLATION OF CLASSES AND ACADEMIC CONTINUITY

For information related to the cancellation of classes due to inclement weather or other events, please check the Senators Emergency Text system or the college's Web site at:

[Walters State Homepage \(opens in new window\)](#)

ws.edu/home/

[Walters State Facebook page \(opens in new window\)](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/WaltersState/>

[Walters State Twitter page \(opens in new window\)](#)

<https://twitter.com/waltersstate>

or call the college's student information line, 1-800-225-4770, option 1; the Sevier County Campus, (865) 774-5800, option 7; the Niswonger Campus (423) 798-7940, option 7; or the Claiborne County Campus, 423-636-6200, option 7. Also, please monitor local TV and radio stations for further announcements.

When an event or disaster interrupts the scheduled operations of the college and the ability to proceed with the academic course activities as planned, the college and your instructor may alter the course plan outlined in the syllabus. Should an event occur, students should refer to their course e-Learn pages and/or class materials previously delivered to receive guidance from their instructor. Students should continue to monitor the official college channels of communication listed in the above paragraph. If you would like to sign up for the Senators Emergency Text system, please go to the following Web site:

[Senator Emergency Text System \(opens in new window\)](https://ws.edu/set/)
ws.edu/set/

Dual Enrollment students attending on a high school campus should refer to the high school inclement weather cancellations.

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Brightspace (commonly known as eLearn or D2L) is the college's Learning Management System (LMS).

Brightspace is committed to accessibility by "deliver[ing] a learning experience that meets the needs of all people, regardless of age or ability." [Brightspace Accessibility Standard \(opens in new window\)](#)

Brightspace is also committed to guarding student data and privacy. [Brightspace Privacy Policy \(opens in new window\)](#)