

# Ceramic Lab Course (04-26-KE-006)

---

Dr.-Ing. Renato S. M. Almeida  
Prof. Dr.-Ing. Kurosch Rezwan

[renato.almeida@uni-bremen.de](mailto:renato.almeida@uni-bremen.de)

Advanced Ceramics  
Keramische Werkstoffe und Bauteile  
Universität Bremen  
Am Biologischen Garten 2, IW3  
D - 28359 Bremen

Tel: +49 421 218 64930  
Fax: +49 421 218 64932

<http://www.ceramics.uni-bremen.de>



## ➤ Outline: Lab experiments

- ⦿ **Experiment 1: Stability of ceramic suspensions and particle size determination**  
(T. Guo, IW3 2290, ☎ -64965, [tguo@uni-bremen.de](mailto:tguo@uni-bremen.de))
- ⦿ **Experiment 2: Flow behavior of ceramic suspensions**  
(M. Maas, IW3 2140, ☎ -64939, [michael.maas@uni-bremen.de](mailto:michael.maas@uni-bremen.de))
- ⦿ **Experiment 3: Determination of density in porous ceramic materials**  
(P. Braun & T. Kühn, IW3 2220 & 2150, ☎ -64963 & -64936, [pedrohe1@uni-bremen.de](mailto:pedrohe1@uni-bremen.de) & [tkuehn@uni-bremen.de](mailto:tkuehn@uni-bremen.de))
- ⦿ **Experiment 4: Strength and fracture toughness of ceramic materials**  
(R. Almeida, IW3 2240, ☎ -64946, [renato.almeida@uni-bremen.de](mailto:renato.almeida@uni-bremen.de))

## ➤ What do you have to do to take part in the lab course?

Send an e-mail with the following information to:

[renato.almeida@uni-bremen.de](mailto:renato.almeida@uni-bremen.de)

| Last name | First name | Study programme | Matriculation no. | Free time slots                           |
|-----------|------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Student   | Example    | B.Sc. PT        | 1234567           | Tuesdays from 2pm, wednesdays until 12 pm |

Additionally register in Stud-IP (<https://elearning.uni-bremen.de/>)  
for the course Keramiklabor (04-26-KE-006)

Groups (3-4 persons) will be set-up according to the available time slots.  
If you are a group of 3-4 persons you can also register as a group with all the necessary information (see above).

**Registration is open now until 01.05 / 20.11!**

# ➤ Organization/grading and script

## SCRIPT! (German and English version)

Download via:

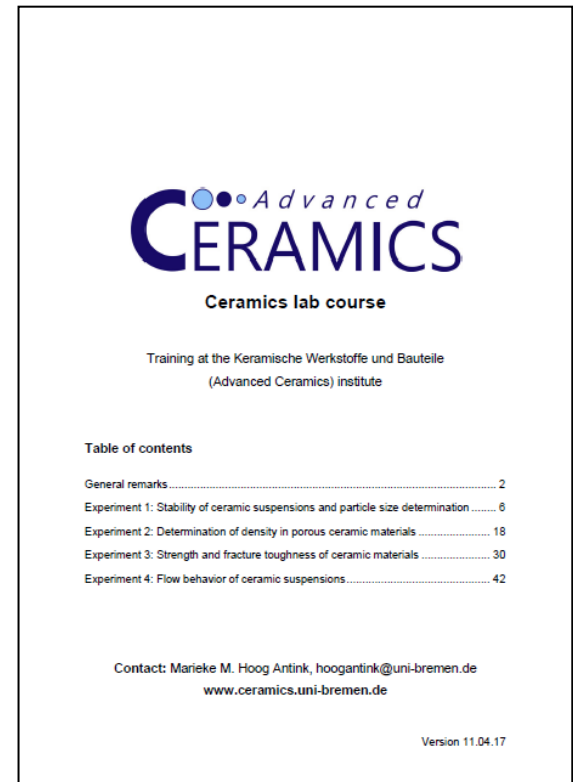
<http://www.ceramics.uni-bremen.de/Academic/SS/Keramiklabor/Keramiklabor.html>

Password: „ceramics“

## Provides information concerning:

- Grading
- Requirements
- Report creation
- Contents of the lab course
- ...

→ **Should be read thoroughly!**



# ➤ Grading

## Lab organization and grading

For each of the 4 experiments the following 3 parts have to be passed (grade at least 4.0):

- 1/3 **Preceding test**
- 1/3 **Lab work**
- 1/3 **Report**

## ➤ Grading

### Lab organization and grading

For each of the 4 experiments the following 3 parts have to be passed (grade at least 4.0):

- **Preceding test:**
  - The theoretical background of the individual lab course is discussed
  - The grade is derived using a questionnaire featuring ten questions
  - If the test is not passed, the lab experiment cannot be conducted that day to ensure lab safety

| Points | Grade      |
|--------|------------|
| 10     | 1.0        |
| 9      | 1.3        |
| 8      | 2.0        |
| 7      | 2.7        |
| 6      | 3.3        |
| 5      | 4.0        |
| < 5    | Not passed |

# ➤ Grading

## Lab organization and grading

For each of the 4 experiments the following 3 parts have to be passed (grade at least 4.0):

- **Lab work:** Grading according to participation and engagement
  - Dates and given times are not suggestions! Be punctual!
  - Prepare tasks at home if mentioned in the script!
  - Wear long trousers and closed shoes with a good grip! Otherwise you are not allowed to enter the lab. A lab coat and safety goggles will be provided
  - Carefully take notes so you have all the information you need for report creation



# ➤ Grading

## Lab organization and grading

For each of the 4 experiments the following 3 parts have to be passed (grade at least 4.0):

- **Report:**

- One report per experiment and group has to be submitted. For each report all group members will receive the same grade
- The report has to be handed in 4 weeks after the experiment was conducted. Afterwards the supervisor has 2 weeks to revise the report and within another 2 weeks and optimized version **can be** handed in. Deadlines are not suggestions! Submit reports on time!
- The guidelines for the creation of reports for the ceramics lab course have to be followed (script). An exemplary template for the creation of protocol is available under: <http://www.ceramics.uni-bremen.de/Academic/SS/Keramiklabor/Keramiklabor.html>
- Report should be submitted as PDF or doc/docx file. Doc/docx files are preferred because they simplify the revision process

# ➤ Grading

## Lab organization and grading

For each of the 4 experiments the following 3 parts have to be passed (grade at least 4.0):

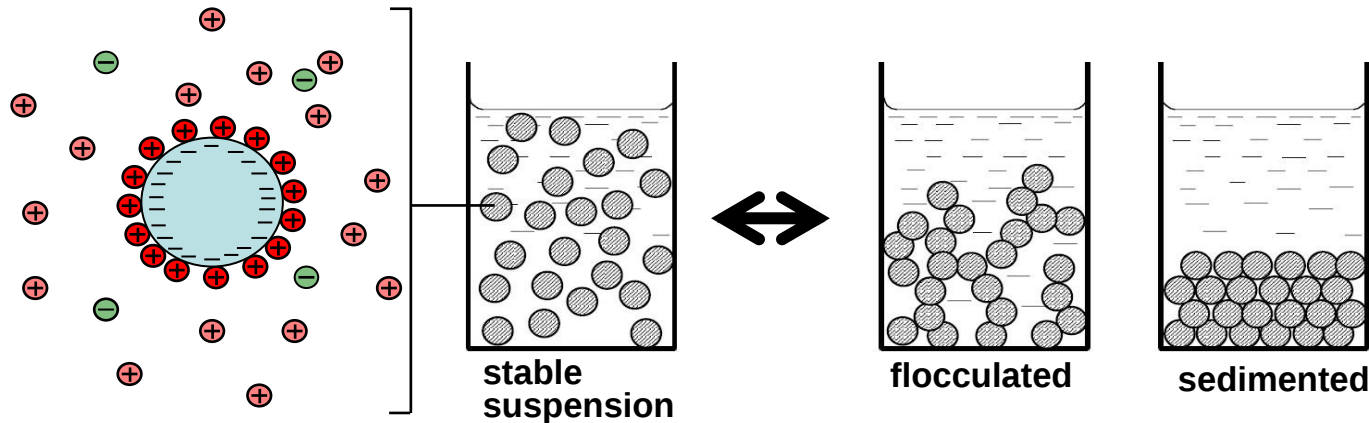
- **Report:**
  - The report will be graded based on the following scheme:

| Aspect                               | Weighting |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Structure of protocol / Abstract     | 5%        |
| Theoretical background               | 15%       |
| Background on measurement techniques | 10%       |
| Materials and methods                | 10%       |
| Results                              | 20%       |
| Discussion                           | 35%       |
| References                           | 5%        |

- Based on the revisions of the supervisor the students have once the opportunity to improve their grade up to 1.3

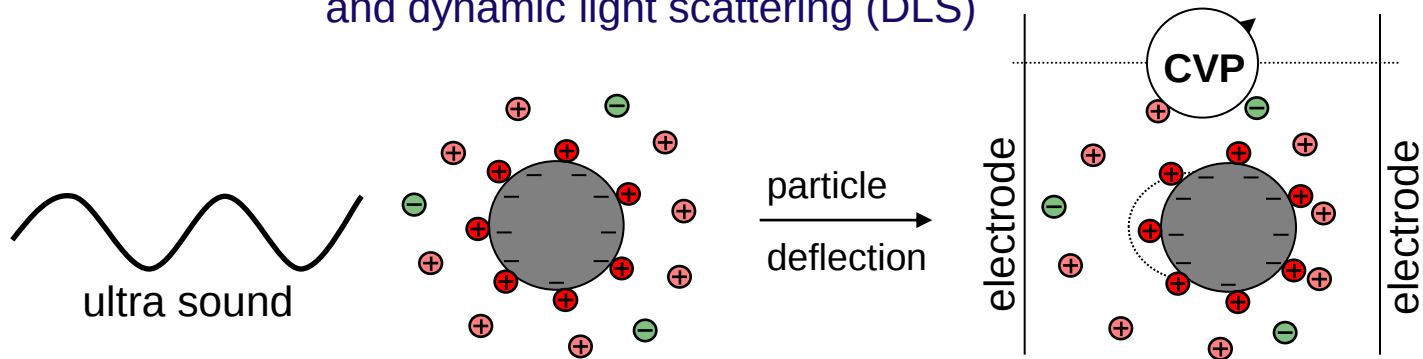
# ➤ Experiment 1: Stability of ceramic suspensions and particle size determination

(T. Guo, IW3 2290, ☎ -6 4965, [tguo@uni-bremen.de](mailto:tguo@uni-bremen.de))



↓

Zeta potential determination using electroacoustics  
and dynamic light scattering (DLS)

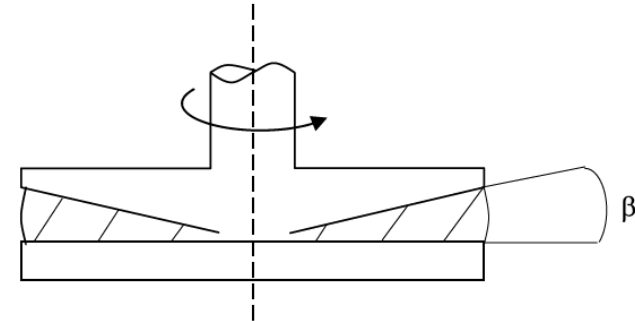


# ➤ Experiment 2: Flow behavior of ceramic suspensions

(M. Maas, IW3 2140, ☎ -64939, [michael.maas@uni-bremen.de](mailto:michael.maas@uni-bremen.de))

## Concept of viscosity and viscoelastic fluids:

- Preparation of ceramic suspensions (slurry)
- Execution of rheological experiments (Rheometer: Malvern Kinexus Pro)
- Viscosity: Discussion and identification of shear time-dependent and independent flow behaviour
- Viscoelasticity: Determination of storage ( $G'$ ) and loss module ( $G''$ )
- Evaluation of the effect of additives



Schematic of cone-plate arrangement used for rheological experiments



Illustration of an viscoelastic fluid as combination of spring (elastic part) and dashpot (viscous part)

# ➤ Experiment 3: Determination of density in porous ceramic materials

(P. Braun & T. Kühn, IW3 2220 & 2150 ☎ -64963 & -64936,  
[pedrohe1@uni-bremen.de](mailto:pedrohe1@uni-bremen.de) & [tkuehn@uni-bremen.de](mailto:tkuehn@uni-bremen.de))

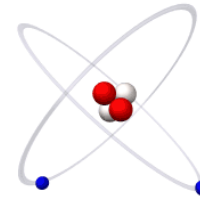
## Parameters to be measured:

- Theoretical density
  - Bulk density
  - Apparent density
  - Relative density
  - Open porosity
  - Closed porosity
  - Total Porosity
- 

Measurement of  
dimensions



Helium pycnometry

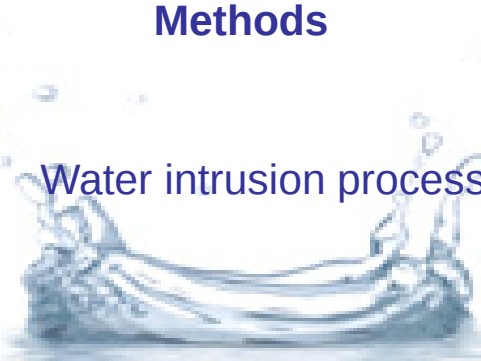


Mercury intrusion  
porosimetry



## Methods

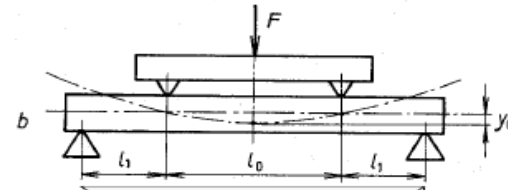
Water intrusion process



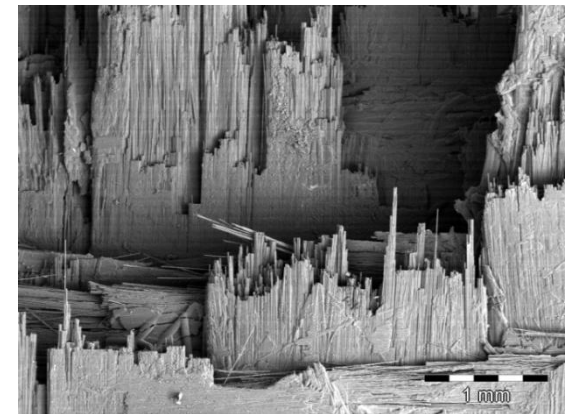
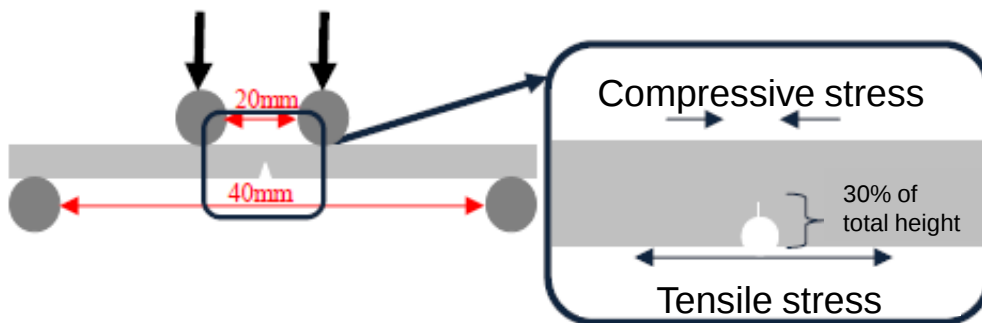
# ➤ Experiment 4: Strength and fracture toughness of ceramics

(R. Almeida, IW3 2240, ☎ -64946, [renato.almeida@uni-bremen.de](mailto:renato.almeida@uni-bremen.de))

- **Strength:** Execution of bending tests, analysis using Weibull statistics, discussion of dependence of strength on microstructure
- **Toughness:** Different possibilities to reduce the stiffness of ceramics are discussed. Furthermore, notched samples are used to measure the materials resistance against crack propagation. Different ceramic materials and composites are tested and fracture plains are investigated.



Schematic of a 4-point bending test



Fracture plain of a ceramic matrix composite