

School name: Fine Arts Center
Course Name: Honors Ceramics I
Syllabus

Instructor: Glenda Guion
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Class Time/Room Number: M-F 1:15-3:05

TEXTBOOK: Ceramics by Glenn C. Nelson

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Honors ceramics I is primarily an intensive studio activity, supplemented with slide lectures, demonstrations, critiques, and lectures on clays and glazes. Each assignment is designed to teach a specific building/modeling technique along with learning the principals and elements of art. Each project lends itself to the individual student mastering the clay materials and developing ideas into three-dimensional forms. All assignments begin with a discussion of the project, a written handout explaining the assignment and requirements, examples of related works, and a construction demonstration. Ceramic history is incorporated into this study of clay as part of an overall theme of aesthetic awareness and appreciation.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To develop a sense of three-dimensional form, space, and imagery.
2. To learn the skills and demands of craftsmanship.
3. To explore current and ancient ceramic forms, techniques and artists.
4. To gain an understanding of working on a series of pieces related by a theme, or idea, or specific type of form, or technique.
5. To gain a strong understanding of what is involved in maintaining a clay studio and equipment.
6. To learn the basic chemistry of glaze and clay making.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

A. Tardy and Attendance Policy:

Be on time to class every day. If you are tardy, stop in the front office and obtain a pass BEFORE coming to class. On the 3rd tardy the parent will be notified that future tardies will result in a parent-teacher conference. Total minutes tardy will be made up after school.

Students will be required to provide a proper excuse for each absence; after 5 the student must provide a valid excuse from a doctor or provide an administratively excused absence. Work may be made up for excused absences; for an unexcused absence the work may not be made up.

B. Classroom Rules and Expectations:

1. Bring sketchbook everyday.
2. Be productive, be attentive and participate in class. Be honest and respectful.
3. Be available for demonstrations.
4. Participate in kiln responsibilities.
5. Be prepared to get dirty:
6. Be responsible for your clay, tools and area:
 - a. Never leave clay out.
 - b. Clean up your working area.
 - c. Unfired clay is to be recycled, not thrown away.
 - d. Always use art materials in a safe, appropriate and respectful manner.
 - e. Take home and wash shirt and towel as needed.
7. Think outside the box. If you want to stray from a project you need to meet with me to discuss details and create a new rubric.
8. Come to class prepared. Bring your sketchbook, pencil, homework and supplies with you. Get out your supplies, be seated, and get to work.
9. End of class cleanup: Five minute warning (or longer, if needed) will be given to indicate cleanup time. You are expected to be working until cleanup time. Neither the clock or a bell dismisses the class - I DO!
10. No eating or chewing gum in the clay studio.
11. Students must respect other student's work as if it were their own and not touch any work except their own without permission.
12. Rights and Responsibilities:
 - a. You have the right to talk to friends at your assigned tables, but it's your responsibility to listen quietly when Ms. Guion is giving directions and instructions. Excessive talking will effect your concentration, your artwork, and your grade.
 - b. You have the right to use the art room materials, but you have the responsibility to return all materials back to their proper place and in the same (or better) condition that you received them.
 - c. Both students and teacher have the right to add, revise or clarify any expectations and responsibilities as new situations arise during the semester.

C. Assignments:

1. Any homework is to be completed at home and turned in at the beginning of class. Design drawing homework must be completed before any clay work may begin. Color studies must be completed before any glazing may begin.
2. Make up work is your responsibility. See me before or after school if you have any questions or concerns. I will not ask for you to show me your late work.
3. Use class time wisely to complete your assigned projects.
4. Come to class with plenty of enthusiasm and energy for creating your very best artwork.

D. Supplies Necessary for Course:

Clay tool kits will be provided for students. Students are responsible for turning in the complete kit at the end of the semester and will be charged for any missing tools. Students should provide protective clothing such as a large shirt or apron. Clay and all other materials are provided for the class. Students must recycle unfired, used clay.

E. ASSESSMENT INFORMATION AND GRADING SCALE

Grades are based on the following:

1. Completion of preliminary drawings.
2. Completion of clay work assigned.
3. Completion of color studies.
4. Slide presentation and related research.
5. Mid-term and final exams on techniques, equipment, terminology, and clay history.
6. Studio maintenance.

A=93-100

B=85-92

C=77-84

D=70-76

F=63-69 (weighted for GPA calculations)

F=0-62 (no credit for GPA calculations)

1. Sketchbooks are 20% of your marking period grade. They will be collected at mid-term and final grading period.
2. Quizzes and tests are 20% of your marking period grade.
3. Homework is 10% of your marking period grade.
4. Art projects are 50% of your marking period grade.
5. Each of the marking period grades is worth 40% of the final course grade.
6. The final exam is worth 20% of your final course grade.

*Effort, progress, and improvement during the semester will be noted.

DESCRIPTION OF STUDENTS IN CLASS:

Students participating in Honors Ceramics are recruited from 16 area high schools. They represent a wide range of ethnic, social and economic backgrounds. Students must be willing to submit an art portfolio representing their ability to understand the principals and elements of art, craftsmanship, and organization of their work.

PLAN FOR ROUTINE COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS:

Parents will be informed of their student's performance by progress reports and report cards. Parents will be contacted by phone when necessary and a log of all calls will be kept. On the 2nd phone contact the parent will be asked to come to the school for a parent/teacher conference.

LESSON PLANS:

Honors Ceramics I

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS/PROJECTS REQUIRED:

design tiles - glazed
broken bowl - glazed
slab/coil vase - sawdust fired
box - glazed, painted or sawdust fired
teapot - glazed, painted or sawdust fired
cardboard form - stained or sawdust fired
mosaic - painted or glazed
beginning potter's wheel - glazed
research work and slide presentation
sketchbook

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE/DEADLINES:

18 weeks of lesson plans
design tiles - 1 week
broken bowl - 1 week
slab/coil vase - 1 week
box - 2 weeks
cardboard mold form - 2 weeks
teapot - 2 weeks
mosaic - 1 week
wheel throwing - 3 weeks
student slide presentations - 1 week
glazing/firing work - 3 weeks spread out as needed