

Murrieta Valley Unified School District
High School Course Outline
April 2004

Department: Visual and Performing Arts

Course Title: Ceramics I

Course Number: 6060

Grade Level: 10-12

Length of Course: Year

Prerequisite: Art I is recommended

UC/CSU (A-G) Requirement: F (Pending UC Approval)

Course Description: The major emphasis of Ceramics I is to provide students with knowledge and an in-depth hand-on creative experience for working with clay and related materials. Instruction will focus on historical ceramic techniques with a n emphasis on creative design and craftpersonship. Diverse hand building construction methods of pinch, mold, slab, coil, and potter's wheel will be explored through required projects. Students will learn traditional decoration processes, which include applied glazing techniques, colored slips, oxides, low relief, incising, and mishima. Students will be required to maintain a classroom notebook for documentting project notes, original ideas, critiques, drawings, and collected images.

I. Goals

The student will:

- A. Develop literacy skills (*VPA Standard 1.0*)
- B. Learn various construction and decoration techniques (*VPA Standard 2.0*)
- C. Learn the history of ceramics and how various cultures have expressed meaning using clay an artistic and functional medium (*VPA Standard 3.0*)
- D. Write critiques on personal and historical work of art (*VPA Standard 4.0*)
- E. Participate in school and community art projects using clay as the expressive medium (*VPA Standard 5.0*)

II. Outline of Content for Major Areas of Study

Semester I

- A. Introduction
 - 1. Safety and tool usage
 - 2. Elements and principles of design
 - 3. Art criticism and the history of ceramics

- B. Small Pinch Pots
 - 1. Clay characteristics
 - 2. Sculpture forms
 - 3. Score and slipping
 - 4. Simple decoration
- C. Multi-opening pinch pots
 - 1. Creating abstract form
 - 2. Expanding clay knowledge

- D. Clay Whistle
 - 1. Musical instrument
 - 2. Clay versatility

- E. Glaze instructions and classroom demonstration
 - 1. Painting technique
 - 2. Glaze characteristics
 - 3. Bisque and glaze firing process

- F. Sculptural soap dish
 - 1. Personal design
 - 2. Sculptural form
 - 3. Functional design
 - 3. Pinch and form construction
 - 4. Score and slip technique

- G. Cultural Mask
 - 1. Library visitation
 - 2. Cultural heritage
 - 3. Sculptural form
 - 4. Slab and mold construction

- H. Aroma Style Pot
 - 1. Video and response worksheet
 - 2. Applied decoration
 - 3. Coil construction

Semester II

- A. Ceramic Jar
 - 1. Mold construction

- 2. Motif band design
- B. Historical Pot
 - 1. Library visitation
 - 2. Coil construction
 - 3. Applied design
- C. Sculptural animal form
 - 1. Sculpture in the round
 - 2. Expressive form
- D. Individual project
 - 1. Press-Enterprise Riverside County Student Art Show
 - 2. Personal design and construction process
- E. Potter's Wheel
 - 1. Techniques for forming various utilitarian forms on the potter's wheel
- F. School or community project in collaboration with students and teachers

III. Accountability Determinants

- A. Reflective sketch notebooks
- B. Written formal critiques
- C. Ceramic project assessment
- D. Exams

IV. Required Text

Nigrosh, Leona I. *Claywork: Form and Idea in Ceramic Design, 3rd Edition*, Worcester, Massachusetts: Davis Publishing, Inc., 1995.

V. Supplementary Materials

Sapiro, Maurice. Clay Handbuilding. New York, New York: Sterling Publishing, 1979.

Slides, prints, computer images and the internet

Instructional videos

Other texts and library resources