

## Behavioral Expectations

Food or drink in a ceramics class is never advised.

Articles of clothing that are offensive, promoting of drugs/alcohol, or other inappropriate content will not be tolerated. Hats or caps are not allowed to be worn in class; school policy applies and will be strictly enforced.

Desks should be cleared of all non-art related materials to ensure optimal working space.

Work from other classes may not be done during any art class period. If a student is found to be working on something other than the task at hand, they will be asked to make up the time spent.

The school policy for phones, earbuds, portable devices, laptops or other contemporary technologies for personal use/entertainment applies in room 145.

Permission to use any device for music, communication, photo reference must be approved by the teacher in a one to one agreement with consideration of circumstances.

Agendas must be brought to class daily. There will be no movement from the class without the use of an agenda which can also be used to record assignments deadlines or homework. A QR Code may also be employed to record travel.

Chromebooks/laptops must be charged and ready to be used daily. Personal listening devices are necessary when using laptops in class.

If at any time there is a substitute, seating and classroom management rules established by the teacher will apply. The substitute will be provided with seating charts and rosters as well as referral slips for discretionary use. Any report of ill behavior may result in punishment upon teacher return with contact to parent and administration.

## Supply List

Smock  
Plastic Bags  
Notebook/Chromebook

\*Project materials such as textural elements may be necessary to obtain as projects require

## From The Teacher

Welcome to an exciting new year. It is my hope that you make the most of every day. As a student, it is your job to put forth your best effort. "You get what you put in" is a perfect adage. Students should try their best; no effort goes un-noticed despite perceived ability. Grades are not calculated based upon your artistic talent but rather, a clear set of criteria, your willingness to try, your enthusiasm to learn, and overall effort in demonstrating your desire to succeed.

It is understood that occasionally there are extenuating circumstances that could affect any one of the outlined expectations. Please, do not hesitate to have a conversation if you are in need of help or allowances. Expectations are in place because it is important that you are participating and learning in an environment conducive to personal success as well as that of your classmates.

Further, creative ideas are always welcomed so, be sure to share. Best wishes for a fantastic semester!

# Ceramics

## Expectations Guide

The following information outlines targeted goals, method of course instruction, course content, list of necessary supplies, grading policy, as well as behavioral and academic expectations for Ceramics I-II. Please read this document with your parent(s)/guardian(s) and sign the accompanying commitment form which will serve as acknowledgment of your intention to meet the requirements of the course. Adhering to this agreement helps ensure a great classroom experience and, ultimately, your success in Ceramics.

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## Contact

Mrs. L. Nicastro (716)992-3600 x2145  
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## Course Instruction

Ceramics I is a one semester, introductory course of study. Students will explore clay as a creative medium, utilizing the technical processes such as hand-building, glazing, sculpting, and use of the potter's wheel if time permits. The skill level of each ceramics class builds on the next in difficulty and sophistication. Students also explore historical influences on design, form and function, as well as contemporary potters. Vocabulary will be emphasized.

Ceramics II is a continuation for further building of skills learned in Ceramics I with the addition of wheel throwing projects as well as multi-process vessels and sculptural works.

## Goals/Purpose

- Develop knowledge of/use clay as a creative medium
- Acquire knowledge of the historical and cultural developments that occur throughout history with direct effects on the area of ceramic arts
- To develop understanding of form following function
- To introduce problem-solving experiences allowing students to demonstrate understanding of ceramics while giving them the opportunity to create their own objects
- To introduce and build ceramic vocabulary
- To make connections between art and other academic areas of study as well as introduce career opportunities

## Content

The Language of Art: Elements and Principles of Design

Media and Processes: Tools, materials specific to ceramics

Properties of Clay: from raw to ceramic

Hand-building: pinch, coil, slab, mold, sculptural forms, surface decoration

Wheel throwing, trimming, glazing

- A final project or exam is possible with the maintenance of a digital portfolio.

## Academic Expectations

### Assignments:

All assignments must be completed and submitted on time for full credit. An assignment that is one day late will receive a reduction of 10%, increasing daily by 10% up to five days which results in a 50% credit reduction. After one week from issue date, the assignment will receive zero credit. Assignments can include bell-ringers, homework, preparation plans, and production works. Students and their parents will sign a separate late contract to remain on file.

### Homework:

Home assignments may be given in preparation for projects.

- If extra time is needed to complete any assignment, students may take things home, work during lunches or study halls, or stay after school by arrangement.

### Notes/Notebook:

The taking and keeping of notes is the responsibility of the student and may be a monitored assignment.

- Assignments will be turned in via google classroom, and may or may not be collected for display as well.

### Preparation & Materials:

Be prepared daily. Any materials that are necessary to completing projects should be with you at all times. If you are unprepared, you may be asked to complete an alternate assignment or risk losing credit from the assignment at hand.

## Grading

Grades will be posted in PowerSchool bi-weekly or as time permits.

Grade calculation will include the addition of all points received by the student on projects, tests, quizzes, journal/homework/prep assignments, and will be divided by the total number of possible points according to specific criteria.

## Authenticity & Honesty

It is expected that all work completed or submitted will be the student's own. Cheating in any way, will result in zero credit, and the parent or guardian will be notified. This includes copying someone else's answers or drawings and having a person other than yourself do a project for you. School administration will be consulted for further disciplinary action.

## Behavioral Expectations

### Attendance

The school policy on attendance applies to this class. Please refer to the handbook. Cuts will not be tolerated and the student will not be afforded the opportunity to make up missed work if they are found intentionally cutting a class.

\*If a student legitimately misses a class, arrangements can be made to complete work. Handouts and missed materials are always available and easily accessible in the classroom/Google Classroom.

Students must come to class on time and be prepared to work. Late arrival without a pass will result in the loss of a pass, the loss of two passes upon the second late, and a referral slip for detention after the third offense.

### Tools & Materials

Students are asked to be respectful of and responsible for any issued equipment/materials borrowed/loaned in Ceramics. Daily cleaning and maintenance of tools, materials and the work space is required.

### Respect

Each student will be required to be respectful of themselves, fellow students, and the teacher. The use of rude or foul language, bullying (in person or cyber), or the exhibition of inappropriateness will result in a contact to administration and possible removal of the student from the class temporarily or permanently.

