

TAMALPAIS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Larkspur, California

Course of Study

CERAMICS 3-4

I. INTRODUCTION

A. General Purpose:

Ceramics 3-4 are elective one-semester courses (a two semester sequence) offered at all of the district's schools as part of a 3 year sequential program in Ceramics, beginning with Art Explorations followed by Ceramics 1-2. Its purpose is to build on a foundation in ceramics and to enable students to expand their experience in, and develop their knowledge of, two and three -dimensional visual arts.

This course encourages and engenders continued development of the art student's education through both applied and conceptual aspects of ceramic art. Ceramics 3-4 continues building towards students' attainment of the goals for Visual Arts Education, as described in the California Visual and Performing Arts Framework. Students will encounter instruction in the following areas: art history (especially as it relates to ceramic art), terminology and technology, three dimensional design, and techniques for the building and finishing of ceramic forms.

B. This course addresses the following Tam 21st Century goals:

Student Success: Prepare our students for lives of personal, academic, and professional growth, achievement, and fulfillment.

Provide opportunities for, and encourage students to, demonstrate individual and collective responsibility, creativity, productivity, and initiative through class, school and community projects and experiences.

C. This course addresses the following District Student Learning Outcomes:

Outcome #1: Communicate articulately, effectively and persuasively when speaking and writing.

Outcome #11: Appreciate, interpret, experience, create and/or perform artistic work.

D. This course addresses the following Visual Arts Standards (state and national):

1.0 ARTISTIC PERCEPTION

Students respond to examples of ceramic art from contemporary and historical clay artists expressing their own observations and perceptions using the vocabulary of the visual arts.

2.0 CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Students prepare an original collection of 3-D ceramic works of art that reflects refined craftsmanship and technical skills.

3.0 HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT

Students examine the anthropological and cultural context of the ceramic arts through the history of civilizations, from styles and uses of pottery, to its use as a sculptural medium and its use in architecture as a tiling material.

4.0 AESTHETIC VALUING

Students look at collections of artwork from selected ceramic artists and analyze, assess and derive meaning from these works of art according to the elements of art, the principles of design, and aesthetic qualities.

5.0 CONNECTIONS, RELATIONSHIPS, APPLICATIONS

Students apply their experience, discipline and skills in making art, creative expression, articulating a thought, idea, concept, or narrative from a tangible clay form into other forms of expression such as writing, painting, and commercial design.

II. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will:

1. Demonstrate technical mastery with increasing complexity in completion of forms using the following techniques: pinch, coil, slab, hump mold, drop mold, trimmed wheel. Increasing complexity can include combining multiple forms, increasing the scale of work to over 12" tall or 12" wide.

Make a one piece mold and complete at least one new piece using pressings from the mold.

2. Complete a culminating sculptural piece at least 12" tall which includes all introductory methods (of pinch, coil, slab, molded and trimmed wheel) and their applications to a theme or concept.
3. Demonstrate proper technique in application of the following finishing techniques: sgraffito, slip trailing, slip inlay, slip feathering, pierced decoration, underglazes, majolica glaze decoration, high or medium fire glazes, pulled handles, knobs, spouts.
4. Orally present or write an analysis of a clay work using the elements and principles of 3-D design- form, line, texture, color, balance, contrast, and positive

and negative space, etc.

5. Use a variety of embellishment and finishing techniques such as burnishing, carving, incising, and glazing.
6. Properly use and care for ceramic tools and materials. Assist in the organization and maintenance of the studio, its equipment and materials.
7. Follow established studio procedures. Assist in glaze mixing, kiln loading and unloading, clay recycling, glaze testing.
8. Apply the considerations of three-dimensional design: line, form/volume, texture, movement, balance, unity, and negative/positive space by creating wheel-thrown and hand-built objects from clay. Critique your own work 1:1 with the instructor using these elements and principles.
9. Demonstrate an understanding of, and appreciation for, the cultural heritage of different ethnic clay traditions. Complete a replica or inspirational piece from a historical source and present it to the class or write a biography of the piece explaining the meaning and origins of its surface decoration, form and finish.
10. Gain an understanding of ceramics as a profession by interacting with visiting artists and visiting working studios or other examples of applied ceramics. Investigate and gain an understanding of living artists and their contemporary and innovative uses of clay as an art medium through a gallery visit (can be online) or contemporary ceramics literature.

III. ASSESSMENT

A. Student Assessment

Student assessment in this course will be based on the following:

- Prompt and regular class attendance.
- Participation in creative activities and verbal critiques.
- Completion of assignments as assessed by the instructor.
- Respectful use of the studio environment as assessed by the instructor.

Students will be given the grading criteria and course expectations, preferably in writing, at the beginning of the course.

B. Course Assessment

Course assessment will be done through direct observation by teachers and administrators and responses to student and staff surveys.

IV. METHODS AND MATERIALS

A. Methods

The specific format for this course will vary in order to utilize the unique talents of teachers and the community to respond to the diverse range of students who elect the course. However, each class will provide the following:

- Direct experiences involving the use of clay and related ceramic materials.
- Lecture, demonstrations, and critiques by the instructor.
- Visual resources such as video tapes, slides, reading, and demonstrations.
- Opportunities for recognition through participation in class, school, and community exhibitions.

B. Materials

This is a hands-on course. Students will work with clay and related materials. There is no textbook, but students will have access to a variety of reference materials.

C. Technology

Students may use presentation software, internet research, or other technologies as appropriate in this course.

V. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Prerequisites

Ceramics 3-4 is a 10 credit two semester sequence open to all students who have completed the prerequisites: Art Exploration, Ceramics 1-2.

B. Requirements Met

This course may be used in partial fulfillment of the 10 credit Fine Arts graduation requirement, or towards elective credit.

This course is accepted towards the “f” requirement for UC admissions. It is also accepted in partial fulfillment of the CSU one year Fine Arts requirement.

Revised: 10/3/94

Revised: 7/26/99

Revised: 9/02

Revised: 5/06