

PETERS TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
CORE BODY OF KNOWLEDGE (CBK)
CERAMICS I
GRADES 10-12

For each of the sections that follow, students may be required to analyze, recall, explain, interpret, apply, or evaluate the particular concepts being taught.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This basic pottery class will include extensive studio work in hand-building and wheel-throwing techniques. Hand-built techniques shall explore coil, pinch-pot, drape and/or slab as well as sculpture construction in clay. Wheel work shall include cylindrical forms (straight and shaped), handles and bowl forms. Various firing/glazing techniques and historical/cultural aspects of ceramics shall be discussed and reviewed.

STUDY SKILLS:

- Participation/attendance in lectures, demonstrations as well as course work.
- Evidence of pre-planning.
- Deadline management.

MAJOR UNIT THEMES:

1. HAND BUILDING/SCULPTURE

- Describe the process of various clay forming methods and create clay objects with joints that will withstand two firings without signs of separation or cracking.
- Recognize and understand the historical and cultural significance as it relates to pinch, slab and coil method of hand building.
- Demonstrate knowledge of coil as a hand built art form by producing a coil construction.
- Demonstrate knowledge of slab as a hand built art form by producing a slab construction.
- Demonstrate knowledge of all hand building techniques by combining two or more techniques in the construction of a combination form.
- Demonstrate proficiency using each of the basic hand-building processes including modeling, pinching, coiling and slab construction.
- Enhance general hand built construction skill set which will allow students to create a variety of objects.
- Demonstrate the use of molds and texture stamps.
- Develop skills necessary to build freestanding three-dimensional sculptures.

2. WHEEL THROWING

- Define and explain the function of the potter's wheel.
- Describe the process and sequence of clay preparation and movements necessary to throw a variety of wheel-thrown shapes.
- Enhance throwing skills using the potter's wheel in ceramic construction.
- Develop a better understanding of wheel throwing methods: centering, opening, widening, raising, shaping, trimming, and footing.
- Develop proficient basic wheel working skills.
- Describe the method and purpose for trimming unfinished thrown pottery and perform the trimming process using correct movements and sequence.
- Combine wheel-thrown and hand-built objects to create one unified piece.
- Explain how the wheel can be used to create a variety of forms.
- Demonstrate the process of making handles.
- Analyze traditional wheel processes and how they influence modern techniques.
- Explain how the potter's wheel has evolved throughout history.

3. DECORATION AND GLAZING TECHNIQUES (Introduced, not assessed)

- Describe the nature and function of underglazes and use them properly to decorate pottery.
- Describe the nature and function of low/high fire glazes and use them properly to decorate pottery.
- Describe the process of kiln firing at different cone temperatures and understand how maturation temperature plays a role in glazing.
- Explain how surface decoration and texture can be used to enhance ceramic forms.
- Demonstrate glaze application to bisqueware be it by dip or brush method.
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4. ART HISTORY, CRITICISM AND AESTHETICS

- Recall and explain the origin and evolution of ceramics as a utilitarian craft and an art form.
- Apply the terminology and criteria commonly used to describe, analyze, interpret and judge ceramic art.
- Explain the historical, cultural, and social context of an individual work.
- Relate to and analyze a work of art from its historical and cultural perspective.
- Identify the basic properties of clay and understand how they affect ceramic world.
- Interpret traditional clay processes and how they influence modern techniques.
- Apply and develop vocabulary in reference to process and aesthetics.
- Develop critical and creative thinking skills.

MATERIALS:

- *Ceramics Arts Monthly Magazine.*
- *Pottery Illustrated Magazine.*
- Assorted visual references (posters, teacher/student examples).
- Assorted Internet sites.
- Assorted You Tube channels.

Revised August 2014