

Beginning Ceramics Mrs. Steinberg



Clay is an ancient medium that began as a means to create functional objects used in everyday life, and has evolved to become one of the most beautiful forms of artistic expression. In this class, you will have the opportunity to explore your creativity through the form and function of ceramics. I encourage you to take risks and push yourself to the limits of your creativity!

In this class, we will study the beginning techniques of pinching, coiling and slab building. We will also learn basic skills on the wheel. Students will have notebook assignments reinforcing the techniques we are studying. Grades are determined by a combination of project grades, class participation, homework completion and effort.

For this class you will need:

- a shoebox in which to store your projects
- plastic bags or dry cleaning plastic to wrap clay in--small grocery bags work well, too
- natural soap, hand lotion, (no chemicals, or fragrances due to allergies)
- tissues or sponges to contribute to the classroom

Grading

Your projects will be graded by the execution of the technique studied, the glaze or finish, and your written feedback on the grading sheet. You are responsible for any assignments written on the board, so check it daily! Your overall grade will be a combination of your projects, outside assignments, and effort.

Cleanup

Keeping this room clean is a matter of safety. Each artist is responsible for their own workspace as well as a weekly studio job, which will help with the general maintenance of the studio space. Completion of your cleanup jobs will factor into your effort grade.

Expectations

- **Show up on time and remain in class until the bell rings.** If you need to leave, tell me. If you're absent, it's **your responsibility** to check what you missed. Lining up at the door before the bell rings shows me that you have extra time to do more cleaning!
- **You will work on projects throughout the class, and clean up well every day.** Your effort grade is heavily based upon everyday work habits, so make them good. No non-enrolled students are allowed in the room during class time.
- **No food or drink in the room.** It is unhealthy to eat in this room due to the nature of the materials we use, and this also avoids messes in the workspace.
- **No Ipods or cell phones during class.** This is a school rule as well as my own rule—these devices are distracting and antisocial, making it difficult for me to teach and for you to learn.
- **Respect the kilns!** They are almost always running, and they get very hot. Please be careful when bringing work into the kiln room.
- **Respect each other.** Remember the Golden Rule? Your language and attitude create the atmosphere in our classroom, and make it a comfortable place to be. If you can speak in a respectful way and manage your time well while you are in this class, you will do well this semester.

