**Ceramic I Syllabus**

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Room 55

Fine Art Assistant: Ana Zivick

**Course Description:** Thousands of years old, ceramics is one of the most essential of art forms, but more importantly it is personal, relaxing, and beautiful.  This course gives the foundation of a pottery practice that relates both to the use of materials and to an appropriate pottery aesthetic.  You will learn the difference between and experiment with both functional and non-functional pottery through the four major methods of ceramic construction; pinch-pottery, coil pottery, slab pottery, and wheel-thrown pottery.  Ceramicists use a wide variety of tools and materials to create works of art.  You will become familiar with all of these tools and know how to use them in order to create your pieces.  You will become familiar with ceramic history and how function influences pottery aesthetic.

**Standards of Learning:**  The Department of Education's web site lists the state's SOL for the Visual Arts.  This class follows the "Art I:  Art Foundations" Standards of Learning.  You can find them at:

<http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Art/home.html>

**Materials Required:**

-$25 course fee for clay and other disposable materials.

-1 Two Pocket Folder.

-Drawing or sketch pad without lines (Optional).

-Regular pencils for sketching.

**Attendance:**  Clay is fragile, and timing in ceramics is essential.  One missed class could set you back more than a week on any particular project. In order to be as successful as possible, attendance is mandatory.  Missed classes will not directly affect grades.  They will directly affect your work, which may in turn affect your grade.  Do not be late.  Three tardies will add up to one absence on your school record.

**Assessment Criteria:**

Studio Performance (20%) - Clean up, safety, and responsibility to classroom and

classroom materials is expected on a daily basis. Digital Journals will be worked on for 20 minutes every other week. You will catalog your project progress and answer 2-3 questions. The journals will be graded a week later.

Process (30%) - Personal effort, responsible use of time and materials, flexibility and risk taking with ideas, and meeting the criteria for the project.

Product (50%) - Craft quality, creativity, detail, and relationship to original idea.

Grades will be rounded to the nearest whole number.  Zero Credit will be given on projects that have not been done.  Extra credit will be arranged between the student and instructor, credit to be earned will not exceed five grade points.  Exams and assessments of the student's learning reflect the school policy.  Exam exemptions are outlined in the Student/Parent Handbook.

**NOTE**: **All** students will be participating in a final culminating assessment that will count for 20% of their second semester grade and exempt them from the final exam during Exam Week.

**Daily Procedures:**

Do Now: Each day you will check carts for your fired work. If you do have a fired piece you will need to remove it from the cart and place it in your assigned space. This will help prevent accidental breakage, or misplacement of your work.

Project work: At the end of each workday, you will be asked to photograph what was completed that day.  This will serve as a visual log of your progress in the class as well as a digital portfolio that will be used to grade you on your work.  You may use your personal device to collect photographs by taking a picture and emailing the image to your school email address.  If you do not have a device of your own, digital cameras will be provided for you.

Clean up: Ten minutes before class ends tools will be placed where they belong, tables sponged down, wheels cleaned, sinks rinsed, and classroom put back better than it was found!

**Classroom Rules:** Use materials only for what they are made for and be respectful of each other and each other's artwork.  Misbehavior and disregard for classroom rules, procedures, and materials will result in a contact to your parents, loss of equipment privileges, and reassignment of an art history writing project

**Honor Pledge:**  Cheating is not acceptable.  Students must sign the school pledge, "On my honor, I have neither given or received unauthorized aid on this work" on tests and written assignments.  The same is expected for the work put in to the class projects.  If you are caught stealing someone else's work and passing it off as your own you will get an automatic zero fro the project.

**Communication:**Parents/Guardians are encouraged to periodically check grades via PowerSchool but will be notified via e-mail if the student is in danger of failing.  Interim grades will be given the first four and half weeks of the term. I will respond to e-mail or phone messages within 48 hours.

**The $25 materials fee is due in cash or check payable to Albemarle High School no later than September 1, 2015.**

Please check Blackboard or my website for information about starting a Blog.