

CERAMICS 2024-2025

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COURSE OVERVIEW

During this two-semester course, students will dedicate themselves in discovering and creating using clay. Students will explore the elements of art and principles of art as they apply to the media to develop a portfolio. Presentation and documentation of artwork and research will be hosted on a student generated personal artist website that must be maintained throughout the course of the class. Students will explore and demonstrate higher order thinking and gain new skills in class with their peers and independently through research, critical thinking, cooperative learning, and exploring new materials within their studio practice.

This course will include lectures, presentations, and demonstrations that cover material safety, application and technique, content language, art history, and contemporary art. As a collective and small group, we will have discussions and perform critical and supportive critiques to develop each student's artistic growth mindset.

The culmination of content, context, and studio practice invigorates a learning environment that provides comprehensive and meaningful 21-century learning experiences. By the end of the course, students will have new skills, knowledge, and strategies to continue the development of their portfolio and artistic voice.

GRADING POLICY

Minor Grades = 60%

Quizzes, labs, and other graded assignments to assess certain standards in a unit of study.

Major Grades = 40%

Tests, essays, research papers, project-based assignments and other culminating assessments to measure mastery of standards that comprise a unit of study. Major assessments must offer a minimum of one reassessment, completed in the same 7 school day period

Late Work

Late work is now subject to a 5% penalty per day for a maximum of 5 days, or 25%. Late work has a deadline of 5 school days.

COURSE MATERIALS LIST

- Folder with pockets & 3 prongs
- Small sketchbook or composition notebook
- Writing and drawing utensils of choice
- 80 Grit and/or 150 Grit sandpaper

TECHNIQUES EXPLORED WITHIN THE COURSE

Wedging	Wheel Throwing
Coil Building	Slump Moldes
Slab Building	Underglaze
Pinch technique	Glazing
Extruding	Sgraffito

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR GRADING SUCCESS

- Completing all assignments, graded and non-graded, on time.
- Planning ahead for completing long-term assignments.
- Checking their work for accuracy and completion.
- Maintaining academic integrity and honesty.
- Monitoring their grades and their progress toward learning goals.
- Collaborating with their teacher to establish and complete relearning plans, when appropriate.
- Promptly asking their teacher for assistance related to grading concerns.

CLASSROOM POLICIES + EXPECTATIONS

METHOD OF CONTACT OR COMMUNICATION

To facilitate effective and respectful communication, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Student Communication: Students should use Canvas to address any concerns, questions, or comments directly with the instructor. The instructor will periodically provide updates through Canvas Announcements.
- Parent & Guardian Communication: Parents and guardians are encouraged to reach out via email for any necessary communication.
- Additional Announcements: Important updates may also be sent through Infinite Campus.
- Response Time: All messages will be responded to within 1-2 school days.

CLASSROOM CONDUCT & BEHAVIOR

As your educator, my goal is to foster a warm and welcoming environment that encourages open and respectful exchanges of ideas. To achieve this, it is essential that everyone in the classroom is treated with respect and maintains a positive attitude for the benefit of the entire class. Given the open layout of the building, please keep noise levels to a minimum.

Negativity disrupts the learning environment and will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to, the following behaviors:

- Insubordination
- Shouting out answers without being recognized
- Disrespectful comments about peers' work or the art curriculum
- Interrupting others
- Wasting materials or damaging property
- Bullying, intolerance, or harassment
- Sleeping, talking during instruction, or working on assignments from other classes

All students are expected to understand and adhere to the conduct standards outlined in the Code of Student Conduct & Discipline, which includes acknowledging the range of consequences for rule violations.

ASSIGNED SEATING

On the first day of class, you were assigned a specific seat, which will be your designated spot for attendance purposes throughout the quarter. Please remain in your assigned seat during lecture sessions to ensure accurate attendance. However, be prepared to move around during class discussions and activities to facilitate participation and interaction.

Seating arrangements may be adjusted at the beginning of each grading period to support diverse learning dynamics. If you have a need or preference to change your seat, please speak with me at the end of class. I will do my best to accommodate reasonable requests based on the needs of the class.

PRIDE & PERFORMANCE

To excel in this course, follow directions carefully and aim for exemplary performance. Show genuine interest in your learning by taking pride in exceeding the basic requirements for each artwork, sketch, and technical study. Make the most of each class session by managing your time effectively, utilizing your workspace and tools efficiently, seeking feedback, and actively participating in critiques.

Strive to put forth your best effort and embrace the challenges and opportunities to enhance your work. Remember, you are a Titan! Embrace risks and push your creativity to new heights. Your dedication and willingness to go beyond the expected will be key to your success in this class.

CLASSROOM POLICIES + EXPECTATIONS

PREPAREDNESS

To ensure a productive environment, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- **Bring Your Work:** Current artwork must be present in every art class. Leaving your work at home is not acceptable. This includes all sketches, printed resources, and reference images, including those created or collected outside of class.
- **Sketch Approval:** Students must have an approved sketch before beginning their project. Use your approved sketch as a reference throughout the creation process when applicable.
- **Workspace Management:** Maintain a dedicated work area for your current art projects. Students will receive weekly cleaning and chore based on the materials being used. It is a team effort and everyone is expected to participate in maintaining the shared work studio space.
- **Personal Belongings:** Leave all unrelated personal items (e.g., backpacks, clothing, textbooks, other coursework) in your locker or in the designated cubbies at the entrance of the art room. Do not leave personal items on the floor.
- **Responsibility:** All students are responsible for their own belongings and must ensure they are stored appropriately.

TARDINESS & DISMISSAL

Punctuality is essential for all DFA Titans. Students are expected to be ready to engage in their current studio processes when the bell rings. To ensure a smooth start to each class:

- **Preparation:** Arrive on time, with your materials prepared, and be ready to begin work promptly at the start of class.
- **Tardiness:** Students who are not in their seats or preparing materials when the bell rings will receive a tardy slip.
- **Tardiness Policy:** Classroom teachers will address tardiness in accordance with RCSS policy. Reasons such as "a little sick," "in the bathroom," or "a little late" will still be considered tardy.
- **Detention:** After accumulating three tardies, students will receive one hour of detention.

LEAVING CLASS

Students needing to leave the classroom for any reason must first communicate their request to the teacher. A hall pass or signed note will be provided, and students are required to sign in and out.

- **Authorized Movement:** Students should not wander the school or the visual arts building.
- **Time Management:** Abuse of time outside the classroom will result in a tardy slip.
- **Detentions:** Students who leave class without permission or skip class will receive detention based on the duration of the missed class as outlined in the student code of conduct.

DAMAGE, DESTRUCTION OR THEFT OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

Throughout the year, students will be provided with various materials and tools for a range of projects. It is your responsibility to manage, maintain, and keep track of these materials.

- **Respect for Property:** Do not write, draw, or carve on surfaces, chairs, or computer equipment. Avoid defacing or disrespecting any equipment, furniture, and artwork. These resources are acquired through state funding, and it is important to treat them with care and respect.
- **Appropriate Use:** Use materials such as clay, paint, and other media only for their intended projects. Misuse of these materials will result in disciplinary action. Clay should only be thrown on the wheel.
- **Return Policy:** All tools and materials must be returned in their original condition. ANY ITEMS THAT ARE NOT RETURNED OR ARE RETURNED DAMAGED WILL INCUR A FINE BASED ON THE COST OF THE ITEM + SHIPPING.

By adhering to these guidelines, you help ensure that our resources remain in good condition and are available for all students to use. Thank you for your cooperation.

CLASSROOM POLICIES + EXPECTATIONS

CANVAS COURSE

You are expected to actively follow the Canvas course modules, as this will be the primary platform for communication and content delivery outside of class. Here's what you need to know:

- Feedback and Communication: Written feedback, comments on projects, performance, and suggested resources will be provided through Canvas. It is essential to check Canvas regularly for updates and communications.
- Digital Content: All course content, including readings and assignments, will be posted on Canvas. You are responsible for reviewing this material and submitting assignments as directed.
- Notifications: Ensure you check Canvas frequently or have notifications set up to receive updates via email. This will help you stay informed about any changes or new content.
- Assignments: Expect a variety of assignments, including writing tasks, discussions, current events, and projects. All will be managed and submitted through Canvas.

COMPUTER & INTERNET POLICY

- Appropriate Use: Students must use all technology and lab equipment appropriately and solely for current class assignments. Working on outside classwork during class time is not permitted.
- Internet Access: The internet should be accessed only to support the instructional program and curriculum as outlined in the Richmond County Curriculum Guides. Internet usage is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use will lead to the cancellation of internet privileges and may result in disciplinary action.
- Prohibited Actions: Students are prohibited from downloading unauthorized programs, software, or files onto school-issued computers and Mac lab equipment. Students should not play games on the computer. Violating any of these actions will result in a referral and disciplinary action.

TECHNOLOGY

The RCSS Student Code of Conduct, Rule 16, states that the use of cell phones, electronic communication devices, and/or accessories (including some tablets, smart watches, earbuds, and earphones) are prohibited for all students at all times during the instructional day, defined as the time the student arrives on campus until the end of the school day. Penalties are described in more detail in the Code of Conduct, but they range from confiscation of the device to suspension, which would result in disciplinary probation at DFA. Personal iPads & tablets are NOT allowed.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

The RCSS Student Code of Conduct, Rule 1(A)(t), states that no student shall cheat, alter records, plagiarize, receive unauthorized assistance (including the use of AI when prohibited) or assist another in any type of academic dishonesty. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty will be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher and a supervising administrator, taking into consideration any written materials, observation, or information from witnesses.

Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty will receive 3 hours of detention. Additionally, the task will be entered as an incomplete and the student is required to re-do the assignment or re-take the assessment.

RELEARN & REASSESSMENT (R&R)

Relearn and Reassessment (R&R) opportunities are offered to remediate unsatisfactory scores on MAJOR grades. These opportunities are offered once per assignment, but each R&R plan (including the reassessment itself) must be completed within 7 school days of receipt of the original grade. The R&R form indicates the requirements that must be met to be eligible for the opportunity. It is the students responsibility to request this document. Any student that receives a grade of 70% or lower for a Major grade will be required to completed R&R.