

MONTE VISTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
VIPA 1626 Ceramics I
Course Syllabus

Course Description:

This is a two semester course designed to introduce the student to sculpting and the three dimensional world of art. Students will complete projects using ceramic clay by hand building as well as learning to use the wheel. Exposure to the elements of design will be taught and evident in each project. Slides, lectures and video will be used as a means to expand the students' knowledge by further discovering the 3-D side of art and the various styles of sculpture we will be exploring. The course will be taught within the framework of the California standards for Visual Arts classes:

1. *Artistic Perception:* Processing, analyzing, and responding to sensory information through the language and skills unique to ceramics.
2. *Creative Expression:* Creating, performing, and participating in a given art.
3. *Historical and Cultural Context:* Understanding historical contributions and cultural dimensions of Ceramics.
4. *Aesthetic Valuing:* Responding to, analyzing, and making critical assessments about your work and others' work.
5. *Connections, Relationships, and Applications:* Connecting and applying what is discovered in the process of creating with clay to learning in other art forms, subject areas, and careers.

Curricular Mapping:

This course is an introduction to ceramics to assist the student in developing skills and techniques used to create sculpture. Basic sculpture methods will be demonstrated to enable the student to develop skill, technique and vocabulary to be able to have dialogue regarding art work as well as analyze their work and that of others. The skills learned in this course will aid the student in developing their own visual voice and prepare the student for Ceramics II.

Course Objective:

Completion of this course will have introduced the student to various ways of creating sculpture as well as the historical and cultural significance of sculpture. They will have an opportunity to participate in a student art show, talk and write about others art as well as their own.

1. Wedge clay
2. Form simple shapes
3. Hollow, score and slip work back together
4. Apply ceramics glaze and alternative finishes
5. Know the basic process; wet clay, green ware, bone dry, bisque-ware

6. Learn how to form basic vessels on the wheel including proper trimming
7. Building with an armature
8. Creating kinetic work
9. Using the slab table to build by slab

Texts:

There are no texts in this class, but there will be handouts, required reading and research.

Prerequisites:

None

Course Outline:

Completion of this course will have introduced the student to various ways of creating sculpture as well as the historical and cultural significance of sculpture.

- I. Materials & Equipment
 - A. Lab Protocol
 1. Safety including the handling/usage and storage of tools and equipment and materials.
 2. Maintaining the tools and equipment through proper cleaning.
 3. The storage and handling of work, theirs and others.
 4. The processes of working with ceramics from conception through to the drying process to firing and finishing.
- II. Elements of Design
 - A. Composition of 3D work
 - B. Line – types and usage
 - C. Shape – form, style and subtractive aspects
 - D. Texture – types, pattern and usage
 - E. Space - perspective as well as other methods used to define space
 - F. The armature and how it correlates to the project and its importance
 - G. Surface treatment through acrylic washes, patinas and ceramic glazes
 - H. Presentation - Proper display of artwork, bases – Gallery Ready
 - I. Oral presentation of student's work
- III. Art History

A brief tour starting with the Renaissance and up through the modern era touching basis on impressionism, expressionism, cubism, surrealism, abstract, pop art and realism in a sculptural sense.

IV. Spring Art Show

Students will participate in the spring art show. Participation is in the form of submitting “1” sculpture with a title and sale price or NFS, helping with installing the exhibit, being at the show, providing a small dish to share and helping to take the installation down. Should there be a prior school related obligation the student will need to provide a note or email from their respective teacher stating why the student cannot participate. This is an excellent experience for students to see behind the scenes and all aspects of what it takes to put an art show together and it is part of the art experience.

Grading:

| <u>Grade Book Categories:</u> | | <u>Semester Weighted Grading Configuration:</u> | |
|-------------------------------|-----|---|-----|
| Portfolio | 50% | Quarter | 50% |
| Effort | 25% | Quarter | 50% |
| Art History/ Theory | 25% | | |

Explanation of Grade Book Categories:

The process for grading art differs from the grading of academic subjects. The criteria for evaluating student art is placed into 3 categories; Portfolio, Effort & Art History/theory.

Portfolio – This includes all assignments and is determined as follows:

1. Craftsmanship – Assignments are presented in a neat and clean way – Gallery ready.
2. Design and Composition – The basic elements of design are followed for the genre being studied as well as the piece as a whole meets the criteria in form, balance and style.
3. Creativeness – The assignment shows originality, it is interesting and holds the viewer’s attention.
4. Completion – The assignment is accurate to the instructions given.
5. Journals – Working out ideas and designing projects.

The portfolio will account for 50% of the student’s grade. Assignments may be re-done if a low grade was received and the higher of the two will be recorded. Please note that some assignments may be time consuming and repeating them may not be an efficient use of time; therefore, paying attention in class would be better.

If a student finishes a project before its due date they can work on another creative project of their choosing using the same criteria as the finished project. It will count towards the effort segment of grading.

Effort – This portion of the grade is determined by attendance, attitude, commitment to the subject matter and participation.

1. On time to class as well as consistent attendance.
2. Self-motivation towards the project and how it is addressed as well as attentive to instruction.
3. Responsibility for self, others as well as maintaining materials, tools and equipment. Not wasting materials.
4. Maturity and respect of self and to others in behavior.
5. Being prepared, staying on task for entire class period, seriousness towards completion of projects.
6. Commitment to self-growth regarding learning new skills.
7. Participating in constructive critiques at each viewing of works in progress as well as the showing of finished work

The effort percentage will account for 25% of the student's total grade given at the end of each quarter. Being off task, excessive talking, wasting time, not working on assignments, too much socializing, doing homework from other classes, using electronic devices and failing to clean the work area, material and equipment will adversely affect the student's grade.

Art History/Theory – This part of the grade accounts for 25% and deals with the student's understanding and grasp of learned concepts including but not limited to language, artistic styles and application of styles in their projects. There will be quarterly quizzes applicable to the unit of study.

High School Standard Grading Policy:

Please refer to the policy and procedures posted online in our Parent-Student Handbook.

Class Policies:

Attendance is critical for the successful completion of this course. A hands on approach rather than learning through a textbook will enhance the student's experience as well as the demonstrations. The classroom is also the best avenue for the sharing of ideas and creating great works of art which is why attendance is crucial.

Part of being in high school is the continued preparation of learning how to be a model and responsible citizen. The student needs to be in class each day. If the student misses

important demonstrations, lectures and assignments the project will have to be done without the benefit of what was presented during the class. To reiterate – every class period is important. Additional class policies are as follows:

1. Each student is subject to MVC's rules regarding the consequences for tardiness and deviation from student behavior policies.
2. Upon entering the classroom, check the board for instructions. If the board is empty, take your seat and get ready for work. Be in your seat when the bell rings
3. Attendance will be taken immediately after the bell rings.
4. Each student is expected to be totally prepared for class; sharpened pencil and sketch pad ready.
5. Clean-up is everyone's responsibility and participation with this will be part of your final grade. Make sure every part of your work space is clean and ready for the next class. Leave it how you would like to find it – ready for work. This includes every single aspect of the studio from the brushes to floor. There may be occasions when additional clean up duty will be assigned and each student is expected to do so when asked.
6. Clean-up should only take 5 to 6 minutes and will be done at the end of class.
7. Once cleanup is done students are to remain in their seats until the bell rings.

Absolutely no food or drinks in the classroom, as the materials we work with are not compatible with food. You may have a closed type of water bottle.

Please keep in mind that you will stain your clothes at some point during this class, so have either art clothes or an apron of some type. No open toed shoes in this class.

School Policies and Expected Student Learning Results (ESLRs):

Students are subject to all academic policies of the school as found in the Parent-Student Handbook. Furthermore, it is each student's responsibility to read and follow all academic policies of Monte Vista Christian School. In addition to addressing each ESLR every year, we target a specific ESLR each academic year for particular focus.

Tips for Students:

1. Always be prepared and don't be afraid to ask questions.
2. Each student is expected to be working at all times. If a student tends to be a slow worker time outside of class should be expected to complete projects on time. Failure to turn work in on time will affect grades.
3. In the instance where a student ruins another student's work expect to receive a failing grade.

4. In the instance where a student must move or handle another student's work respect of that work is expected. A hands-off policy should be adhered to otherwise.
5. Working on another student's project is not allowed; however, helping is encouraged through creative suggestion.
6. Quietly talking with each other while working is permitted under appropriate circumstances.

Miscellaneous:

Considering this is an introductory type of studio art class, we will be going through each project thoroughly to allow for proper investigation of each area, so it is vital that the student comes prepared each and every class period and commit themselves to each project 100%. Each project leads to the next and it is a progressive process. Missing class will greatly reduce the student's ability to learn the skills and techniques we will be delving into. If the student applies themselves with each and every concept they will walk away from this course prepared to advance into any of the areas they were exposed to confidently.

Materials & Apps Needed:

- A hard bound sketch book 9x12 (some students go through 2 a year)
- Art Authority app (may be purchased on own or can be downloaded in the ARC)
- Students may occasionally wish to pursue an idea that requires materials the class does not have or does not have access to obtaining and the student may need to purchase the materials themselves.

Costs:

- The once a year field trip incurs a cost of approximately \$25 - \$35 per student to cover the cost of transportation. The student will also need to have funds for lunch that day. I try to give at least 6 weeks' notice for this trip.
- The annual art show requires student work to be gallery ready and this means that the work must come to school ready to hang. This also means the piece needs matting and or a frame that has a hook or wire attached to the back, hence – ready to hang/Gallery Ready.

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