

**Department:** Visual Art  
**Course Name:** Ceramics II Functional

**Course Description:**

This semester-long course is open to students in grades ten through twelve. Students expand on techniques for working with clay previously learned in Ceramics I. They develop greater proficiency in hand-building techniques and are introduced to wheel-throwing techniques. Functional works will be the subject focus for this course. Students expand their artistic vocabulary and creative problem-solving skills through in-depth projects. Students will experiment with combinations of building, adding texture and color application. Students will view and discuss the influences of cultures on ceramics throughout history. Contemporary artisans will be referenced on a regular basis. Ongoing critiques, artist statements and titles will be included within each unit.

**Content:**

Elements and principles of design  
Tools, equipment and supplies use, care and safety  
Wheel throwing process  
Conceptual process  
Three-dimensional design  
Relief design  
Multi-stage surface treatment  
Ceramic history  
Artist statements  
Titles for works  
Artistic integrity  
Display and competition processes

**Skills:**

Apply elements and principles of design to conceptual work  
Gather, record, and apply sources of inspiration  
Plan and construct complex combinations of building methods  
Apply wheel-throwing skills  
Apply tactile and visual surface treatment  
Develop visual, oral and written communication skills  
Develop personal style

**Text and Materials:**

Equipment, tools and materials appropriate for this course.  
Students do not use a text. Information is gathered online, as well as from magazines, videos and reference books including, but not limited to those listed below.  
Charles Spahr, Ceramics Monthly  
Clay Times, Inc., Clay Times  
Krause Publications, The Potter's Directory of Shape and Form (Krause Publications reprint 2002)  
Lark Books, Handbuilt Ceramics (Lark Books 1997)  
Mayfield Publishing, Hands in Clay (Mayfield Publishing 1999)  
Jo Connell, The Potter's Guide to Ceramic Surfaces (Krause Publications 2002)  
**This course will have a supply list and/or a fee to cover consumable project materials for the semester**

**Methods of Instruction:**

Guided dialogue, accompanied by visuals  
Demonstration of projects broken down into sequential steps  
Guided practice with individual assistance  
Peer coaching  
Class critiques  
Museum and gallery shows

**Methods of Evaluation:**

Completed processes and directed for each project  
Correct storage of projects throughout the processes  
Resolution of assignments that reflect both strong technical aspects and, creative decisions  
Clean craftsmanship with attention to detail, and follow through of all refining steps  
Timely completion of major class assignments according to clearly stated objectives  
Homework assignments and studio work beyond class time  
Class participation during both discussions and critiques  
Appropriate use of class time  
Appropriate use of media, tools, equipment and studio space

