

DOWNEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Middle School Course Outline

Course Title: Basic Ceramics (*One Semester*)
Grade Level: 7, 8
Prerequisites: None

Course Description:

The major emphasis of this course is the exploration of ceramic design. The student will acquire knowledge of form, volume, and space relationships through clay construction. The course introduces an historical background of ceramics through a variety of studio experiences. Appreciation for ceramics, both past and present, is explored. Students are encouraged to make a monetary contribution for art supplies.

Student Performance Objectives for this Course:

1.0 ARTISTIC PERCEPTION

Grade Seven standards

- 1.1 Describe the environment and selected works of art, using the elements of art and the principles of design.
- 1.2 Identify and describe scale (proportion) as applied to two-dimensional and three-dimensional works of art.

Grade Eight standards

- 1.1 Use artistic terms when describing the intent and content of works of art.
- 1.2 Analyze and justify how their artistic choices contribute to the expressive quality of their own works of art.

2.0 CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Grade Seven standards

- 2.1 Develop increasing skill in the use of at least three different media.

Grade Eight standards

- 2.1 Demonstrate an increased knowledge of technical skills in using more complex two-dimensional art media and processes (e.g., printing press, silk screening, computer graphics software).
- 2.6 Design and create both additive and subtractive sculptures.

Basic Ceramics - continued

3.0 HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT

Grade Seven standards

3.1 Research and describe how art reflects cultural values in various traditions throughout the world.

Grade Eight standards

3.1 Examine and describe or report on the role of a work of art created to make a social comment or protest social conditions.

3.2 Compare, contrast, and analyze styles of art from a variety of times and places in Western and non-Western cultures.

4.0 AESTHETIC VALUING

Grade Seven standards

4.3 Take an active part in a small-group discussion about the artistic value of specific works of art, with a wide range of the viewpoints of peers being considered.

Grade Eight standards

4.2 Develop a theory about the artist's intent in a series of works of art, using reasoned statements to support personal opinions.

5.0 CONNECTIONS, RELATIONSHIPS, APPLICATIONS

Grade Seven standards

5.3 Examine art, photography, and other two and three-dimensional images, comparing how different visual representations of the same object lead to different interpretations of its meaning, and describe or illustrate the results.

Careers and Career-Related Skills

5.4 Identify professions in or related to the visual arts and some of the specific skills needed for those professions.

Grade Eight standards

5.2 Create a painting, satirical drawing, or editorial cartoon that expresses personal opinions about current social or political issues.

Instructional Strategies

Lecture and demonstration

Group observation

Individual work

Self or group assessment

Basic Ceramics - continued

Instructional Units

The Instructional Units (projects) are presented in context of the elements of design. The length of time expended on a particular unit is dependent upon the degree of difficulty/complexity.

Evaluation

Student progress will be evaluated by:

- Class participation
- Teacher observation
- Completion and quality of assignment

Materials and Resources

- A. Student Textbook

- B. Teacher's Supplemental Material

Periodicals:

- School Arts
- Arts & Activities
- Art Education (NAEA)
- Art & Man (Scholastic Scope)