

Ceramics 1-2
Spanish Springs High School
Course Disclosure
2020-2021 School Year

Instructor: **Ms. Carissa Parkhurst**

Room # **147.**

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All art classes taught by Ms. Parkhurst and are taught based on the belief that anyone can learn to create and understand art. There seems to be a common belief/excuse that art is mysterious, incomprehensible, and only understood by a select few who happen to be gifted or talented. This is simply not the case. Being gifted or talented is very misunderstood and overrated. Any curious individual has an interest or passion, and is willing to work hard has an advantage over anyone that is talented or gifted but is unmotivated to create and understand art at a very proficient level. Art-making involves developing skills, habits of mind, and understanding that artistic ability comes the same way any skill is achieved; cooperating with an instructor or mentor, following instructions, and lots of practicing to develop skills. Granted, perhaps only a few like *<insert famous artist name here>* may come along over time, but EVERYONE can learn to write, read, create, and perform at high levels **if we work for it**. The great accomplishments of a few do not have to hold us back from personal pursuits of our interests. It could instead, inspire us. Likewise, because there are relatively few artists at the level of a famous artist, it could motivate one to develop their skills and abilities and perhaps reveal and develop yet undiscovered talents and gifts. **If for no other reason, make art because it is fun.**

DISCLAIMER: This document is fluid and policies may change without notice as the school year progresses. Please contact Mrs. Parkhurst if you have any questions or concerns.

Course Description

Ceramics 1-2 – Course #6131-6132

Full year = 1 credit

Fee: \$20.00 per year. Please pay fees within the first 2 weeks to the main office.

Prerequisite: Art 1-2

This introductory course focuses on the skills and knowledge that students need to create ceramic sculpture and pottery. Students will become familiar with the entire ceramic process from making clay to firing and glazing their work as well as the geology and chemistry of clay and glazes. Several important hand-building techniques will be taught including pinch building, coil building, slab building, and a brief introduction to wheel-thrown pottery. Students will also become familiar with the elements and principles of art, as well as the work of some important ceramists and other modern sculptors.

Required Materials (To be supplied by students)

- **Pencil in class every day.**

Due to COVID-19 students are not allowed to share supplies. The current lab fee at SSSH combined with little district funding does not cover the cost for each student to have individual supplies.

Other supplies. Not needed in class every day. Students need to check TEAMS the day before their scheduled on-campus day to see what supplies (if any) are needed to bring. Most of the time these supplies will be used for distance learning assignments:

- **Ruler**
- **Protractor**
- **Compass**
- **Scissors**

Most other supplies will be provided through the art fee. A list of other **optional** ceramic tools will be provided later in the year.

Academic Objectives

- Students will be able to demonstrate the techniques and processes used in working with clay/ceramics.
- Students will be able to assess and evaluate their own and other's work. (critique)
- Students will be able to identify the cultural and historical context of some artworks and techniques
- Students will learn and be able to accurately use technical vocabulary and terms used in the visual arts and ceramics to describe their work and the work of others.

Grading

Grades in this class reflect your achievement in terms of the course academic objectives. They do not measure talent or even necessarily effort since you can, by not following instructions, spend a lot of time and effort doing other things and never show any degree of mastery of the objective being assessed.

Anyone can learn to make art and develop a very competent skill level. Being willing to try and a good work ethic is all that is needed. Also, being unafraid to make mistakes can be very helpful.

10 Tips to Get a Good Grade in Art Class:

1. Show up!
2. Active listening.
3. Follow instructions.
4. Carefully read and include all assignment requirements
5. Fully complete all assignments.
6. Turn assignments in on time.
7. Review all information posted in TEAMS frequently. Use TEAMS more than just on distance learning days. Access the information when you have questions, need to review information, etc.
8. ASK QUESTIONS/FOR HELP if you are lost, struggling, confused. I do encourage you to be independent learning but if you have already looked for the answer in teams, online, and asked other students in the class and did not find an answer ask the teacher.
9. STUDY for in-class assessments (tests, quizzes, final exam)
10. Do your best daily. Engaged and work **every moment** of your on-campus in-classroom days.

Assignment Weighting:

All assignments are not created equally. That is to say that all assignments are not weighted the same. Some are worth more points than others based on the importance and amount of expected effort.

- **Final Exam**---accounts for 15% of the grade.
- **Participation**--- this category is 35% of the overall grade. Students will receive up to 50 points for each on-campus class. Full credit is earned by staying on task, following directions & rules, being productive and responsible.
- **Classwork**--- This category is 50% of the overall grade. Classwork includes all art projects, class notes, worksheets, skill-building assignments, quizzes, tests, etc.

Students and parents/guardians are expected to check their grades regularly through Infinite Campus (IC) to make sure that all assignments are turned in. If you do not know how to log in to Infinite Campus (IC) please call the SSHS main office or email the SSHS Librarian Mrs. Hefner at ehefner@washoeschools.net for help with your parent/student login information.

If you have any questions about assignments, whether they have been handed in or not, and other grading questions please feel free to contact (email or talk to in person) Ms. Parkhurst. With the increasing number of teacher responsibilities, I do fall behind on grading. My priority is keeping the participation grade the most up to date because the level of participation is always a good indicator of what grade a student will have overall.

To Receive Full Credit All Assignments Must:

- Follow all instructions and include all required aspects/ meet or exceed the grading criteria.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the objectives/techniques.
- Turn work in on the due date. (Please refer to Attendance and Make-up Policy p 4)
- All written work must have your full name (both first and last), class period, due date, assignment name legibly written, or typed in the upper right corner of the page.
- Ceramics projects must have your first and last initial and class period on the bottom of the piece.
- Any exceptions to these policies must be cleared by Ms. Parkhurst before the work is handed in.

Turning In Late Work and Missing Assignments

Students will NOT get credit for work turned in more than 10 school days after the due date. If there is an extenuating circumstance that you would like to be considered, then a parent or legal guardian must email the teacher. **NO MAKE-UP, MISSING, OR LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED DURING THE LAST 2 WEEKS OF A SEMESTER.** The end of a semester is too late to make-up work!

All late work and missing assignments turned in within 10 school days (2 weeks) of the original due date will be counted for no more than 75% (C letter grade) **if and only if it is complete and correct.** If it is incomplete or there are incorrect parts

additional points will be deducted.

IF WORK IS LATE OR MISSING DUE TO ABSENCE –

Students who are absent for unplanned reasons (examples are sudden illness, emergencies, etc.) are responsible for getting any missed assignments from TEAMS. If you would like to request an adjusted/extended due date you must email Ms. Parkhurst the request BEFORE the work is due. You will be notified of your adjusted due date upon approval of your request. Students who are absent for planned and pre-arranged reasons (examples are appointments, family outings/trips, school field trips, etc.) will NOT be granted an extension.

The Importance of Turning Work In on Time:

Turning in work on time is part of the critical life skill of being responsible.

- Part of every assignment is the critical thinking skills involved in planning and pacing yourself so you can do your best work in the time given.
- Grading late work is not a high priority and will be graded at the teacher's earliest convenience. That means if the assignment was already graded for everyone else there will be a wait time before your late work is graded and that you might be stuck with a "Missing"/ 0 in the grade book longer than you want to be.

Attendance:

"You learn something new every day, but if you miss a day it can really start to back up." ~Steve Wright

Students are responsible for getting work and information missed while you were absent. Mostly everything we do in class will be accessible on TEAMS. You can also email Ms. Parkhurst.

Absences – On-Campus Days

Attendance to the in-classroom days is an extremely important aspect of being successful in this course. The studio (art classroom) is where all the necessary facilities, equipment, and tools are located. Art-making requires practice and guidance to develop the judgment and skills to make progress in this subject. The studio is where that all takes place. It is very difficult and impractical for students to make progress and be successful without regular attendance. **IF YOU ARE ABSENT FOR AN IN-CLASSROOM DAY** you will earn a 0 (zero) grade for the in-class participation for the day. To make up the participation points students must make an appointment to come in BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL for an equal amount of time. This is the **ONLY WAY** to make up lost in-class time and regain the participation points.

Absences – Off-Campus (Digital) Days

Students must participate by completing the assigned work on Teams for the day by 3:15 PM to be counted as present for distance learning day. If the completed assignment is not received by 3:15 the student will be counted as absent for the day.

Extended absences due to illness, injury, or family crisis:

Special consideration is given to situations involving more than a couple of days of absence due to extenuating circumstances. Due dates may be extended and/or assignments missed during these absences may be modified to accommodate such situations. Please contact Ms. Parkhurst by email as soon as possible to request accommodations for missed in-classroom time and work.

Tardy Policy – only applies to on-campus days

"I have noticed that people who are late are often so much jollier than the people who have to wait for them" ~E. V. Lucas

Classroom doors will be shut/locked immediately after the bell signifying the start of class. Anyone not completely inside of the classroom at that point is either marked tardy or absent as appropriate. Tardy students (regardless of excused/unexcused) will wait in the hallway until the teacher lets them in. Instructions are not repeated or reviewed for late students. Students are expected to get the information from a classmate **without creating a disruption**.

- **Unexcused tardy:** 3 unexcused will be entered into Infinite Campus (IC) as a minor behavior referral. 6+ unexcused entered as a major behavior referral.
- **Excused tardy:** Tardy will be excused/ not marked in IC **only if there is a written excuse from a faculty or staff member**. The tardy will be removed/ changed in IC upon receipt of the pass.

Hall Passes

- NO hall passes will be issued during the first 5 or last 10 minutes of class time.
- Once students arrive in the classroom it is important for safety and classroom management purposes for students to remain in class and be accounted for. Students must only use hall passes when necessary. Students who have been deemed by the teacher as using the hall pass excessively (gone for 10+ minutes or multiple times a week every week)

may lose hall pass privileges. If there are circumstances that require frequent bathroom trips students must bring a doctor note to the SSHS nurse Robin Reinders. Her email is rreinders@washoeschools.net.

- All students must gain teacher permission and be signed out before leaving the classroom. The teacher will sign you out until COVID-19 precautions are no longer necessary. This means students must ask AND be told that YES you can go BEFORE signing out.
- Only one (1) student will be allowed out of the room at a time.

Behavior Expectations- Art Studio Rules

- Exhibit respectful behavior towards the teacher, school staff, other students, and property each day.
 - Respect to property/tools/materials means you properly use all classroom materials appropriately and only in the way demonstrated by the instructor. Never treat the art room materials as “toys”, help keep materials clean, safe, undamaged, and organized for other students. Report any damaged tools or materials to the teacher immediately. If you get it out (or find it somewhere it doesn't belong) PLEASE put it where it goes.
 - No name-calling, bullying, teasing, etc. Negative/mean comments towards students, teachers, staff, administration, or students' artwork are expressly forbidden and must be refrained from. Students will learn how to give constructive criticism in the course of the class but are never to use criticism to belittle others or other's artwork.
 - If it is not yours, do not touch it unless you have the permission of the person to whom it belongs.
 - Listen and follow all directions. If the teacher asks/tells you to do something, please just do it.
 - Have a positive attitude. Look for the good in everything, it's always there if you try to find it.
- Clean up after yourself. **Everyone** is responsible for the general care, cleaning, and upkeep of the art room and all art supplies each day.
- ABSOLUTELY NO eating, drinking, or chewing gum in class. Only water in a leak-proof container is allowed in the classroom.
- Work on projects to the best of ability. Use your class time to work on your artworks, art-making skills, or other art-related assignments. Be productive. You don't get much time in the classroom, USE EVERY SECOND for art.
- Attend class daily and be on time for on-campus classes.
- Have fun. BE POSITIVE!

Personal Electronic Device/Communication Devices Use Policy:

Students should leave electronic devices (including but not limited to cell phone, smartphone, laptop, iPod, etc) at home or in their locker. **If a student has an electronic device it should remain out of sight and off/silent.** If a student has a personal electronic device, they may use it for **instructional purposes** or to listen to music during independent work time ONLY. Students should NEVER have earbuds in/headphones on or devices out during the first 10 minutes of class time.

NO PHOTOGRAPHING, VIDEO or AUDIO RECORDING without permission from the teacher. Students photographing without permission will be written up with a minor behavior referral and parents will be contacted. If the problem continues it will be referred to SRO.

Students found or suspected of using devices inappropriately (for non-instructional purposes) will be subject to disciplinary consequences.

1st through 4th offense detailed below in “Consequences for Behavior Problems”

5th + offense – Device is considered a persistent distraction to learning. The student will no longer be allowed to use it during class time for any reason. If any device is seen in class after the student has been told they are not allowed to have/use it in class, the incident will be written up as a major behavior referral. A student may regain privilege after a time of acceptable behavior.

Ms. Parkhurst IS NOT RESPONSIBLE for lost, stolen, or damaged electronic devices. If students choose to bring them to class, they do so AT THEIR OWN RISK. The art studio contains many supplies (such as paint, glazes, clay, etc.) that can irreparably damage phones and other electronics.

Consequences for Behavior Problems: Progressive Discipline

Progressive Discipline is the process of using increasingly severe steps or measures when a student fails to correct a problem after being given a reasonable opportunity to do so. Behavior expectations are explicitly taught and frequently reviewed throughout the school year. Student behaviors that negatively impact the learning environment or pose a threat to safety will not be tolerated. Parents will be notified of persistent negative behaviors. The consequence is determined on a case by case basis. Below is a general example of a progressive discipline process for minor behavior issues.

Example of consequences:

1st offense – Verbal warning/reteach/review expectations

2nd offense – Verbal warning/reteach/review expectations, loss of participation points. The more an inappropriate behavior is repeated in a single period the more participation points will be deducted.

3rd offense – Verbal warning/reteach/review expectations, loss of participation points, AND parent notification. Possible additional consequences such as temporary or permanent seat change or sent to the hallway for a few minutes, etc.

4th offense – All 3rd offense consequences AND Infinite Campus Minor Behavior write up.

5th + offense – Major behavior referral and parent notification. Involvement of the SRO.

Egregious behaviors will be immediately written up as a Major Behavior Referral and SRO will be contacted to help resolve the situation.



Detach, fill out, and return this portion to Ms. Parkhurst.

I (print) _____ have read, understand, and agree to follow classroom rules and procedures and be a respectful, responsible, and a productive member of this class.

Student signature: _____ date _____.

I, parent/guardian, (print) _____ have read, and understand classroom procedures, rules and consequences. I agree to help my child be a respectful, responsible, and a productive member of this class.

Parent signature: _____ date _____.

Yes, my contact information is up to date in Infinite Campus

NO, my contact information is not correct in Infinite Campus. Here is the correct information:

Phone: _____ type: cell home work Email: _____

I don't know (Please fill out your contact information above just in case it's not).

Any questions or concerns? Let me know below! Feel free to write on the back if you run out of space. Or you can email too.