**Rancho Cotate High School**

**Ms. Ashley Thurston**

2018-2019 Ceramics

Room: ART 2 Email: [Ashley\_Thurston@crpusd.org](mailto:Ashley_Thurston@crpusd.org)

Class Website: www.rchspottery.weebly.com

This course is designed to teach students several methods of hand building pottery, as well as throwing on the potter’s wheel. Students will also learn about various sculptural techniques and have the opportunity to create sculptures in clay. Students will study types of glazes and methods of glazing, so they are able to choose glazes that will enhance the final outcome of their piece. Class presentations, topics and critiques are designed to give the students a better understanding of aesthetics, history and will increase student’s life skills and problem solving abilities. All of our assignments and projects will be listed on our class website.

**The lab contribution for this course of $40.00.**

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

1. Students will understand why we make art and understand its meaning to the individual, its purpose in society, in history and in the environment.

2. Students will understand that there are many aspects to the study of art, including aesthetics, art criticism, art heritage, and art making.

3. Students will understand the definition and purpose of the elements and principles of design, and will be able to apply this understanding to the design, creation and analysis/evaluation of three-dimensional forms.

4. Students will be able to identify the five stages of clay and will be able to understand how each stage affects the development of their piece of art.

5. Students will be able to exhibit (through their work) a variety of hand building, wheel throwing, sculptural, and glazing techniques and processes.

6. Students will be able to identify, use and take care of a variety of tools, materials and equipment which are used in this course.

7. Students will be able to use terminology related to course content.

8. Students will be able to analyze and evaluate their own work and the work of others in regard to the areas of art heritage, aesthetics and art making.

**SAFETY**

1. A safety rules handout will be covered in class and each student will sign a copy to indicate they have read, understand and agree to comply with these rules. In addition, students must stay out of the kiln areas unless they have been authorized to be there. Under no circumstances should a student stack or load a kiln without express permission from the teacher.

2. For the protection of student work, drying shelves are provided for each class period. Students are required to respect the work of others in all areas of the classroom, especially here where the work is at its most delicate stage.

3. Space is very limited in the studio. Therefore, after a piece is completed, critiqued, photographed and graded take it home – unless held by the instructor for exhibition.

4. For the preservation of your own clothes and personal appearance, students are required to wear an apron or smock

5. STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE RESPECT FOR TOOLS AND MATERIALS. **THROWING OF CLAY WILL NOT BE TOLERATED** AS IT ENDANGERS THE SAFETY OF OTHER STUDENTS AND CAN DAMAGE PROPRTY. THROWING OF CLAY IS CONSIDERED AN ACT OF VANDILISM AND WILL BE TREATED AS SUCH. ANY STUDENT WHO THROWS CLAY WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM CLASS FOR ONE OR MORE DAYS. REPEATED ACTS MAY RESULT IN THE STUDENT BEING DROPPED FROM THE CLASS.

**CLEAN UP**

* Part of your grade involves cooperation in maintaining an orderly and efficiently clean studio. Clean up will begin ten minutes prior to dismissal.
* NO ONE WILL BE EXCUSED TO LEAVE UNTIL ALL THE AREAS ARE CLEAN.
* These areas are: tables, wedging table, counters, sinks and throwing wheels.
* DO NOT begin cleaning up until 5 minutes before the end of the class period.

**CLASS POLICIES**

* **NO CELL PHONES.**

Students are required to place their phones in the phone caddy behind the teacher’s desk when arriving to class. Students can retrieve their phones after they have cleaned up their workstations during the last 5 minutes of class. If a student fails to place their phone in the caddy and is seen with their phones out, the teacher will take the phone and return it after school. If this happens a second time, the teacher will turn the phone into the office and the student will need to pay the fee to retrieve their phone back.

THIS IS NOT AN OPTIONAL NOR NEGOTIABLE.

* **ZERO TOLERANCE FOR UNACCEPTABLE LANGUAGE AND BEHAVIOR.**

Rude or disrespectful behavior

Unwarranted interruptions

Failure to adhere to instructor's directions

Vulgar or obscene language, slurs or other forms of intimidation/discrimination

Physically or verbally abusive behavior.

**TARDY POLICY**  
Punctuality is expected for this class. Every instructional minute counts, and student tardiness interferes with the learning process. You will automatically be marked tardy if you are not present at the beginning of class unless you have a note from a teacher or administrator excusing your tardy. For every three tardies you will receive an hour detention that will need to be served with Ms. Ashley within one week.  
  
**ABSENCE POLICY**  
Each project in class includes an important lesson built upon the next. Another important aspect of classroom success is learning from one another. Attendance is therefore critical for your success and for the success of your classmates.  
*IMPORTANT: If a student misses class without an excuse and does not subsequently turn in homework, take a test, or fulfill another class requirement which he/she missed within the designated time frame, the teacher may lower the students grade for non- performance –BP5121 (a).* *A teacher may assign a failing grade to any student who has absences equal to or in excess of 20% of the days in a grading period if the following occurred: The teacher has informed the class and parent/guardian at the beginning of the semester of the possibility of receiving a failing grade for unexcused absences, and, The student or his/her parent/guardian has been given a reasonable opportunity to explain the absence and has been cleared by the office. If a student received a failing grade because of unexcused absences, school record shall specify that the grade was given because of excessive absences –AR 5121(d).*

**EFFORT**

1. Consistent effort is expected and required. Non-productive students have a negative impact on overall class productivity. Any student who is not working during a class period will be reminded of the importance of utilizing class time as work time.

2. Using class time to complete homework from other courses is only acceptable when all required class work is completed to the best of the student’s ability and up to date. Students who complete their assigned projects will be allowed to work on individual assignments once approved by Ms. Ashley.

3. Students are expected to have the assigned supplies, a pencil, and their Art Notebooks in class each day.

4. Students are expected to be respectful of themselves, peers, the teacher, the administration and any art work anywhere in the school and during special activities.

5. Students are expected to work on art projects/assignments while patiently waiting for teacher assistance with problems on assignments. There are many students in class and the teacher will attend to everyone as soon as humanly possible.

6. If absent or tardy students are encouraged to come to studio hours during lunch to put in the time missed into their projects.

7. Students are expected to put careful consideration and thought into each project.

**METHODS OF EVALUATION**

Teacher Evaluation of assigned art projects:

Idea/composition Craftsmanship: **50%**

Effort/behavior Understanding of concept taught: **10%**

Art Notebooks: **30%**

Class Participation: Grade based on involvement, attentiveness, clean up and cooperation: **10%**

Grades are given according to points given to individual assignments that are based on the following grade scale:

**A+ 100 - 96 A 95 - 93 A- 92 - 90 B+ 89 - 86 B 85 - 83 B- 82 - 80**

**C+ 79 - 76 C 75 - 73 C- 72 - 70 D+ 69 - 66 D 65 - 63 D- 62 - 60**

**GRADING**

* Grading will be based on attitude, effort, individual improvement, completion of work demonstrating good craftsmanship and design, completion of written assignments, participation in critiques, art notebooks, attendance, record of tardies and studio clean up.
* A good attitude and cooperation are essential to being successful in this class and to achieving a passing grade.
* Any student who wishes to spend additional time in the studio to work may do so with the permission of the instructor.
* Students who turn in late work will be deducted points for each day an assignment is late.

**STUDENT NEEDS**

All students are encouraged to bring to my attention special needs and/or special arrangement’s that they might require in the classroom. In addition, I will make every effort to teach each student the fundamentals of art while they learn and grow in a productive and positive way. I am looking forward to helping all students prepare for their individual educational goals and their individual life goals.

August 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Please sign below and have your student return the bottom half to me by the end of the week. Your signature indicates that you have read the course curriculum, class policies and expectations. It is important that you understand what is expected of your son/daughter in this Ceramics course. Also, please list your phone number as well as the best time to contact you so that I may discuss your son/daughter’s progress if I want/need to. If you have any questions about this class or would like to talk about your child’s progress please feel free to contact me by e-mail. I would be happy to talk to you about matters concerning your child. Good communication between parent, student and teacher will help ensure your son/daughter’s success. You can e-mail me at ([Ashley\_Thurston@crpusd.org](mailto:Ashley_Thurston@crpusd.org)).

* Please include the $40.00 lab contribution. This can be in the form on cash or check
* Checks can be made out to: Rancho Cotate High School (memo Pottery).

Thank you very much,

Ms. Ashley Thurston Tamba

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Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name(s) (please print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Parent Email address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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