



Reavis High School
Curriculum Snapshot/Cover Page for Ceramics



Unit 1: Introduction to Clay and Vocabulary

8 Days
(non-
consecutive)

Students will be introduced to clay properties, clay and ceramic vocabulary, and clay hand building techniques.

Students will adhere to proper studio functions and health and safety procedures for proper clay use.

Students will understand and utilize glaze vocabulary, techniques, and processes.

Students will understand glaze application and glaze defects.



Unit 2: Pinching Technique

10
Days

Students will master the pinching technique.

Students will learn to incorporate additive texture on pinched projects.

Students will effectively use pinch pots to create composite forms.

Students will use underglaze and understand the different chemical properties and capabilities of underglaze and overglaze.



Unit 3: Coiling

20
Days

Students will utilize proper coil rolling techniques.

Students will learn to use coils to create both functional and decorative forms/vessels.

Students will learn to use coils to create and design to enhance the surface of clay pieces.



Unit 4: Soft Slab

10
Days

Students will learn soft slab hand building techniques.
Students will understand use of slab rollers and slab rolling through the use of rolling pins and guide sticks.
Students will understand and execute the use of molds and armatures in order to create soft slab art that is both functional and abstract.
Students will use impressed and subtractive texture to enhance surface finish of clay pieces.



Unit 5: Non-Western Clay

3 Days

Students will be exposed to non-western clay techniques and firing processes.
Students will learn history and vocabulary of non-western processes/cultures. i.e. horse hair pottery, raku pottery, etc.



Unit 6: Hard Slab

15
Days

Students will master hard slab hand building. *This unit will always have an art history/artist and/or architecture research component leading to the construction of the hard slab sculpture.



Unit 7: Final Exam Project

20
Days

Students will further develop their art history/artist knowledge by researching the life and work of a famous artist.

Students will utilize a combination of hand building techniques in a cumulative project that incorporates and/or reflects their art research. Various surface decoration techniques must be incorporated into project. (project examples include: relief plate, or functional tea pot reflecting aspects of the life and work of researched artist).



Unit 8: Wheel Throwing

40
Days

Students will learn wheel throwing vocabulary.

Students will be introduced to and practice wheel throwing and trimming techniques.

Students will create a variety of well-thrown functional ceramic pieces.

Students will learn how to add texture to clay while on the wheel.

Students will learn how to pull and add handles to clay pieces.

Students will learn to alter wheel thrown pieces in order to activate space and incorporate conceptual elements into their work.



Unit 9: Advanced Hand Building

40
Days

Students will create one advanced hand built project using coil construction to create a large, functional vessel.

Students will utilize advanced surface texture and glazing techniques.

A second advanced hand building project will require students to use a combination of hand building and wheel throwing techniques to create a functional work of art.



Unit 10: Final Exam

10
Days

Students will show mastery of all hand building techniques to construct a series of miniature works.