

## Ceramics 2 Syllabus Fall 2019

Since this is a combined class, you must be self-motivated and able to work well independently, and be fearless about asking questions when needed.

**Learning:** In three billion percent alignment with the Essential Academic Learning Requirements of Totoro, Frazz the janitor and Washington State (<http://www.k12.wa.us/Arts/Standards/pubdocs/VisualArtsStandards.pdf>), you lucky *lucky* people will get to:

- Grow a more in-depth understanding of glaze composition, testing, application and firing.
- Continue to build your skills on the potter's wheel.
- Become meaningfully involved in the studio culture.
- Further integrate critical thinking and an intuitive understanding of clay into the creative process.
- Extend your conceptual understandings, skills and interests in the form of two independent projects.
- Eat more cookies.

### Requirements for success:

- **Kick butt. Try try again. Practice practice practice.** I expect you to use **all your time to improve your skills and learning to the best of your ability**, resulting in the **best** projects you can make, not the quickest attempts. Don't waste this chance to have a ridiculous amount of clay fun for nearly free.
- **Leadership.** Be a knowledgeable and helpful role-model of ceramics awesomeness.
- **Enough curiosity to kill a cat.** You REALLY need to flip through magazines and books, browse online and see more of the amazing things people do and how you might try some of them.
- **Ask questions.** If you get stuck, need to see a demo or talk about something, let me know so we can get to it at the first available chance. Time flies by, and we want to get the most out of it.

### Advanced Grades:

- **Wheel skills development (30% of grade):** Available time used fully to further skills, culminating in three projects: a 5"-8"+ tall pitcher, a large altered bowl and a pot with a lid.
- **Teapot (10% of grade):** Can be wheel-thrown and/or hand built. Can be functional or sculptural. (A poorly made teapot that doesn't work isn't sculptural – it's just ugly.)
- **Independent Projects (20% of grade):** Projects of your choice contracted with the teacher, one dealing with form – how the piece is constructed and shaped – and the other dealing with surface design – how the surface is decorated, textured and glazed. Project ideas should reflect your interests and extend your artistic skills and understanding. Projects can be functional or sculptural, hand-built or wheel-thrown, one piece or a set/series. Projects are not single objects knocked out in a couple hours. Rather, think of your independent projects as chunks of time (three weeks or so each) devoted to furthering your learning and expertise as much as possible in the directions of your choice, with the goal of creating the best end-product(s) you can.
- **Sketchbook (10% of grade):** Should include all projects, ideas, preliminary work, notes, and glaze/glaze test records, and project reflections. See the Ceramics 2 sketchbook handout for guidelines. Due-dates will match those of the Ceramics 1 peoples, so listen when I'm telling them when things are due.
- **Participation & Leadership (20% of grade):** Includes exemplary cleanup and use of classtime.
- **Gallery/museum visit (10% of grade):** You are (still) expected to visit **both** a fine art gallery **and** a fine art museum. One visit is due by Tuesday November 12th and the other by Friday January 10th. If you get them both in by 11/12 then you will get +10% for both. Late = -50% credit!

**Time Management & Cheating:** The basic policies for time management and cheating remain unchanged from Ceramics 1 – please refer to the ceramics 1 syllabus if you are in need of a reminder. In addition, however, you are expected to set a positive example for others and help make this class a great place for (fun) learning.

### What you can expect from me:

A few new tricks – (mwa-ha-ha).

**➔Info For Adult-Type Units Pestered For Money And Signatures (Again):  
(in a nutshell - same as last time)**

➔ **A \$35 class fee** covers everything and is due Friday September 13<sup>th</sup>. Please make checks payable to Inglemoor High School or IHS. Your student/you can also pay online (<https://inglemoor.nsd.org/resources/payments>).

➔ **Know more than your student wants you to! ParentVUE** (there's a link under the Resources tab on the Inglemoor homepage) **is the main way I communicate student progress**, and is your one-stop shopping center for gradebook and class info for all your student's classes. **I strongly recommend you check regularly.**

➔ **My website (flieschool.com)** has the handouts and resources needed for my classes. If you ever want to know what's going on in classes, what the assignments are, etc., go there.

➔ **Assignments without a score:** Around half the assignments are not due till the end of the semester, so **grades can change radically near the end** – blank boxes are wild cards. The class participation grade (below) is a decent barometer of how your student is performing.

➔ **The Class Participation grade:** If, over the course of the semester, a student averages using 85% of their worktime to work with clay and cleans up adequately, they can expect an 85% for their class participation grade. If they slack off for a bit and the grade drops, they can raise it again by working extra for an equal amount of time. **This grade acts as a bellweather:** if the current overall grade is an A but the class participation grade is lower, it's very likely that the A grade will drop if nothing is done to correct matters. **I often do not enter this grade unless it is different than the current overall grade** and I want parental-type peoples to have a warning, and students to realize (and fix) the error of their ways (or benefit from all the work that they've done that's not showing up yet in the gradebook).

➔ **Extra time:** If your student needs more worktime, the studio is open after school on most days. This can also be a way to earn sketchbook credit or extra credit.

**I THANK YOU AGAIN** for taking time to help your student and myself make this the best class possible.

Sincerely,  
Rob Flye

Questions, thoughts and brilliant ideas always welcome.

The fine print: Those who spend extra time in the studio are more likely to find extra cookies or cocoa available to sustain them. Blindfolded throwing is done at your own risk. Not cleaning off and putting away bats after you have trimmed your pieces can make ceramics teachers rabid. If you're in an earthquake or people throw bricks at you, duck and cover, and then when it's safe grab the bricks and we can build a kiln. Ask and I'll give you a bucket of tools for your own personal use, and if you keep track and take care of them they will be much nicer than the ones everybody else abuses.

----- Cut off and return this bottom portion only – keep the rest for reference -----

**Student name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Period** \_\_\_\_\_

**Syllabus Signature for Ceramics classes: Please sign, get signed and cut off/return** this section to show that both you and your parent/guardian understand the requirements for success in this class as outlined in the syllabus.

**Student signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_