

# POTTERY PROJECTS

*(Illustrations are examples only)*

**1) Pinch pot and small sculpture project:** Build a small pot (a hand full of clay) using the pinch method as demonstrated in class; also built a small sculpture (animal or figure).

You cannot use more than ¼ lb. of clay for each.

**2) Tall Vase project:** Build a vessel at least 10" and no taller than 12" tall using coils. Design emphasis: The column is to be used as a basic element in your pottery shapes. Proportions, textures and skills in construction will be emphasized. You must focus on symmetry or asymmetry. The exterior and interior must be smooth and the walls cannot be thicker than 3/8".

**3) Combination form project:** Build forms using slabs to create column, sphere, cube or oval combinations, and then join the two forms together. Design emphasis: The column will visually pierce the sphere, cube, or oval. This combination is found in many types of pottery; for example, a teapot is a combination form. The combination form must be at least 6" x 4", and no larger than 10" x 6"

**4) Low dish project:** Build a circular, rectangular, or oblong low dish with feet, using coils or slabs. Design emphasis: Curved circular shapes are often used in pottery forms. In addition to many 3-D form possibilities, decorative elements to enhance this form will also be emphasized. Technical problems are important as you build clay in a horizontal direction. The low dish form must be at least 2" x 6" x 6", and no larger than 4" x 8" x 8"

**5) Bowl project:** Build a bowl using slabs, coils and a hump or slump mold. Design emphasis: The bowl must be original. This can be achieved by using engobes and sgraffito, creating designs on the interior and or exterior.

**6) Pitcher project:** Build a pitcher using coils or slabs that has a handle. Design emphasis: The handle becomes an important design consideration. In essence, the handle spans 3-D space and becomes an integral part of the form. The handle allows much room for creativity. The pitcher form must be at least 8" tall, and not taller than 12"

**7) Goblet project:** Build a goblet form in three parts; base, stem, and cup. Use any and all methods needed, pinch, coil, slab and molding. Design emphasis: Cone shapes in combinations of various proportions offer many design possibilities. Technical problems are also considered as goblets have a tendency to warp during drying and firing. The goblet form must be at least 5" tall and not taller than 8"

**8) Teapot project:** Build a teapot shape with a lid using slabs or coils. It must have a handle. It must have a flange. Design emphasis: The lid and handle in a pottery shape is often an important part of the form. In hand building, this is especially challenging but creative solutions are unlimited in their possibilities. The teapot must be at least 6" x 6", and no larger than 10" x 10"

**9) Pottery Wheel Project:** You are to **spend a few days (at least three class periods) on the potter's wheel** learning to "throw" a pot using centrifugal force and pressure from your hands. Read the section on throwing in the text book and see me for instructions before starting. Record the dates that you spent throwing on your pot record sheet, describe whether or not you were successful in raising a vessel. You are not required to create a finished pot.

**10) Final clay project:** Build a pot using all the information and experience you have gained in class. This pot must be the most elaborate of all the projects and must be created last. Design emphasis: The final project will be an individually derived project which will be planned and executed by the student. The final project can not be larger than 12" x 12". **Creativity, imagination, and skills learned in class must be demonstrated in this project.**

**11) Research Paper:** (Optional Extra Credit) Research an artist or culture of your choice and type a three page paper (single space). An artist or culture may only be used one time per class. Use books, magazines and the internet to gather information for your paper.

**Plagiarism is not acceptable and will earn a grade of 0.** Use your own words, no abbreviations and references of your resources (at least 3) must be provided. I must know the topic and means of presentation by the date provided in class.

**Papers will be due according to the semester; usually the last month of the semester, December or May.**

The above projects are hands on and in addition to these there will be several tests, quizzes and group activities throughout the semester. There will be assigned readings often. If you are not present on the day of a test or quiz you will be required to make it up after school once you return to school. Failure to make up assigned test, quizzes or projects will result in failure of that assignment. **Five clay projects must be completed by mid term.** Sketches or drawings of projects are required before beginning construction and will count as a grade. You will need a sketch book. Drawings **must be to scale** and approved before you begin. Clay projects will take one to two weeks for completion, so it is important to stay busy at all times. This class has a \$25.00 art fee that needs to be paid by the end of the first week. If you finish your project early you will be required to duplicate it, in an attempt to make it better. A daily grade will be given and count as a project grade. It is important to understand what you are doing and ask questions if you are not sure. **There will be an art show at the end of the semester that you must attend and pick your pottery up at the end; this will count as a test grade.** The alternative assignment for the Art Show is a five page single space research paper on a ceramic artist or a ceramic culture. Use books, magazines and the internet to gather information for your paper. Plagiarism is not acceptable and will earn a grade of 0. Use your own words, no abbreviations and references of your resources (at least 5) must be provided.

**\*\*\* The projects represent the minimum amount of work done in the semester to constitute a full grade. Leaving off any one project may drop your Final Grade by as much as a letter. The projects described here represent problems to solve with critical thinking skills, not the total number of pots to build.**

**All Students: Your grade in Pottery will be determined by the following factors:**

The Point System

A	100 – 93	= excellent
B	92 – 85	= good
C	84 – 75	= a reasonable effort
D	74 – 70	= deficient
F	69 – 0	= failing

Projects – 100pts. ea.

Glazing grade-30pts. ea.

Tests– 100pts. ea.

Quizzes – 25pts. ea.

Extra credit – 25pts.