

Unit Work

Step One

Go to www.metmuseum.org and look at ceramic art from different cultures. Choose 3 cultures whose art you like. Select 5 pieces that represent ceramic art of this culture to go into a PowerPoint presentation. This presentation should tell a little about the culture and a little about the ceramic art. Make sure you cite your sources!

Step Two

From each culture, choose the work you think is best, based on **skill, functionality, and how well it represents ceramic art of that culture**. Highlight it in your presentation and explain how it is representative of its culture. Choose the one of these that you like best, and explain step-by-step how you think it was created.

Step Three

After we practice the 4-step art criticism process in class, write an art critique (using the four steps) on your chosen artwork. Then, create a design for an original artwork based on this piece and this culture. The design must also reflect YOU. Afterward, create 2 more designs that combine the shapes, styles, decoration, or feel of one of your cultures with elements that represent you as a person. Discuss these works with other students and your instructor to get feedback. Your designs should include sizes, multiple views, and plans for decoration. Look at the provided rubric—what kind of grade should your design receive?

Step Four

After discussing with the instructor, and after completing your other four ceramic pieces, create an original work based on one of your sketches. Be sure to keep in mind how you will make the artwork represent you while still reflecting your chosen culture. After you are finished with the artwork, use the rubric provided by the instructor to evaluate your work. Then, write a critique (using the four step art criticism process) of your work and one other student's work (to be decided by the instructor).

Step Five

Reflect on your work. Consider your rubric grade, your art critique, and the other student's critique of your work. How could you have made it better? What would you do differently? What did you learn? What changes or new knowledge will you implement on your next piece?

Skill Building Exercises

Step One

After the class discussion on the four-step art criticism process, choose your best work from last semester and write an art critique of that work. Follow the four step process, but write the critique as an article, with complete paragraphs.

Step Two

After the class discussion of ceramic decoration & surface finishing techniques, design 3 different pinch pots in your sketchbook. Consider combining multiple pots and describe what decoration techniques you will use. Include this info in your sketches, along with measurements & multiple views. Then, **create a ceramic piece using pinch pot techniques.**

Step Three

Design 3 different coil pieces in your sketchbook. You may also include pinch-pot elements in your designs, but the main part must be coil-built. Include measurements and decoration plans. **Complexity counts.** After discussing your plans with the instructor, **create a ceramic piece using coil building techniques.**

Step Four

Design 3 different slab pieces in your sketchbook. **Complexity counts.** Consider using angles other than 90 degrees. You may also include pinch-pot or coil techniques, but the main part must be slab-built. Your sketches must include what pieces you need to cut from the slabs, with measurements; and decoration plans. Then, **create a ceramic piece using slab building techniques.**

Step Five

Create 4 different designs of a ceramic piece in your sketchbook. The piece should represent **who you are** in some way. This piece should require use of pinch-pot, coil building, AND slab-building techniques. Sketches should show sizes, multiple views, and decoration plans. After discussing plans with the instructor, **create the combination ceramic piece.**