

## Why study Ceramics?

Ceramics is the art and technology of forming, firing and glazing clay to make a wide variety of products, ranging from building materials to ceramic ware such as plates, bowls and drinking vessels, jewellery, sculpture and decorative wall surfaces.

Contemporary applications of ceramics are constantly expanding. New industrial and high technology uses are being found and artists and designers are exploring new expressive forms. Ceramics provides challenging work opportunities for students in such areas as studio and industrial ceramics, ceramic research, engineering and product design.

This course enables students to develop an understanding of ceramic processes and practices, and the ways in which these can be used in making a range of products. Students develop a critical appreciation of the aesthetic, expressive and utilitarian qualities of ceramic forms in contemporary and past societies, and knowledge of the diverse applications of ceramics in contemporary society and ways of valuing the skills involved in making well-crafted forms. They also develop skills to give form to their ideas and feelings in ceramic products.



## Careers in Ceramics

Ceramics provides challenging work opportunities for students with knowledge, skills and understanding in areas including studio and industrial ceramics, ceramic research, engineering and product design.



Contemporary applications in ceramics are constantly changing. New industrial and high technology uses are being found and ceramists, artists and designer/makers are exploring new expressive forms and meanings. In contemporary societies that are becoming increasingly synthetic and depersonalised, ceramics offers students opportunities to reinterpret the world and develop a sense of personal satisfaction and achievement. It encourages an empathy with the properties of natural materials and an opportunity to experience the deep pleasure and satisfaction which comes from transforming these materials into objects which have personal meaning and significance.



[www.melville-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.melville-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)

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**MELVILLE HIGH SCHOOL**  
CREATIVE ARTS FACULTY



## Ceramics

Ceramics is the art and technology of forming, firing and glazing clay to make a range of products.

Ceramics is run as a 2 unit Content Endorsed Course for students with an interest in clay work and ceramic design.

## Course Structure

The Ceramics Content Endorsed Course is comprised of eleven modules, two mandatory and nine optional. Schools are able to select from these modules to develop programs that respond to student needs and interests.

The Core module *Introduction to Ceramics* must always be done as the first module. Issues of Work Health and Safety must be



## Course Modules

### Modules include:

*Handbuilding*

*Throwing*

*Sculptural Forms*

*Kilns*

*Glaze Technology*

*Casting*

*Surface Treatment*

*Mixed Media.*



The Introduction to Ceramics (Core) and Occupational Health and Safety modules are mandatory. The additional module Ceramics Project extends students' learning experiences and may reflect students' increasing interests and desire to specialise in one or more area of ceramics.



## Course Specific details

Students will develop knowledge, skills and understanding:

- ◆ through the making of ceramic work that leads to and demonstrates conceptual and technical accomplishment;
- ◆ that lead to increasingly accomplished critical and historical investigations of ceramics.

To support learning in Ceramics some experiences which may be offered in the study of this course include: -

- Industry Guest Speakers
- Firing and glazing
- Kilm work.
- Sculptural work



Further information about the course content and outcomes can be obtained from the website below.  
<http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/porta/nesa/11-12/stage-6-learning-areas/stage-6->