Ceramics		
UNIT/ Weeks	Timeline/Topics	Essential Questions
1	The Process of Clay and Working in the Studio Basic Properties of Clay Wedging Clay Joining Clay The drying process- 5 Stages of Clay- Greenware, Leather hard, Bone dry, Bisqueware, Glazeware Touring and learning the studio and its equipment	 How is the drying process essential in ceramics? How do different techniques allow various manipulations of clay? What are the special qualities of clay that allow it to be both sculptural and functional? What are some basic actions that are integral to creating with clay? How is the kiln involved in pottery production, and how does the clay change after firing? How can unfired clay be recycled and used again? What is it important to know how to properly use tools and equipment in the clay studio?
1	Origins of Pottery Early techniques and works The study of clay begins with how the planet Earth was formed. Technology has transformed the use of clay in a multitude of ways.	 What purpose did pottery have in ancient civilizations and how is it similar or different to the use of pottery today? How has technology changed the way pottery is made today compared to how it was made in ancient civilization?
6	Pinch Method	 Why is the pinch method an important technique in hand building with clay? How can texture be a part of a successful pot? How can a pinch pot be altered and create something else sculptural or functional? Why is it important to know the processes of clay before creating pinch method projects?
6	Slab Method • Creating projects using the Slab Method	 How can using the slab method allow the potter to be more experimental in their clay building process? How can slabs be used to create 2-D or 3-D pieces? Why is knowing the drying process essential for the slab technique?
6	Coil Method • Creating projects with the coil method	 After studying the ways of traditional Native American coil methods, how do we benefit from the technological advances in Ceramics today? Why is the coil method an important technique in hand building with clay?

4	Using Molds/Clay Puzzling Using Various Types of Molds Clay Puzzling	 How can the use of molds enhance the aesthetic appeal of a ceramic piece? How has the use of molds changed the way ceramics are made today? How do molds help create pieces that would otherwise be difficult to build?
6	Clay Sculpture	Why is the use of clay essential in the realm of sculpture?
6	Tiles and Mosaics	 How are ceramic tiles used throughout history similar to the way we use them today? How has technology changed the way tiles are made today?