



**COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION**



## Ceramics

Project units are designed for members 8-18 years old.

Unit 1 (Hand-Constructed) and Unit 2 (Slab and Coil Constructed)

*Inspiring youth to:*

- Learn hand-building techniques: pinch, drape, sag, slab, and coil construction
- Use of elementary tools and equipment
- Develop a ceramic vocabulary
- Practice skills of basic preparation and techniques for bisque firing only
- Finish and exhibit one functional or decorative piece made using skills described in the manual

Unit 3 (Underglazes) and Unit 4 (Unfired Finishes)

*Inspiring youth to:*

- Learn underglazing techniques
- Use skills and techniques associated with unfired finishes
- Finish and exhibit one piece made using skills described in the manual
- Pieces may be either hand constructed or purchased greenware

Unit 5 (Glazes) and Unit 6 (Overglazes)

*Inspiring youth to:*

- Learn a variety of glazing and overglazing techniques
- Design, plan, and adapt an exhibit piece based on skills learned from activities in the manual.
- Glazed pieces may be either hand constructed or purchased greenware

Unit 7 (Sculpture), Unit 8 (Wheel Throwing), and Unit 9 (Production Molds)

*Inspiring youth to:*

- Learn techniques for sculpture, wheel throwing, and production molds
- Finish and exhibit one piece or a set of pieces made using unit skills
- Investigate pottery careers

## Resources:

- Exhibit & Judging Requirements
- Record Books
- Manual Information

Located at: [Colorado4h.org](http://Colorado4h.org)

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# Ceramics

## Tips:

- Use the correct glaze on your pieces, especially to be food safe
- Choose your best piece to exhibit
- Take trips and tours
- Enter your exhibit(s) in the county fair
- Share the information you learned in talks and displays
- Pieces may be functional or decorative



## Judging Criteria:

- Item has no visible seam lines
- Item has no greenware imperfections
- Item sits evenly on a table
- Item has no pinholes
- Glaze is clear and not cloudy
- Item has no unwanted cracks or crazes
- Item is fired correctly
- E-record is complete and includes demonstrations, talks, story, and pictures, with at least one action shot of you working on your project
- E-record is neat and legible
- Quality of exhibit

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Beyond  
Ready

# Ceramics Industry Careers



## Product Designer

Creates ceramic goods for particular sectors or clients with a focus on ceramics



## Entrepreneurship

Develop and sell ceramic products and/ or providing both fine art and functional ceramic pieces



## Model Maker

Designs molds for the production of ceramics ensuring consistency and quality of a product



## Research and Development

Works to develop new ceramic materials and improve existing products



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## Degrees/Certifications:

Bachelors of Fine Arts- Ceramics

Bachelor of Science in Ceramic Engineering  
Materials Science  
Master Potter Certificate



## Technical Sales & Marketing

Promotes products and provides support to customers and identifies new market opportunities



## Glaze Chemistry

Study of how glazes relate to firing; including color, surface, hardness, texture & melting temp



## Artist

Creates unique artwork utilizing clay as their primary medium



## Education & Research

Teaches and mentors other student in the educational environment