Lesson Plan

Title: Character Sculptures Grade Level: 9-12 (Introductory Ceramics)

The Big Idea: Using clay to create a non-functional, expressive sculpture.

Description of Lesson: Students will sculpt a character from their own imagination. The character cannot be from a book, TV show, movie, etc. Following my presentation and video demonstration, artists will start by researching and sketching ideas. My lesson includes two of my own sketches and an in-progress sculpture of my own, so students will be able to see the process made explicit. During studio time, I will meet with each student consistently to discuss the mechanics of their sculptures as well as technique and ideation. Scale of the character sculptures will be about 5 inches in their largest dimension. Glazing and firing may partially take place after I am done with my placement. This remains to be seen.

Time: Eight (one hour) class periods.

Enduring Understandings:

Creativity and innovative thinking are essential life skills that can be developed.

Artists and designers develop excellence through practice and constructive critique, reflecting on, revising, and refining work over time.

Individual aesthetic and empathetic awareness developed through engagement with art can lead to understanding and appreciation of self, others, the natural world, and constructed environments.

Essential Questions:

How does (teacher/student) collaboration expand the creative process?

How do artists and designers determine whether a particular direction in their work is effective?

What role does persistence play in revising, refining, and developing work?

How do life experiences influence the way you relate to art?

21st Century Skills:

Creativity
Innovation
Critical Thinking
Problem Solving
Flexibility
Adaptability
Initiative
Self-Direction
Collaboration

Studio Habits:

Engage and Persist Stretch and Explore Envision Express Develop Craft Reflect

Higher Leverage Practices:	Technical Skills:	
Explaining and modeling content	Understanding the properties of clay	
Eliciting and interpreting student thinking	Considering structural support	
Diagnosing patterns of student thinking	Diagnosing potential issues in translating sketches (2D) to sculpture (3D)	
Coordinating and adjusting instruction	(2D) to sculpture (3D)	
Ruilding respectful relationships	Using various clay tools	
Building respectful relationships	Applying glaze/paint	
Learning about students		
Checking student understanding	Experiencing clay in different drying stages	
Checking student understanding	Observing how firing changes the properties of clay	
Providing feedback to students		
Analyzing Instruction		

National Core Art Standards:

VA:Cr1.1.8a - Document early stages of the creative process visually and/or verbally in traditional or new media.

VA:Re.7.1.8a - Explain how a person's aesthetic choices are influenced by culture and environment and impact the visual image that one conveys to others.

VA:Cn11.1.7a - Analyze how response to art is influenced by understanding the time and place in which it was created, the available resources, and cultural uses.

Instruction – Daily Plan:

- **Day 1-** Lesson Introduction: View a wide range of example imagery and show sketches/time lapses of my sculpture process. Students will begin sketching and researching. I will visit with every student to formatively assess how they are thinking of beginning the project.
- Day 2-7: Studio Days. Continue formative assessment.

Day 8: Talk as a group, casual critique (Summative assessment).

Resources: (See slideshow)

Materials Needed:

Clay

Clay Tools

Computer or phone for research

Slin

Canvas		
Pencil		
Sketchbook		

Evaluations:

Formative - One-on-one student/teacher conferences throughout the studio process. Formative assessment will also take the form of watching students work and evaluating their areas of strength or challenge.

Summative - Because of the chaotic nature of the school schedule, I am still thinking of the best way to do a lesson "wrap-up". I am currently leaning toward collectively looking at all the projects that were done during my time in the school during one of my last days.