



Pottery Student Levels of Study

The Village Potters offers classes to all skill levels, from beginner to advanced. The following is a general guide to help you determine which classes will offer you the best degree of instruction. If you have any questions about which class would be most suited to you, please do not hesitate to contact us and one of our instructors will be happy to guide you.

Skill Level	Type of Student	Existing Skill Set(s) Recommended	
		Wheel Throwing	Handbuilding & Sculpture
101	For students new to working with clay and looking to explore simpler, beginning forms and vessels.	No previous experience required working with clay.	No previous experience required working with clay.
102	For students with some experience working with clay but still benefit from specific instruction in making simpler forms and vessels.	Students have the ability to center and open clay on the wheel and can make simple forms with 1-2 lbs of clay. Familiarity with the basics of glaze application.	Students are familiar with how to prepare clay slabs and other handbuilding basics, including how to properly attach different pieces of clay to one another. Familiarity with the basics of glaze application.
201	For students growing in confidence working with larger and/or more complex forms who wish to become more intentional with their work.	Students are comfortable making forms with 2 lbs of clay and ready to start working with 3+ lbs of clay. Ready to add attachments, lids, spouts, carving, etc. to their work. Familiar with various techniques for glaze application.	Students are ready for more complex construction techniques that include multiple ways to approach working with slabs, molds and clay additions. Familiar with various techniques for glaze application.
202	For students beginning to explore and discover a personal aesthetic and style for their forms and vessels. This includes a deeper understanding of glaze application and surface design exploration.	Students are proficient with all basic throwing skills and have experience making multiple forms. Capable of confidently working with 2-3 lbs of clay and ready to start working with 4+ lbs of clay. Comfortable exploring various methods of surface design and glaze application.	Students are proficient with all basic handbuilding/sculpting skills and have experience making multiple forms. Comfortable exploring various methods of surface design and glaze application.
301	For students looking to push their skill sets to a more advanced level and beginning to build a body of work. At this point of study, students are learning and adding more approaches to making work and pushing the limits of the clay in their exploration.	Students are fully proficient in working with clay and have the ability to use multiple techniques to create intentional forms. Can confidently throw a variety of forms using 4+ lbs of clay. Ready to explore specific surface design, glaze application, and/ or firing approach to create individualized work.	Students are fully proficient in working with clay and have the ability to use multiple techniques. Ready to explore specific surface design, glaze application, and/ or firing approach to create individualized work.