

DANCE SYLLABUS

INSTRUCTOR – Meredith Walraven
PHONE – 469.752.9511
CONFERENCE – By Appointment

DEPARTMENT – Fine Arts
EMAIL – meredith.walraven@pisd.edu (preferred method)

OFFICE – D 136

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Students will be able...

- To use self-discipline, utilize self-confidence, and experience dedication through the art of dance.
- To demonstrate knowledge of dance vocabulary and develop the skills of description, analysis, and interpretation in a dance performance.
- To view, perform and discuss historic dance works in order to become more familiar with spatial patterning of choreographic design, as well as with musical elements that have traditionally dictated those patterns.
- To demonstrate knowledge of key figures in the evolution of several dance forms.
- To explore and perform diverse dances styles and techniques through various exercises in movement.
- To demonstrate awareness of space, time, energy, and the student's own body.
- To demonstrate leadership and organizational skills through leadership of class discussion and class projects.
- To develop choreography skills.
- To perform both teacher lead and student lead choreography combinations and works.

CLASS MATERIALS: Students will need to provide...

- A dance folder (Will be checked each Friday for a grade)
- Appropriate dance attire/shoes (Will be checked each Friday for a grade)

CLASS DRESS CODE: Students will need to wear

- Black **Fitted** Tank Top or **Fitted** T-Shirt (Nothing baggy, must be four fingers- no spaghetti straps (must have beginning of week 2))
- Black Jazz Pants or Capris. No shorts, nothing shorter than the knee. (must have beginning of week 2)
- Jazz Shoes, Foot-paws, or ballet shoes (must have beginning of week 2)
- NO Dangling JEWELRY!
- Hair tied back
- Dance Classes will dress only in the correct bathroom.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS: Students will be expected to...

- Respect one another.
- Participate fully, every day.
- Come to class prepared.
- Be prepared when returning to class after an absence.
- Be responsible for personal belongings.
- Refrain from ALL FOOD, CANDY, SOFT DRINKS or GUM in the dance space.
- Use any technology WITH INSTRUCTOR PERMISSION ONLY!!
- PHONES will be kept at the cubby charging station at all times!

CLASS PROCEDURES: After being released from their previous class, students will be expected to...

- Go directly to the designated bathroom changing area.
- Change into dance tops, bottoms and shoes.
- Speak to friends and check phone messages for the "First Five".
- Put phones safely on charging station or in backpack.
- Place personal belongings on top of or in a cubby. (Absolutely no items or backpacks can be left on the floor dancers safety.)
- Be in the room warming up, in position, 5 minutes after the tardy bell rings . Instructor will be taking attendance at this time!
- Be prepared to fully participate every day. (If you have a question for the instructor, ask your question during your warm-up time. (Do not wait until the instructor begins teaching!))
- Take care of personal business at "Cat Corner", with your counselor or principal at lunch or during passing periods. (You will not be permitted to leave class to do so.)

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION: Students will be...

- *REQUIRED to perform in the Spring Dance Showcase (APRIL 5TH!)*

GRADING: Student grades will be categorized as...

- 50% Daily Grades – In-class participation and preparation → (dressing out, etc)
 - Because this class primarily consists of physical movement, participation is a HUGE part of your grade. In order to learn how to dance or improve, you must MOVE!
- 30% Quiz Grades – Written Quizzes
- 20% Test & Project Grades – Skills Tests, Research Projects, Papers, Fall and Spring Performance, etc..
 - Performance skills tests are required once every 9-weeks.

YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE REGARDLESS OF SCHOOL ATTIRE!

If you are unable to physically participate you must provide a parent or Dr.'s note and you will be required to audit the class.

ILLNESS & INJURIES:

In the case of illness/injury, a parent note may excuse the student from participation for one day. The note proof must be presented to the instructor BEFORE class begins. If you do not have a parent note – you will be required to participate. A doctor's note is required if the student misses participation for three or more consecutive days. If you are unable to take a skills test due to a long term injury, then an alternative assignment will be given in its place. If student misses any (9) week performance skills test, it is the responsibility of the student to schedule and make-up a missed (9) week performance skills test. Please **DO NOT** give a note from home saying you need to sit out because of cramps.

(Research shows that the more you move/exercise while having cramps, the more it helps with discomfort)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

PLEASE RETURN THE ENTIRE FORM SIGNED. ANOTHER COPY WILL BE PROVIDED UPON REQUEST.