JH Dance Course Syllabus

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Course Description:

This class caters to those who have an interest for dance and will build upon their knowledge of Ballet, Jazz, Modern, Tap, Hip-Hop, and contemporary as well as social dance and choreography dance at a beginning leveled scale. The emphasis of this course will be discovering what interests/talents students have individually within each unit and seeing where students can make connections with more advanced and complex movement combinations. Stage terminology, theatre etiquette and the art of performing are also included. Class activities will include performances, skill tests and written assignments. All course objectives are aligned with the Arizona State Dance Standards, College Career Ready Standards and/or National Standards.

NOTE: This class requires tactile teaching methods. I will occasionally need to adjust your son/daughters alignment for them to safely and properly execute movement exercises. If you have a concern with this type of teaching please feel free to contact me.

Course Goals & Objectives:

Teacher will:

- Provide all dance students with an opportunity to experience a wide, varied and in-depth exposure to dance.
- Create opportunity to use dance as a mode of expression.
- Demonstrate correct body alignment and anatomy and communicate with movement. To provide all dance students with proper alignment, strength, and technique.
- Developed an appreciation of the creative processes used in dance and will be able to apply them not only to their own choreography, but in the academic classroom.

Students will explore:

- Connections between dance and the everyday world, including cultural and social issues.
- A variety of dance techniques and styles including: Modern, Jazz, Ballet, Hip-Hop, Lyrical, Tap, Musical Theatre, and Social Dance.
- Creativity through improvisation (creative dance) and choreography.
- Production aspects, Dance history, Dance Vocabulary, and Kinesiology.

Winter Dance Concert Dates:

Dress Rehearsal – December 2nd, 2019

from 4:00pm-6:00pm

Dance Show – December 3rd & 4th, 2019

students check in at 5:45pm, doors open at 6:45pm, show starts at 7:00pm

Participation in the dance concert is **MANDATORY** and a part of your student's final grade. Mark your calendars now for these dates. As the concert gets closer, more information will be sent home. Students **will be required** to participate in all rehearsals which will take place the week of the concert.

Class/Dance Room Expectations:

- **Expect Success!** Maintain a positive attitude with yourself, your peers and your teachers.
- **Respect!** Respect applies to yourself, your peers, your teachers, and your dance room.
- **Be on Time!** If you're early you're on time. If you're on time you're late.
- **Dress Out!** Your dance teacher must be able to see the alignment of your body in order to make corrections and maintain your safety. Students must be dressed out every day. If not, then, you will participate (dance) in the clothes you wear to school and take a loss of points.
- **Participation is Key!** In order to get the best possible experience, students must be actively involved in class at all times. Always give your best and I will give mine.
- **Keep an Open Mind!** Be prepared to make progress. Every experience will enhance your growth as a dancer.
- **Locker:** respect your belongings and lock your locker. Respect others belongings and keep your hands out of their bag and locker. Remember we are not responsible for any lost or stolen items.

Keep the Dance Room and Locker Room CLEAN!

No shoes, NO Gum, NO Food, NO Drinks (besides water)!

Class/Dance Room Procedures:

- Mentally be ready to **MOVE YOUR BODY!**
- **ALWAYS** do everything *full out*
- Be ***respectful*** of yourself, peers, and your dance instructor
- Be considerate of your locker and locker room privileges.
- Be dressed out in *required uniform* everyday
- Be sitting in *role call* before the bell rings and dance instructor enters the dance room
- **ABSOLUTELY NO CELL PHONES unless directed by the instructor!!**
- **ABSOLUTELY NO GUM!!**
- **Center Floor:**
  When learning a combination → rotate lines, Mock through the movement as to develop your muscle memory and be aware of others – We do not want injuries
- **During Warm-up:**
  No talking, be in Alphabetical Order and Focus on your body as it is warming up and being stretched
- **Going Across the Floor:**
  Be Prepared in Alphabetical Order, Count the music, No Talking in line, Know the combination and Reverse it on your own

Daily Expectations:

Students are expected to dress out every day and have the opportunity to earn **20 points a day.** They will receive 5 points for dressing out, and 15 points for participation and making progress on the day's skills as based on the Arizona State Dance Standards.

Grading Scale:

- 90-100% = A
- 80-89% = B
- 70-79% = C
- 65-69% = D
- Below 65% = F

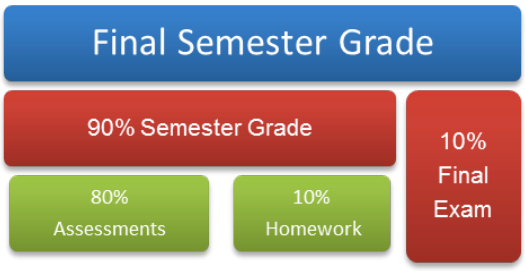
Units of Study:

- Ballet
- Modern
- Jazz
- Tap
- Hip-Hop
- Choreography
- Dance Elements

Grading:

- Dance is a performance-based class; attendance is mandatory for learning to take place.
- All doctor notes must be given to the front office/teacher before class to be excused from movement. Please note that only a doctor's note will excuse a student from participating and allow them to still receive daily participation points through alternative non-physical assignments.
- It is the student's responsibility to check for any missed work. Make-up work consists of written assignments or learning movement during concert preparation.
- A student who arrives more than half way through the class period will need to complete make-up work to receive points for the day.
- A student who is tardy will lose 5 points off their daily participation grade.
- Students **will be required** to participate in the dance concert. Dress rehearsal is also mandatory. The only excused absence will be for illness or family crisis. The teacher must be informed in advance for an absence to be excused. *A written paper will be given to make up points received for concert.* A student who has become a discipline issue or is failing will be given an alternative assignment for concert.
- Students will complete written work including vocabulary, history, evaluations, journaling and critiques.
- Students will be given written and performance based exams.

Grades will be calculated according to the following department guidelines:



Photo/Video:

Photography and videography are used in this class as a teaching tool. The times this may take place could be, but are not limited to, in class, rehearsals, performances, ect.. The use of these photos/videos may be in class as well as on the teacher web page. It will be used in class as a reflection/assessment tool and on the teacher web page to aid in the teaching process. Please discuss this with your child and if there is an issue with them being photographed/filmed please inform your teacher.

Failure of Semester:

Students who fail a semester core course are required to attend Academic Friday School from 12:15-3:30pm the entire following semester to make up the credit. Students who fail to attend Academic Friday School are subject to disciplinary action.

Breakdown of Major Grades:

Five Skills Tests:

- Ballet – 200 points
- Modern – 200 points
- Jazz – 200 points
- Tap – 200 points
- Hip Hop – 200 points

Six Written Exams:

- Ballet – 100 points
- Modern – 100 points
- Jazz – 100 points
- Tap – 100 points
- Hip Hop – 100 points
- Production – 50 points

- History Project – 100 pts
- Choreography Project – 350 pts
- Choreography Project – 350 pts
- Winter Dance Show – 350 pts
- Spring Dance Show – 350 pts
- Concert Critique – 75 pts
- Reflection 1st Semester – 75 pts
- Reflection 2nd Semester – 75 pts
- Syllabus Returned – 50 pts

Other class activities and notes will also be distributed throughout the year.

Dress Code:

You are required to have dress-out clothes daily! (Yes, it is mandatory!)

Required Dance Attire for dance concert:

- **LEOTARD: Nude/Skin Tone (spaghetti strap)**
- **TIGHTS: Nude/Skin Tone (preferably convertible)**

Acceptable Dance Attire for class:

- Fitted clothing allows your teacher to see the alignment of your body in order to make corrections and maintain your safety.
- Black Pants (required)! The pants must be below your knees to properly execute floor work.
- Tan Leotard (**required)!** You will need to wear a leotard to cover up the body for school appropriate wear. You will also have to wear one in the dance concert.
- Hair must be pulled up and out of your face **AT ALL TIMES.**
- You may wear Dance Paws, Foot Thongs, Bear Claws, or Bare Feet. ***NO SOCKS!***
- **NO** bellies, bottoms, or chest exposed. **NO Jewelry!!**

Locker Room/ Lost Stolen Items:

We are not responsible for lost or stolen items. Please lock all belongings into your locker that has been provided and securely lock it before leaving the locker room. We highly suggest leaving all expensive and special items at home. Do not leave your bag unattended on the floor in the dance room or on stage. Do not share lockers or combinations!

Fire Drill Procedure:

In the event of a fire drill, take all valuables with you and safely and quickly exit the classroom. Students will walk to the open field immediately and find Miss. Y's Line where students will line up and stay lined until we are dismissed (this will be reviewed in class ahead of time). Students who are late getting to the line will be marked tardy and their name will be turned in to the front office. Under no circumstance, will the student change back in to their regular dress clothing before leaving for the fire drill.

Lock Down Procedure:

In the event of a lock down, students will quickly and quietly sit down against the back wall by the cheer matts. We will remain sitting, quiet and in the dark until the conclusion of the lock down. There is absolutely no talking or use of cell phones during this time.

Good Of The Order:

- Students are welcomed and encouraged to bring bottled water to class. Students will receive 1 water break, but they will not be whenever the student wants.
- Unless directed otherwise, no student should ever be sitting in the teacher's desk.
- While electronic devices (cell phones, MP3's, etc.) are allowed on campus, there is **NO NEED** for these items while exercising unless stated and approved by the teacher.
- Please be aware of what items you bring to class with you. The dance department, North Pointe and the instructor are **not liable** for any lost or stolen items.

North Pointe Prep Late Work Practice:

North Pointe students are expected to turn in all assignments including but not limited to homework, projects, papers and lab reports on the assigned due date. Students are responsible for the material(s) missed due to any absence. If it is excused, he or she must make up any missing assignments within 2 days following the return to school (this does not apply assignments missed due to student events). If an assignment is missed due to lack of participation/change out, students CANNOT make it up and will receive a 0.

Student Section: I understand that I am fully and solely responsible for the grade I earn in class and that I must do ALL of my work, stay on task, complete ALL assignments, turn ALL assignments in ON TIME and abide by all classroom procedures, rules and standards. I understand that performances in the fall and spring dance concerts is **MANDATORY** and will plan my schedule accordingly. I understand that electronic devices may be used as an aid for learning (an instructional tool) at teacher discretion. I understand that I will lose this privilege if I do not abide by teacher's request. I will use technology respectfully and responsibly. I understand that if my electronic devices are damaged, lost or stolen it was my responsibility. I will not hold my teacher, school or district responsible.

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Birthday: _____ Class Period _____

Parent/Guardian Section: I have read the dance syllabus/contract and therefore declare that I am aware of all the policies and expectations. I understand that performing in the dance concert is part of the grade for this course. I also understand that performing in the concert will require some after-school and evening practices. I am aware that this class requires tactile teaching methods. The teacher will occasionally need to adjust alignment for the student to safely and properly execute movement exercises. I am aware that if I have a concern with this type of teaching I may contact the teacher. **PHOTO/VIDEO**- I understand that, as a learning tool used in the evaluation process, my student may be filmed/photographed during instructional time. This could be at any time during class, rehearsals, performances, etc.

Parent/Guardian Name (please print): _____

Parent/Guardian Address and Phone Number (please print):
_____
_____
_____

Parent/Guardian Email Address: _____
(This is extremely helpful for me keeping you up-to-date and informed about the class and your child)

When is the best time to reach you? _____

Is there anything you would like me to know about your teenager to help me best teach them?

I understand that my student's attendance in the winter and spring dance concerts, as well as rehearsal week, is mandatory and will plan our schedule accordingly.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____