

Black Horse Pike Regional School District

ENGAGING STUDENTS FOSTERING ACHIEVEMENT CULTIVATING 21ST CENTURY GLOBAL SKILLS

Dance I COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description:

Dance Education has the ability and flexibility to support all students individually. This course will help students develop values and skills such as problem solving, risk taking, decision making, collaboration, commitment, and understanding that there are multiple solutions to problems. Dance creates an opportunity for students to self-express and communicate through their movement. Dance stimulates all senses, allowing for multisensory development. Throughout dance students will problem solve using their bodies as the main tool. Students will develop a strong Bodily Kinesthetic awareness and intelligence throughout the study of movement.

Course Goals and Objectives:

Dance I is a beginner level class designed to introduce and expand the knowledge of dance elements. This class will provide movement experiences that explore the use of gravity, spatial awareness, floor work, center combinations, as well as traveling combinations that will eventually focus on performance skills. Students will be given an overview of the history and general vocabulary. Academics will include exposure to health and fitness, kinesthetic concepts to movement efficiency and safety, executing formations, working out stage settings and using gestures to communicate emotions. In addition, students will learn to function as part of a team, recognize the value in dancing with an ensemble, and establish a sense of critical thinking and problem solving. Students will experience creative expression through improvisation and movement studies.

Required Materials:

- Chromebook
- Single-subject notebook
- Black Leather Jazz Shoes
- Athletic Form Fitting Clothing

Daily Expectations and Procedures:

- 1.) Arrive to the classroom on time.
- 2.) Students will be appropriately dressed with hair pulled back out of their face with elastic/headband. Socks/barefoot/jazz shoes will be required depending on daily activities. Street shoes are NOT allowed on the dance floor. Students have FIVE MINUTES to change - if a student takes longer than five minutes, points will be deducted.
- 3.) Do-Now- read the agenda/task on the board
- 4.) If you finish DO-NOW before others, begin stretching and warming up.
- 5.) Participate and fully engage in activities planned.
- 6.) Cell phones are NOT allowed. Phones, ear buds, and other electronic devices should be stored with belongings and placed in phone pouch in the beginning of the day. Students will be written up for cell phone usage.
- 7.) Once advised by the teacher, students are permitted to gather their belongings and put shoes on.

ABSOLUTELY NO jewelry is to be worn in dance class, it is a distraction, and can cause injury.

Class Participation Policy

All students are expected to participate to the best of their ability and are ONLY allowed to sit out of physical activity if he or she has a note from the nurse or doctor. No exceptions! No Excuses!

-If a student does not have a note from the doctor, nurse, or guardian they will receive a zero for the day.

-If the student has a medical issue and must sit out of class, alternative written work will be assigned each day.

-ABSENCES - each student will be allowed three UNEXCUSED absences to be exempt from their grade that marking period. After three, their participation grade for that day will be marked as "missing" (0) rather than "excused". This is to discourage continuous unexcused absences.

REQUIRED DANCE PERFORMANCE:

Students will be required to perform in our Pep Rally which will take place on October 9, 2026. Students may be required to attend dress rehearsals in the days/weeks prior to the performance. Please plan accordingly to attend required rehearsals/performance. If a student is not able to attend mandatory rehearsals/performance, they may be at risk of failing the course and/or not advancing to the next level of the course.

Grading Policy:

50% -Participation – Students will receive 10 participation points a day, broken down as follows:

5 points - attitude (positive attitude, willingness to participate, arriving on time)

5 points - attire (hair up and back, proper shoes/clothing to move in)

*if a student is not properly dressed for class but can still dance, they will get 5 points off for attire. If a student is not properly dressed for class and CANNOT dance (wearing a skirt, dress, etc), they will receive an alternate assignment to complete for HALF credit (5 points). If the assignment is not completed by the end of the period, they will receive a zero for their participation that day.

20% - Written Test/Quizzes - Written tests/quizzes can be completed online, but may be distributed during in-person classes, depending on the content tested.

20% - Movement Studies/Performances - This includes written assessments, dress rehearsals, and performances are a MAJOR assessment grade. This may be solely based on dance videos, mini performances, or dance concerts.

10% - Classwork/Homework - Work will consist of periodic assignments for movement, history, vocabulary, kinesiology, style specifications, etc. related to dance studies. This may differ week to week.

Late assignments will be graded by the following:

-1 graded points off for each day it is late (if it is a large assignment worth over 20 points, 2 for each day it is late)

-late assignments will NOT be accepted past two weeks after the due date

Acknowledgment
MUST RETURN BY SEPTEMBER 15

By signing below, we acknowledge that we have received and read the course syllabus. We understand the performance dates, expectations, policies, procedures, grading practices, and responsibilities outlined in the syllabus.

We understand that the syllabus is an important resource and that the student is responsible for following the expectations and completing course requirements throughout the school year.

If we have any questions or concerns about the information in the syllabus, we understand that we may contact the teacher for clarification.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____