

Mrs. Tianna Sykes, Rm. E103 Dance Studio

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I. Course Description

This intermediate modern dance class continues with the fundamental modern dance skills learned in the previous level and introduces more advanced contemporary techniques. This course includes floor work, inversion and improvisation, as well as rhythmic, isolated and expressive movement. Classwork will deepen students' alignment, strength, flexibility, coordination, rhythm, dynamics and spatial awareness. The concepts of ballet and codified classical modern dance are explored, along with somatic awareness, efficient athleticism, and creative voice. Students perform in the Fall, Winter and Spring dance concerts.

II. Objective

Students will learn and execute the fundamentals of Modern Dance by practicing intermediate level movement exercises and dance phrases designed to increase knowledge and technical proficiency of modern dance technique. Students will develop skills in observing dance, learning how to articulate responses to what is seen both verbally and in writing. Students will become familiar with the meanings of space, time and energy, and comfortable in moving through all aspects of these dance elements. In addition, students will explore the process of organizing contemporary movement and evaluating the choices made within that organization.

III. Materials

- Dance Notebook (2inch 3 ring binder)
- Dance Journal (Composition Notebook)
- Writing Utensils
- Mandatory Dance Attire (see below)

IV. Mandatory Dance Attire

GIRLS

Solid black leotard, black FOOTLESS tights and black dance shorts, black leggings or fitted black dance pants, bare feet

BOYS

Plain black or white t-shirt (no words or logos), Plain black leggings, tights, or compression pants, plain black gym shorts, bare feet

V. Course Outline

**In addition to teaching intermediate level modern dance technique, this course will incorporate dance history and dance composition through lecture, discussion and viewing of dance videos.*

*Dance Videos - Dance videos will be assigned for viewing throughout the semester. Initially, I will choose specific videos in an effort to supplement previous exposure to a variety of choreographic styles.

*Movement Studies- During class, we will periodically review dance composition and how it relates to different choreographic styles.

*Papers - Written papers will include reflections and descriptive analysis of dance performances; self and peer evaluation of working processes, as well as discoveries that students have made about themselves as an artist.

*Reading - I will distribute handouts throughout the semester. We will discuss the readings in class on the same or following day.

*Modern Dance Masters Unit - 1st, 2nd and 3rd Generation Modern Dance Pioneers

*Contemporary Dance Making and Composition Unit - Choreographic Principles, Choreographic Devices, Motif

*Unit Projects - Written, visual, oral and/or Powerpoint presentations that relate to a chosen unit topic

*Attendance and Participation - Attendance at all classes is extremely important.

VI. Grading System:

A. Grading categories

- 1) Summative Assessments: 35% (concert performance evaluations, unit tests, research papers/essays, major assignments, midterm, projects)
- 2) Formative Assessments: 65% (daily work, class effort, proper use of time and materials, being prepared for class, dressing out in dance attire, interaction with peers, following instructions, quizzes, problem solving.)
- 3) Final: 10%

B. Grading scale: A: 90-100%; B: 80-89%; C: 70-79%; F: Below 69%

C. Late/Make-up work policy

ALL projects have deadlines and due dates.

- **Late Work** -If a project is not turned in on specified due date, 10 points per day will be deducted.
- **Make-up work** will be given a due date and a total number of points to be gained by resubmission. If work is not submitted on due date the original grade will be assigned.
- **Missed Assignments, Quizzes, Rehearsals, Performances and Tests:** Students have 5 calendar days from the assigned date to make up the task if a signed, dated excuse from a doctor or a parent with a valid telephone number is received on the day the student returns to school. **For missed performances, student will receive a grade of zero.**

EXCEPTIONS:

Signed, dated excuse from a doctor or a parent with a valid telephone number **on the following day.**

Must have clear communication with parent about extenuating circumstances. An alternative research assignment will be given as make-up for a missed performance in cases of communicated and documented extenuating circumstances.

D. Standardized Tests

Rockdale County Public Schools has developed content area standardized pre and post tests to determine if the content knowledge was acquired during the course of the semester. TBA

VII. Classroom Expectations:

1. Be prepared and on time for class.
2. Come to class every day with dance attire, charged laptop and writing utensils.
3. You will always dance in class, so please do not think you will work on other material during class. Put your best foot forward and you will succeed.
4. Please do not ask to borrow costumes to use for dance attire or when out of dress code.
5. No jewelry is to be worn in dance class. It is required that your hair be tied up and back, preferably in ponytail or bun. No hair in face.
6. If a student has an injury that persists for more than two (2) days, a doctor's note should be obtained and presented to the teacher.
7. All Dancers should carry Deodorant, Wipes, Hair Elastics (girls), and Bobby Pins (girls).

A. Classroom Procedures

1. Come to class every day quietly with dance attire, charged laptop and writing utensils.
2. You will have 5 minutes to dress. During those five minutes, you should be dressing out in dance attire and using the rest room if necessary. Dismissal to the restroom after dress out period will be limited. This 5-minute period is not to be used to socialize in the dressing rooms. After you get dressed, return to the dance studio immediately for class.
3. Please begin warming up quietly on your own until Mrs. Sykes finishes her attendance.
4. If a student is sick and the student chooses to be in school, the student may sit out and write a summary from a dance article and/or an observation paper (1 page in length). These students are expected to turn papers into Mrs. Sykes at the end of class. Papers will be evaluated for content and quality of work. Sitting out will severely affect your grade since you are not physically active in class. Non-dressed & tardy individuals are expected to participate in class.

B. Tardy/Attendance policy

- When the last bell sounds, teachers are to close their door and direct students to get a late pass.
- Students may go directly from the halls to the dressing rooms to change before class, but must first alert teacher to ensure that they are marked on time. **Students have 5 minutes to dress out and are considered tardy if they are not in class dressed in uniform five minutes after the final bell rings.**
- Students are expected to attend all assigned after school rehearsals and performances. A written excuse from a parent must be submitted in order for an absence to be recorded as excused.

C. Classroom rules and Consequences

Classroom Rules:

1. Do not do anything that inhibits someone else from learning. No talking or socializing during class.
2. Respect yourself, each other, the space you are in and the materials you are using.
3. No food, drinks, or candy. Exception: Bottled water w/ lid, kept in cubby.
4. All electronic devices are to be turned off and out of sight in the classroom. Otherwise they will be confiscated. No mirror pictures!!!
5. No jewelry is to be worn in dance class. It is required that your hair be tied up and back, preferably in ponytail or bun. No hair in face.

Consequences:

1. Verbal Warning
2. Parental contact and formal write up
3. Parental conference with student/ formal written disciplinary referral to administration.
4. Recommendation for ISS and/or suspension.

VIII. DAMAGE/ THEFT POLICY

Students will be responsible for the replacement cost of intentionally damaged, stolen or lost materials. See HHS Handbook.

Textbooks:

Dance history books, and other reference or classroom books are a valuable asset in the learning experience and may be utilized in class, but not issued to each student.

- ***Calendars of rehearsals, performances and other events are sent in a separate document***
- ***Dates on all calendars are subject to change***

Curriculum Calendar-Semester One

Week 1 (July 31-August 4)	Welcome to dance! Student and teacher introductions Dance program info and handbook review Course introductions/Class Syllabus Dance class etiquette and procedures
Week 2 (August 7-11)	FIRST MOVEMENT CLASSES/ DRESS OUT BEGINS Overview of class etiquette and procedures Stretch and Conditioning
Week 3 (August 14-18)	Stretch and Conditioning Technique Assessment #1 (In-class auditions for company)
Week 4 (August 21-25)	Stretch and Conditioning
Week 5 (August 28-Sept 1)	Stretch and Conditioning
Week 6 (September 5-8)	Labor Day-No School Sept. 4 Modern Technique Begin Fall Concert Repertory
Week 7 (September 11-15)	Modern Technique Fall Concert Repertory
Week 8 (September 18-22)	Modern Technique Fall Concert Repertory
Week 9 (September 25-29)	Stretch and Conditioning Fall Concert Repertory Review
(October 2-6)	FALL INTERCESSION: NO SCHOOL
Week 10 (October 9-13)	Modern Technique Unit One: Modern Dance Masters Fall Concert Repertory
Week 11 (October 16-20)	Modern Technique Unit One: Modern Dance Masters Fall Concert Repertory
Week 12 (October 23-27)	Modern Technique Unit One: Modern Dance Masters Quiz Technique Assessment #2 (Winter Ballet auditions) Fall Concert Repertory
Week 13 (Oct 30-Nov 3)	Stretch and Conditioning Unit One: Modern Dance Masters Finish fall choreography Begin Fall concert preparation
Week 14 (November 6-10)	Stretch and Conditioning Unit One: Modern Dance Masters Begin winter ballet choreography Fall concert preparation
Week 15 (November 13-17)	Guest Artist Dance Workshop Stretch and Conditioning Unit One: Modern Dance Masters Projects Due Winter Ballet Repertory Fall concert preparation
(November 20-24)	THANKSGIVING BREAK: NO SCHOOL
Week 16 (Nov 27-Dec1)	TECH WEEK/Mandatory Fall Concert Preparation: -Rehearsal/Tech Hours- Monday 3:30-9pm -Tech Rehearsal- Tuesday 3:30-9pm -Dress Rehearsal- Wednesday 3:30-9pm -Final Rehearsal/Run Through-Thursday 3:30-9pm
FALL DANCE CONCERT December 1st-2nd	
Week 17 (December 4-8)	Guest Artist Dance Workshop Stretch and Conditioning Fall Concert Evaluations Winter Ballet Repertory
Week 18 (December 11-15)	End of Semester Evaluations /Final exams
(December 18-January 2)	SEMESTER BREAK: NO SCHOOL

Curriculum Calendar-Semester Two

Week 19 (January 3-5)	Stretch and Conditioning Finish winter ballet choreography Winter Ballet preparation
Week 20 (January 8-12)	Stretch and Conditioning Winter Ballet Repertory Winter Ballet preparation
Week 21 (January 16-19)	MLK Holiday-No School Jan 15 Stretch and Conditioning Winter Ballet Repertory Winter Ballet preparation
Week 22 (January 22-26)	Stretch and Conditioning Winter Ballet Repertory Winter Ballet preparation Senior Choreography Submissions due
Week 23 (January 29-Feb 2)	TECH WEEK/Mandatory Winter Ballet preparation -Rehearsal/Tech Hours- Monday 3:30-9pm -Tech Rehearsal- Tuesday 3:30-9pm -Dress Rehearsal- Wednesday 3:30-9pm -Final Rehearsal/Run Through- Thursday 3:30-9pm
WINTER BALLET/DANCE CONCERT February 2nd-3rd	
Week 24 (February 5-9)	Modern Technique Unit Two: Contemporary Dance Making and Composition Winter Ballet Performance & Tech Evaluations Begin spring choreography
Week 25 (February 12-16)	Modern Technique Unit Two: Contemporary Dance Making and Composition Spring Concert Repertory Senior Choreography In-class showing #1/Peer Evaluations
Week 26 (Feb 26-March 2)	Modern Technique Unit Two: Contemporary Dance Making and Composition Test Spring Concert Repertory
Week 27 (March 5-9)	Technique Assessment #3 Spring Concert Repertory Final Senior Choreography In-class showing
Week 28 (March 13-16)	Teacher Work Day-No School March 12 Modern Technique Spring Concert Repertory Senior Choreography Showcase preparation
Week 29 (March 19-23)	Modern Technique Spring Concert Repertory Senior Choreography Showcase preparation
Week 30 (March 26-30)	Modern Technique Spring Concert Repertory Senior Choreography Showcase preparation
(April 2-6) SPRING BREAK: NO SCHOOL	
Week 31 (April 9-13)	Stretch and Conditioning Spring Concert Repertory TECH WEEK/Senior Choreography Showcase preparation -Tech Rehearsal/Tech Hours- Monday 3:30-9pm -Rehearsal-Tuesday 3:30-5pm -Dress Rehearsal- Wednesday 3:30-9pm -Final Rehearsal/Run Through- Thursday 3:30-5pm
SENIOR CHOREOGRAPHY SHOWCASE April 13th	
Week 32 (April 16-20)	Stretch and Conditioning Spring Concert Repertory Spring Dance Concert preparation
Week 33 (April 23-27)	Stretch and Conditioning Spring Concert Repertory Spring Dance Concert preparation

Week 34 (April 30-May 4)	Stretch and Conditioning Spring Concert Repertory Spring Dance Concert preparation
Week 35 (May 7-11)	TECH WEEK/Mandatory Spring Dance Concert preparation -Tech Rehearsal/Tech Hours- Monday 3:15-9pm -Dress Rehearsal- Tuesday 3:15-9pm -In-studio Rehearsal- Wednesday 3-5pm, Theater Rehearsal- 5-9pm -Final Rehearsal/Run Through- Thursday 3-5pm
SPRING DANCE CONCERT May 11th-12th Dance Awards Banquet (Saturday, May 12th immediately following the show)	
Week 36 (May 14-18)	Guest Artist Dance Workshop Spring Concert Evaluations
Week 37 (May 21-25)	End of Year Evaluations /Final Exams LAST WEEK OF SCHOOL