Teacher: Mrs. Cyrus

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Planning Period: 1st period 8:15-9:45

**Course Description:**

This course is designed to prepare the dancer who is considering major or minoring in dance at the college level. The course will stress technical ability, choreographic skills, performance, history, and dance criticism. Students will be a member of the dance ensemble which will require extra rehearsal and performances.

**Course Goals:**

1. Students will demonstrate an advanced level of technique in various styles of dance.
2. Students will enhance their choreographic skills and become more confident in their creative processes.
3. Students will be more equipped to critique dances using appropriate vocabulary.
4. Students will continue to expand their knowledge of anatomical concepts.
5. Students will be able to create dance for performance.

**Materials Needed**

1. **Small 3-ring binder-** Students will need a small binder to keep up with important handouts, journaling, reflecting, and note taking. Students should bring this and something to write with every day.
2. **Combination lock**- There will be assigned lockers outside of the dance room for you to put your clothes and other items in***only*** during your class period.
3. **WATER BOTTLE!** I encourage students to bring a water bottle (clear) to class as you will get water breaks but it is very convenient to have your water bottle right by you in the room and also saves time!
4. **Dance Attire:** See appropriate attire handout\

**Expectations**

**D-Dance in your space**

While dancing it is important to be aware of the space around you. To avoid injury everyone should make sure before beginning that they have enough room to extend all their limbs! Unless we are doing material that includes contact, students are expected to keep their hands to themselves and dance in their space.

**A**-**Arrive to class on time**

Dancers will have 5 minutes to dress out before class begins and 5 minutes prior to the end of the period. Dancers are expected to be prompt and ready for class after the 5 minute allotted time. If we are not dressing out on a particular day students should begin class at the regular time. The tardy policy is strictly enforced.

**N-Never say “I Can’t”**

It is important while we are in class to always try your best and have a positive attitude. If you are having trouble with a particular move or concept analyze it or ask for feedback- never settle for “I Can’t”. However, there are physical limitations so please inform teacher of specific needs and we can adjust material to work for you.

**C-Come to class prepared**

Students will be expected to come to class prepared with all materials. Students should have hair pulled back, socks off, and be dressed in the appropriate dance attire. Failure to do so will result in a deduction of daily participation points. Coming to class prepared also includes coming with assignments- there is a 20 point deduction each day an assignment is late.

**E-Experiment, Explore, and Express**

The dance space will be a safe zone for all students. All students are challenged to experiment with new styles, explore their abilities, and express themselves. We will work together to help achieve a comfortable environment to experiment, explore, and express!

**R-Respect the space and others**

It is essential to respect your peers and the dance space around you. Please ask before using anything in the dance room. *The stereo is not to be used by students.* We will be working in groups a great deal and it is imperative that we respect everyone. Food and drink are not allowed in the dance room. Students will be asked to throw away any food or drink they bring into the room. *A clear water bottle may be used for water only. Cell phones are NOT allowed in the dance room unless Mrs. Cyrus has given prior permission.*

\*Please note students are expected to follow the above rules as well as all EWA policies at all times.

**GRADING**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **QUARTER 1** | **QUARTER 2** | **FINAL EXAM** |
| Participation 30%  Notebook/Homework 15%  Projects 20%  Quizzes 15%  Tests 20%  100% | Participation 30%  Notebook/Homework 15%  Projects 20%  Quizzes 15%  Tests 20%  100% | Final Assessment 100% |
| **Quarter 1 grade makes up 37.5% of final grade** | **Quarter 2 grade makes up 37.5% of final grade** | **Final assessment makes up 25% of final grade** |

**Participation**

In dance class participation is essential, as you see above it makes up 30% of your quarter grade. Participation is graded daily on a 5 point scale. Everyday a student receives 5 points for participation unless they are deducted. To calculate participation grades the teacher will add all the points the student obtained and divide by points possible in that quarter. The following situations result in deduction of your daily participation points:

\*Not dressing out or wearing unapproved attire, socks on, hair down

\* Being disrespectful and/or disruptive in class- either to teacher or other peers

\* Not participating in group projects

\* Eating or drinking in class

\* Using cell phone in class

**Sitting out due to sickness or injury**

When a student has an injury or is not feeling well he or she will have an alternate assignment to complete for that day to gain the participation points. If a student sits out more than 2 days they must present a doctor’s note in order to receive participation credit. *The use of your cell phone or completing work for another class is NOT allowed.*

**Concert**

This semester’s concert is scheduled for Friday, December 8th with a dress rehearsal on Thursday, December 9th. The concert will be held at EWA in the gym. The concert will begin at 7:00pm with doors opening for parents and outside guests at 6:15. Dress rehearsal on Thursday will be from 4:00-7:30. Students should plan to stay at school for dress rehearsal and be picked up at 7:30. The day of concert students should be at the gym by 6:00pm- they do NOT stay after school on concert day. *At least* a month before concert, parents will receive an email with important details such as costumes, times, requirements, etc. Please note we try to use things students already own or dance department costumes. Typically parents do not spend more than $15 for concert. Everyone is expected to participate in the concert performance. If you have something set on that date that can’t be changed please inform Mrs. Cyrus immediately so an alternate assignment can be put into place. If an unexpected injury or event occurs please see Mrs. Cyrus to discuss options for an alternate assignment. Concert will count as a test grade.

**Dance Ensemble/Costume Fees**

There will be $50 costume fee due at the beginning of the fall semester only. The $50 should be received by ***August 31st.*** The $50 will cover all costuming for that semester’s performances. Therefore, parents do not have to worry about purchasing and/or finding items. Mrs. Cyrus will solely be in charge of purchasing costumes to ensure all students have appropriate attire and ensure no unexpected costume fees occur. This policy is intended to help with purchasing costumes and accessories for all performances in that semester: pep rallies, emerging artist, concert, etc. However the fee will **NOT** cover shoes. Most members have black jazz shoes but if you do not have a pair of these you are strongly suggested to purchase a pair or find a friend that has extra!! Please note if your student chooses to be in student choreography this fee does not cover any costume items needed for that. However, students will be strongly encouraged to use dance department costumes and clothing items they already own. Please make all checks payable to East Wake Academy.