



Deer Valley Unified School District

Becky Lopez

Dance Fundamentals

Room #F169

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Course Description:

This course, designed for the beginning level dancer, introduces basic technique in ballet, modern, jazz, and tap, as well as choreography and the art of performing. Dance history and terminology for each form will be discussed. Stage terminology and theatre etiquette are also included in this level. Class activities will include performances, skill tests, and written assignments. All course objectives are aligned with Arizona College and Career Ready Standards and/or national standards and supports school-wide efforts to increase student achievement.

Course Objectives:

By the time the student completes this course of study, the student will know or be able to:

1. Demonstrate a working knowledge of correct body alignment and anatomy
2. Properly demonstrate the ability to perform a variety of dance techniques.
3. Recognize and use choreographic and improvisation tools to interpret and create movement.
4. Recognize important dance figures and identify their roles in dance history.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of the technical aspects of a dance production.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of dance terminology related to course content.
7. Demonstrate the ability to work with various styles of music and rhythmic forms.
8. Demonstrate strength, flexibility, balance, and control.
9. Work cooperatively with peers in a productive manner.

Classroom Rules

1. Arrive on time and dress out within 5 minutes. Missing warm-up can cause injuries.
2. **No gum**, cell phones, iPods or mp3 players allowed on the dance floor.
3. Bring everything you need to class: dance clothes, hair ties, feminine products, etc.
4. Give your attention to the teacher or choreographer. Be respectful and listen.
5. Pick up your litter and personal belongings. Please make sure all valuables are secured in your backpack.
6. No one is to leave the classroom without permission or until they have been dismissed. The teacher will give permission to dress back out.
7. All school policies and rules are applicable in the classroom.
8. Profanity and disorderly conduct will not be tolerated.
9. Students are expected to maintain a proper attitude and be responsible for their actions at all times.
10. **Have fun!!!**

Consequences

Failure to adhere to classroom rules will result in the following actions

1. Verbal warning/point deductions
2. Phone call home
3. Detention
4. Discipline referral

Grading:

Each student in dance will receive a grade according to the following grading scale:

A= 90-100%

B= 80-89%

C= 70-79%

D= 60-69%

F=below 60%

Dance is a performance based class. Attendance is mandatory for learning to take place. All students may earn 10 points a day based on participation and dressing out.

-5 pts. for non-dress

Students may lose points for **chewing gum, using cell phones**, negative attitude, excessive talking, or poor effort during class.

Grades will be determined based on the students' cumulative earned points weighted by each category.

Final Grade: 80% = 18 week grade 20% = semester exam

18 Week Grade: Daily Participation = 40%
 Tests= 20%
 Performances = 30%
 Written Assignments= 10%

Report Cards

In an effort to conserve resources and harness the capacity of our electronic grade reporting program (PowerSchool) district schools will no longer print hard copies of report cards unless requested by individual parents. To request a hard copy of your student's report card, please contact the front office at 623-376-3000. To receive your PowerSchool login, please stop into the office with a valid photo ID.

Power School Online Access:

Grades and attendance may be accessed 24 hours a day online with your Power School access code. Access codes are available in the Counseling Office or Front Desk Monday – Friday 7:00 AM– 3:30 PM. You may check student progress regularly on the PowerSchool site using the same login for one or more students. For Mountain Ridge parents/guardians without home computer access, a computer with guest log-in capability is available in the Counseling Conference Room.

Academic Assistance:

In addition to the Academic Prep times built into our schedule each week, additional assistance/tutoring is provided on a weekly basis both by MRHS and individually by instructors. Those dates and times will be posted in the classroom and/or on my website at the start of each week. I will demonstrate to the students how to find availability each week. I also encourage your son/daughter to write down my availability each week in their Mountain Ridge planner (provided by the school) so that you too are aware of my weekly availability.

Make up Policy:

Absences: After an absence, a student has one school day for each day missed to make up work/tests, regardless of the number of days absent. If many days were missed, please schedule an appointment with me to formulate a plan for the completion of make-up work. Make-up work for extended absences (over 3 days) may be requested through the Counseling Office and picked up there.

Daily Device Use (iPads)

Students should come to school with their iPads charged and ready to use in each class every day. Within each classroom, there are three possible technology environments. Teachers will identify for students the environment expected during their class period.

Devices may not be used to record or take photos of other people without their consent. Consequences for classroom disruptions and misuse of devices will follow a progressive discipline model, beginning with a phone call home and progressing to office referrals for repeated or more serious offenses. Students who have devices out during a Red environment or during testing, may lose credit on their test or quiz. See the Student Rights and Responsibilities consequence chart in the handbook for more specific descriptions of infractions and consequences.

Dress Out Policy:

Students are to provide their own appropriate dancewear for class:

Female: leggings, spandex shorts may only be worn underneath pants or other shorts, tank tops, or non-baggy T-shirt (**Pants with zippers or buttons, exposed stomach, chest, or underwear will not be accepted!!**)

Males: sweats, basketball shorts, T-shirt

*On tap days, students do not have to dress out but are required to bring socks to wear with tap shoes provided by the school. Students are permitted to bring their own tap shoes to wear on those days.

**No street shoes are allowed!! Dance shoes are recommended but not required. Wear socks at your own risk!

Mandatory Performance Dates:

Please document the following dates and make plans accordingly.

Winter Dance Concert:

Dress Rehearsal: Tuesday December 10th, 2019

Performances: Wednesday December 11th- Friday December 13th, 2019

Spring Dance Concerts:

Dress Rehearsal: Tuesday May 5th, 2020

Performances: Wednesday May 6th-Friday May 8th, 2020

*****Dancing in the concert is a privilege. The teacher may remove any dancer at any time from performing in the concert. Dancers may be given an alternative assignment rather than perform in the concert for any number of reasons.**

Lack of effort/ poor attitude

Excessive absences/tardies

Infractions/violations of school and/or district rules or policies

Dance Concert Expectations

It is our goal to create an enjoyable experience for our audience members at the performances with minimal distraction from the overall dances. Due to that, we will have strict expectations for how you conduct and present yourself during the week of the shows. The following are some of the things that you will be expected abide by:

Appearance

- *All jewelry should be removed with the exception of **small** studs in your ears.
- *Please cover up any tattoos that are visible to the audience.
- *There should be no bras or other undergarments visible underneath your assigned costumes. This includes bralettes, sports bras, and colored bras.
- *Hair must be neutral colored. Please no bright, unnatural hair colors (blue, green, pink, purple, etc). Hair style will be decided by your instructor
- *All nails should be a neutral color (fingers and toes). Please plan accordingly if you are getting your nails done in the weeks approaching the dance shows.

Behavior

- *You are expected to be on time and prepared for all classes, rehearsals, and performances.
- *During the dress rehearsal, you may watch from the audience. Under no circumstances should you disrespect the dance on stage by moving around or talking.
- *During the performance, you should not be backstage, except just prior to taking the stage. During the applause is when you will take your spot in your beginning positions.
- *When backstage, if you can see the audience, they can see you. No “peeking” out from behind the curtains will be tolerated.
- *When you are backstage you need to be quiet and stay out of the way of other performers and out of the sight of the audience. Do no stand in the wings!
- *Please, no food or drink backstage, in the house or in the dressing rooms. Never eat or drink in costume.
- *Concert week is long for everyone. Please respect all dancers and the pieces that they are doing. Do no fool around, make remarks about other performers or dances, or otherwise disrupt the rehearsals or shows. We are counting on everyone to make this the best possible concert.

Level Advancement

All dance levels with the exception of dance Fundamentals are audition based classes. Level placements will be decided by your instructor. For Intermediate, Advanced, and Dance Ensemble auditions happen every day in class. Performance Auditions will be held at the end of the school year. Moving up in levels will be based on but not limited to technical ability, attitude in and out of class, performance in the dance shows, and daily effort level. Moving up levels is not guaranteed. If you do not meet expectations for skills, behavior, and attitude, you can be placed in the same level that you are currently in for the following year.

** Please contact Mrs. Lopez with any questions or concerns.
