

**Intro to Dance/Drill Syllabus**  
**Mrs. LeNorman (Coach D)**  
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**7th Period (1:52-2:42pm)**  
**Room 301**

Welcome to dance/drill class! I am extremely excited for this upcoming year! This will give you a general overview of what to expect in class this year. Assignments may vary and are subject to change.

**What will we learn?**

This class will give you a glimpse into the world of drill team. It is intended to become a feeder program and prepare students for the HHS Drill Team, should they wish to tryout. We will focus on learning proper technique and the foundations of dance, while also learning how to execute specific styles such as Jazz, Pom, Contemporary, Ballet, and Hip-Hop. Students will be given performance and choreography opportunities throughout the year.

**What does dance/drill class look like?**

We will begin every class with stretching and conditioning. Dance is very physical and we must train our bodies to be able to execute dance movements safely and properly.

We will then begin working on technique for the specific style we are studying- building up to the more advanced skills and combinations as the year progresses.

Each style of dance will be focused on for 4-6 consecutive weeks at a time. During those weeks, students will learn:

- The basic fundamental skills of that style (more advanced classes will be able to build more quickly on those skill sets)
- Dance combinations in each style of dance (combinations will build upon the fundamentals taught in class)

**What do we wear for class?**

Students need to wear something that will allow them to properly execute dance movements while keeping them appropriately covered, according to school dress code. All shorts must be in compliance with the school dress code. **NO JEANS**-you cannot dance in jeans! Street shoes are not permitted for dancing until we reach the Hip-Hop style.

**Students will need to purchase BLACK jazz shoes. Dance shoes can be purchased at Academy, various dance stores, or online (about \$30.00).**

**How are we graded?**

Each student will receive a participation and effort grade daily. This is the main component of your grade so it is important that you give 100% effort every day! Participation and effort includes executing the movements we are working on, dressing out, and maintaining a positive attitude. There will also be writing assignments, vocabulary quizzes, skills tests, and performance opportunities, which will all count towards your grade.

**Materials Needed**

1. Appropriate dance clothes
2. Jazz Shoes (Available at Academy, dance stores, or online)
3. Journal or Notebook
4. Pen or Pencil

## **Classroom Rules**

1. Cell phones or electronics are not permitted during class
  2. No street shoes while dancing (exception: Hip-Hop)
  3. Give 100% effort every day and have fun!
  4. Be Safe
  5. Be Responsible
  6. Be Respectful
- (4-6 are outlined in further detail on page 4)

## **Classroom Procedures**

1. Be in the classroom, ready for roll to be taken by the time the tardy bell rings. After taking attendance, students will be given 5 minutes to change clothes. You are responsible for bringing your dance clothes and storing your regular clothes appropriately. Not dressing out will result in the loss of ½ of your daily participation grade. If a student is 1-10 minutes late at the beginning of class they will be considered tardy, after 10 minutes students are considered absent.
2. This class is participation based-to get daily points you must dress out, participate physically, and participate verbally.
3. If for any reason you must sit out you must do the following: 1) Bring a note from a doctor and/or parent explaining why you are sitting out and how long you must sit out for. 2) Write a summary of the lesson including an overview of skills covered during that class.
4. This class is a positive learning environment promoting creativity-ANY negativity towards other dancers or dance styles will not be tolerated. Repeated offences will result in removal from the class.
5. You will be dismissed to change out of your dance clothes 5 minutes prior to the bell.
6. If you must leave class for any reason you will need to have a hall pass. Ask permission before taking the pass.
7. Cell phones are NOT permitted in the classroom. All electronic devices must be stored in backpacks with all other belongings until the end of class.

## **Overview of Grades**

### **Semester 1**

#### **Writing Assignments**

These written assignments will differ depending on which style is being covered. They will be discussed in detail at least 2 weeks before their due date. Examples include: self critiques, opinion papers, descriptive writing, etc.

Minor or Major Grade

#### **Skills Tests**

Students will be evaluated based on selected choreography, skills, and technique learned in class. This grade will be based upon effort, memory of required material, and how well the students implement technical skills that have been taught in class. More detailed guidelines will be provided at least 2 weeks in advance. Major Grade

#### **Midterm Project (December)**

Students will be asked to choreograph and perform a dance in groups. Students will not only be graded on how well they execute the dance, but also on how hard they try and how well they cooperate with their group.

Major Grade

#### **Vocabulary Quizzes**

These quizzes will cover dance terminology and definitions discussed in class. This is a great way to ensure the students understand and remember the terms used in class each day.

Minor or Major Grade

## **Participation and Effort Grade**

Students receive up to 20 points per day based on participation and effort. This is the main component of their grade in dance class. Participation points are split evenly between participating physically in class and dressing out. 100 points per week-Daily Grades

## **Semester 2**

### **Writing Assignments**

These written assignments will be discussed in detail at least 2 weeks before their due date. Minor or Major Grade

### **Skills Tests**

Students will be evaluated based on selected choreography, skills, and technique learned in class. This grade will be based upon effort, memory of required material, and how well the students implement technical skills that have been taught in class. More detailed guidelines will be provided at least 2 weeks in advance. Major Grade

### **Quizzes**

These quizzes will cover dance terminology and definitions discussed in class. This is a great way to ensure the students understand and remember the terms used in class each day. Minor or Major Grades

### **Spring Show**

This class will be responsible for performing 1-3 dances in the HHS Spring Show. Class time will serve as rehearsal to avoid having to practice outside of class time. **This performance is mandatory and will occur after school hours.**

50% of Final Exam Grade + Major Grade (this includes all rehearsals and performance)

### **Final Project (May)**

Students will be asked to choreograph and perform in a group of 2-3 along with a poster board depicting a costume idea, lighting, inspiration, etc. Students will present their posters to the class then perform their dance. Students will be graded on how well they execute the dance as well as their poster board presentation.

Remaining 50% of Final Exam Grade

## **Participation and Effort Grade**

Students receive up to 20 points per day based on participation and effort. This is the main component of their grade in dance class. Participation points are split evenly between participating physically in class and dressing out. 100 points per week-Daily Grades

In this class, everyone is expected to be....SAFE, RESPONSIBLE, and RESPECTFUL. Here is how we will accomplish those things in dance class:

**BE SAFE:**

1. Follow Classroom Rules
2. Always participate in stretching/conditioning before dancing

**BE RESPONSIBLE:**

1. Be on time
  - a. Be on time at the beginning of class
  - b. Return to class in a timely manner after changing
  - c. All assignments need to be turned in on time
2. Be prepared
  - a. Bring dance clothes each day
  - b. Be ready to participate and give 100% effort each day
3. Seek help when needed
  - a. Feel free to ask questions throughout the learning process. It takes time and practice to master new dance skills, if you ever need to review or slow down, please let me know and I would be happy to help you.

**BE RESPECTFUL:**

1. Treat others with respect
  - a. Electronic devices are not permitted during class.
  - b. Refrain from talking during teaching or while others are speaking.
  - c. During skills tests or any performances, show respect by watching silently without judgement.
2. Maintain a clean and orderly classroom
  - a. Throw any/all trash away
  - b. Take all belongings with you at the end of class
3. Use appropriate language and volume (this applies to music as well)