

Dripping Springs Middle School Dance Class Syllabus

Instructor: Ms. Longoria
Room C119

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Class Description: Dance students develop perceptual thinking and moving abilities in daily life that promote understanding of themselves and others and allow them to interact effectively in the community. By mastering movement principles and skills, students develop self-discipline, and healthy bodies that move expressively, efficiently, and safely through space and time with controlled energy. Students recognize dance as a vehicle for understanding cultural and historical contexts, increasing awareness of their own and others' heritage and traditions, thus helping them to participate in a diverse society. Evaluating and analyzing dance strengthen decision-making skills, develop critical and creative thinking, and enable students to make informed decisions about dance and the world around them. (Chapter 117, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Fine Arts-Texas Education Code, 1998)

Classroom Expectations:

1- Respectful

I expect my students to be respectful to all students and teachers by following the rules within the classroom/school and being actively engaged in moving/dancing, assignments, projects, etc. Proper dance etiquette is also very essential and will be expected of all of my students.

2- Prepared

Students are expected to come to class prepared, ready to work and learn! This includes bringing the necessary materials to class EVERYDAY (proper dance attire, proper shoes, pen/pencil, journal, etc).

3- Responsible

Being a responsible student means being aware of and following the teacher's classroom expectations. This includes being on time to class and turning assignments in on time.

4- Participate

Students are responsible to be active, daily participators within class exercises/stretchers, movement phrases, written work, group work, choreography projects and all classroom activities. Students will receive a daily participation grade. If students are feeling ill, he/she will be allowed to sit out (with the teacher's permission), and he/she will complete an alternative assignment for class. Students will receive permission from the teacher to sit out from class only once without a doctor's note or parents note. If the dancer feels sick again, a parent note is needed to sit out and once again, the student will complete an alternate assignment. If this occurs a third time (dancer not feeling well), a doctor's excuse is required for continuing non-movement participation and an alternative assignment/arrangements will be made to obtain credit.

5- Try Your Best!

Students are expected to put forth effort in all activities and assignments they are given. You'll never know what you are capable of until you try!

Classroom Rules:

1- Dancers follow Dripping Springs Middle School guideline and regulations
(Student Code of Conduct Handbook)

2- Dancers are **respectful to all individuals, our dance space, and school property/equipment at all times.**

3- Dancers are always **punctual, prepared for class, and behave in a professional manner.**

4- Dancers think “safety first!” **Hair should be tied back or out of the face, NO jewelry will be worn during class, chewing gum is NOT allowed, and NO food or drink (except water) will be allowed within the classroom.**

5- Dancers wear proper dance shoes, or will dance barefoot. Socks are NOT allowed on floor.

6- Common courtesy is expected during class (avoiding disruptions or distractions, raising a hand to ask questions, using class time efficiently, engaging in active learning, etc.) Restroom needs should be taken care of before or after class. **Dancers will not leave the classroom without teacher approval/permission.**

7- Bathroom/Restroom Rules:

Do not ask the teacher for permission to use the restroom if...

It is the first or last 10 minutes of class.

You are not participating

You have been disrespectful to the teacher, other students or any one else in the classroom.

You were tardy to class.

You or another classmate has walked out of class without permission.

You are misbehaving/excessively talking.

***ALL DECISIONS REGARDING LEAVING THE CLASS FOR ANY REASONS ARE COMPLETELY UP TO THE TEACHER – FOLLOW THE RULES AND TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE IT A GREAT YEAR!**

Consequences Include:

- 1- Teacher-Student Conference
- 2- Teacher-Coach/UIIL Sponsor Conference
- 3- Teacher-Parent Phone Call/Conference
- 4- Referral

Required Materials:

MUST BRING TO CLASS EVERYDAY!

- Writing Utensils (Pen and/or Pencil)
- Composition book
- Proper Dance Shoes
- Proper Dance Attire
 - o Females: Black scoop neck leotard, black bottoms, rubber bands, bobby pins
 - o Males: Solid black top, solid black bottoms

Performances:

All Dance I and Dance II Students are required to take part in the annual Dance Show in May. Further details will be given throughout the year.

Dance I Students have an option to perform in the winter showcase at Dripping Springs High School Thursday December 4, 2014 with a dress rehearsal on Wednesday December 3, 2014.

Dance II Students are required to perform in the winter showcase at Dripping Springs High School Thursday December 4, 2014 with a dress rehearsal on Wednesday December 3, 2014.

Exploration of Dance Movement

Students will develop movement skills and demonstrate alignment, agility, balance, and strength in multiple dance genres. Students will also demonstrate clarity and consistent artistic intent when memorizing and performing works of dance.

~Modern
~Multi-Cultural

~Jazz
~Social

~Hip Hop
~Improvisation

~Ballet

Exploration of Dance Content

Students will learn proper body alignment and placement as well as correct anatomical definitions and placement. Students will participate in class work and written work that includes the history of dance and its founders, healthy lifestyles for active individuals, movement vocabulary, elements of performance and presentation including design, lighting, costume, music, and make-up. Finally, students will also explore conditioning routines to build strength, flexibility, and stamina.

~Dance History

~Presentation/Performance

~Make-up/Hair

~Nutrition

~Conditioning

~Audio Editing

~Vocabulary

~Anatomy

~ costume design

The Elements of Dance (Composition)

Students will learn, define, and perform all of the elements of dance. Students will apply the knowledge acquired to choreographic principals. The elements include:

~**Body Awareness:** locomotor, non-locomotor, body base, body shape, and body parts

~**Space:** level, range, place, direction, pathway, and focus

~**Time:** tempo, accent, rhythm, duration, and beat

~**Energy:** weight, flow, and quality

~**Relationships:** individual, pair, groups, objects, and environments.

Please take the time to read the syllabus thoroughly with your daughter or son, discuss the goals and expectations set forth for all dance students at DSMS, and sign below. This signature page should be turned in to Ms. Longoria immediately.

I _____ have read and I understand the expectations outlined for my Dance class. I agree to do only my best to uphold the expectations set forth by the teacher. I will behave in a professional manner, and I will actively engage in class every day with a positive and learning attitude.

Student signature

Date

I _____ have read and I understand the expectations given to my child for his/her Dance class. Consequently, I will provide my son/daughter with all the needed materials for class, or I will promptly contact Ms. Longoria to make any necessary arrangements. I am aware that the expectations are held to a higher standard, and I support my child's intellectual and personal growth in his/her dance class.

Parent/legal guardian signature

Date

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. You may reach me via phone through the my office at (512) 858-3477, or via email amanda.longoria@dsisd.txed.net

Sincerely,

-Ms. Longoria

