

Beginning Dance Class Syllabus

Ms. Sammons

Period 1

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Class Description:

This course is designed to introduce students to the art of dance, expand their knowledge of movement and choreography, its history, and terms. Basic movement and movement concepts from Ballet, Jazz, Modern, Contemporary, and other styles will be explored. Students will learn dance technique, choreography and tools to help them express themselves as well as discover their own artistic voice and display creativity. Conditioning, Stretching, and Anatomy, are a few other topics that will be covered. In dance class you will work together, in small and large groups, and individually. Dancers are required to participate in both our November and April Dance Concerts.

Mandatory Dress Rehearsals and Shows:

Rehearsals- November 27, 28, 29 from 2:45 to 6 PM. April 22 2:45 to 6, April 23 2:45 to 6.

Shows- November 30 and December 1, call time 5 PM, Show @ 6 PM. April 24, 25, 26, call time 5 PM, Show @ 6 PM.

Dress Code and Materials:

Dress Code: Due July 24th Casteel Dance Shirt (\$15) Black Leggings/ Joggers Hair must be pulled up all the way and out of the face. No big jewelry. No hats.	Materials: Due July 24th Journal Pen or Pencil All Materials will need to be left in class.
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Class Expectations:

Students are expected to fully engage in class material, dance full out, complete assignments, show up in a timely fashion, be properly dressed out, and always try their best. Students earn points daily for each of these items.

If a class period is ever missed, students can complete make up work to earn their lost points back.

Google Classroom will be a way to keep resources easily available to students, however, it is not a replacement for coming to class. Students must be in class to be successful.

Street Shoes must be brought to class every session for emergencies such as fire drills, needing to evacuate the building, etc.

Assignments will take place in different forms- written tests, reflections, dancing skills, participation, projects, collaborations, and more. Your assignment grade will reflect how you did. Students will learn movement through this class and will be asked to present dance assignments. Students are graded on a beginning dance level and not expected to achieve perfection, only mastery of the basics covered. They are expected to put in their best effort at all times. Along with the dancing component, students also will demonstrate knowledge through written assignments and work, assessments, tests, journaling, etc.

Students may lose points by not dressing out, not participating, not completing class work, being disruptive or disrespectful, being on phone during class, having food or gum, having a bad attitude, and other disturbances or lack of rule following. If absent, you will lose daily points so always check with the teacher to see what you need to make up.

Students may turn in late work to receive points for assignments that are past due within 1 week of the date missed. Check in with the teacher for days to make up assignments. It is your responsibility to ask, complete and turn in the late work.

Students will not be excused from dancing unless they have a signed doctor's note specifying what they should be excused from and for how long. Once turned in, a student will be given a replacement assignment if they are unable to dance.

All students are expected to adhere to ALL the district and school policies, including but not limited to behavior, dress code, appropriate use of technology and more.

Let's have a great year! -*Ms. Sammons*

SCHOOL WIDE POLICY

Technology:

With the 1:1 technology initiative, it is the responsibility of the student to bring their fully charged laptop to school every day.

Discipline Protocol:

It is the expectation that students hold themselves to high standards. The teacher will address students who are not meeting these expectations. Progression for discipline: a warning, a warning with a phone call, a Parent-teacher conference, a referral.

Our goal is to work with families to ensure that all students have a safe and focused learning environment.

Tardy Protocol:

Students are expected to be in the locker room when the bell rings. If a student is tardy to class, teachers will follow this progression to rectify students being late to class. A warning on their first and second offense, an email / call home, notify Attendance Interventionist and email / call home. On the fifth offense, the teacher will refer the student to our Attendance Interventionist, who can work with families and assign Saturday school if necessary. The teacher has the option to provide their own lunch detention at their discretion instead of writing a conduct referral.

Absences:

Students who have excused absences have at least one day every day they are absent to make up the work they missed. Excessive absences can result in the loss of a credit for the course.

Food and Drink:

There is no food or drink allowed in the classroom except water.

Finals:

Finals are not given early. Absent students will receive a zero until they can take the final. Finals at the end of each semester are weighted at 20%.

BEGINNING DANCE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. **Performance:** Students will demonstrate technical proficiency and artistic expression at the beginning level by performing choreography on stage and feeling confident in the work. They will:
 - a. understand the required face and body performance needed to convey the dance correctly.
 - b. understand the processes of learning show choreography, formations, rehearsing and cleaning.
 - c. understand the roles of warm-up, “spacing,” lighting, and dress rehearsals.
 - d. come to know what they personally need to prepare for performance.
 - e. apply makeup properly, do stage hair styles, and the importance of costuming.

2. **Technique:** Students will demonstrate technical ability at beginning level in the styles of ballet, jazz, and modern, as well as movement principles from contemporary and hip hop. They can consistently demonstrate a sense of style, finesse, quality, attention to detail, clarity of movement, and artistic performing ability in class. They will:
 - a. demonstrate an understanding of proper warm up, across the floor, center floor, and combos.
 - b. be familiar and be able to demonstrate knowledge of a variety of styles with physical clarity.
 - c. understand the use of space, line, placement, and musicality.

3. **Choreography:** Students will demonstrate an understanding of the aesthetics and tools that go into creating movement. They will demonstrate:
 - a. knowledge of movement structure and of musicality in relation to music.
 - b. inventiveness and creativity in movement material.
 - c. integrity of artistic choices.
 - d. understanding and appreciation for the differences in what it takes to be taught choreography vs self made choreography.

EXTENDED RULES AND PROCEDURES:

Understanding the way our class works will help you be successful!

- ★ All students will receive a lock. If you lose it, you pay \$10 to replace it. Students will need to post their code and locker number on google class
- ★ When dressing out, we will meet in the locker room rather than the dance room. Dress out quickly and meet in the dance room. You have 7 minutes from when the bell rings, to be changed, and in your assigned spot in the dance room. You will have 7 minutes to change back for school as well.
- ★ If you need to speak to the teacher in the locker room, knock on the door. Please don't just barge in or interrupt. Always leave space for other teachers to come in.
- ★ Dancers have assigned rows for class. They should be sitting quietly and waiting for attendance. Row leaders are responsible for letting the teacher know if anyone is absent.
- ★ Journals will be kept in the bin for your class.
- ★ You will dress out every day. The teacher will let you know if you do not need to dress out, you never need to ask.
- ★ Dance dress code earns you points daily. Not dressing out in anyway results in loss of points.
- ★ You should be a student in our Google Classroom. GC is not a replacement for class, you have to be in class.
- ★ Concert is MANDATORY. Being in the class and signing the syllabus is an agreement to comply.
Missing concert will result in failing the class.
 - Rehearsals- November 27, 28, 29 from 2:45 to 6 PM. April 22 2:45 to 6, April 23 2:45 to 6.
 - Shows- November 30 and December 1, call time 5 PM, Show @ 6 PM. April 24, 25, 26, call time 5 PM, Show @ 6 PM.
- ★ We have a class fee of \$40 (\$20 each semester) **and** ECA fee of \$25. You will receive a concert shirt as part of these fees, as well as receive costumes to borrow. All money goes towards benefiting students, concert needs and resources in class.
- ★ Dance is a year long class.
- ★ **NO:** Gum, socks, food or drinks other than water
- ★ Trash left outside the dance room after your class will result in class conditioning.

BAND APP- CASTEEL DANCE

I will be utilizing the band app this year for Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Dance. The Band App is used for teams to come together and share content for class, have access to a calendar of events, and receive reminders, etc.

You need to download the app- Band App. In order to receive the invite link, you must agree to abide by the rules. Breaking the rules will result in removal from the app, removal from dances and concerts, as the teacher sees fit.

The band app will be a place for class pictures and videos of choreo. Only the teacher and the designated class leaders will be allowed to post a picture or video. You are only to view your class albums. The purpose of this is to have one place to compile content, to have for practice, etc. These are not perfected videos. They are NOT to be shown to others. They are NOT to be posted anywhere. Viewing your own class albums and other classes albums, showing others, commenting, posting, making fun of, bullying in any way, etc. will not be tolerated. There are 6 albums as follows:

Advanced Dance Photos	Advanced Dance Choreo
Intermediate Dance Photos	Intermediate Dance Choreo
Beginning Dance Photos	Beginning Dance Choreo

The teacher may add albums as she sees fit throughout the year.

It will also have a calendar of dance events. The calendar will have dance events such as concerts and possibly scheduling of when dances will be taught. Pay attention only to the events that apply to you and your class.

Calendar and Posts will be labeled by class to differentiate between classes. Advanced Calendar is purple, Intermediate green, **Beginning yellow**. Group calendar is gray and that means everyone.

The teacher may also use it for posting reminders. Pay attention only to the posts that apply to you and your class.

There is a messaging feature on band app. I am asking that dancers and parents do NOT use this unless I give specific permission such as submitting a make up work video, etc.. Please use email as the main source of communication- sammons.rylee@cusd80.com

Dancers are not required to be a part of the band app but if they like to have videos for practice, it is highly recommended as this is the easiest way to share recordings from class.

Parents are welcome to join as well and will need to abide by the same rules. A parent may not join unless their child joins as well.

Syllabus and BAND APP- CASTEEL DANCE Agreement

I agree to follow the rules in the syllabus. I understand the mandatory concert dates and participation. I also agree to follow the rules set in place for using the Band App.

Dancer Name: _____

Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____

Signature: _____

Please provide the student email for the band invite:

Student email: _____

Optional Parent Email: _____

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MANDATORY CONCERT DATES

You will fail dance if you do not attend rehearsals and shows for dance concerts. Please save and make these dates a priority.

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April 22 2:45 to 6, April 23 2:45 to 6.

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