

Aiken Performing Arts Academy Dance Syllabus

2016 - 2017

Instructor Information

Instructor
Miss Cumbee

Email
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Location & Days
Dance Room on "B" Days

General Information

Description

This course will challenge students to learn beginning/intermediate/advanced skills of dance while improving their technique, creativity, and understanding of kinesthetic communication. Students will learn various dance genres with strong emphasis on terminology, proper alignment, anatomy, musicality, expression, aesthetic, dance history, and technical proficiency.

Class Goals

Students will need to:

- Identify and demonstrate movement elements and skills and apply them while performing dance
- Implement choreographic principles, processes, and structures
- Use dance as a medium to communicate meaning and/or artistic intent
- Demonstrate and apply critical, creative, and analytic thinking in response to dance
- Demonstrate an understanding of dance in various cultures and historical periods
- Identify and apply healthful practices related to dance
- Make connections between dance and other arts disciplines, other content areas, and the world
- Meet high expectations that are communicated throughout the school year
- Demonstrate a level of consistency in processing, analyzing, and responding to sensory information through language and skills unique to dance
- Develop an understanding and recollection of a variety of dance genres and techniques
- Choreograph movement as well as perform movement on and off stage

Work Expectations

In dance class we will work hard every day. Dance is an art form that requires participation, discipline, dedication, and an open mind. We will explore the art of dance through journal writings, lectures, quizzes, tests, group/individual work, and the physical execution of dance technique. We will participate in various productions and events throughout the school year to demonstrate our work in the classroom to parents, our school, and our community.

- Students will begin each class by writing in their journal. The writing prompts will be posted before students enter the classroom and students are expected to work on these the moment they come in from dressing out.
- Students will end each day by filling out an “exit sticky.” They will have to list 1 thing that they learned while in class that day and turn in the “exit sticky” as they walk out the door.
- Expect a minimum of **5 quizzes, 1 test, 1 single-page paper, and/or 1 big project given each 9 weeks.** Also, **1 major exam will be given each semester.** Quizzes, tests, projects and exams may be in written format or skills achievement. All tests, projects, exams, and papers will be announced in ample time to allow for proper preparation. Quizzes may be announced or unannounced.
- Students are expected to dress out **EVERY** day.
- **Working with others is a vital part of being a successful dancer.** We will regularly engage in group work. It is important to be both respectful and cooperative in a group setting. Failure to do so may result in reduced participation grades and/or disciplinary action.

Rules and Policies

Students are expected to follow the general policies of the school set forth in the student handbook as well as classroom policies that are posted in the classroom and listed below. See student handbook for attendance and tardy policy.

- Be prepared - have your homework completed and bring all materials needed for class each day.
- Participate - Class participation is **MANDATORY**. This includes dressing out as well as involvement in class activities.
- Ask questions - If you do not understand something, please ask.
- Practice self-control - Refrain from talking when the teacher is talking, when other classmates are talking/asking questions, when non-verbal classwork is assigned, or when the music is on.
- Any missed assignments due to sickness or a school-related absence may be made up within 3 days. It is the student’s responsibility to collect, complete, and submit missed work. Any work turned in late not due to absence will be eligible only for half-credit (50%).

Rules and Policies (continued)

- If a student is absent on a day when choreography is taught, it is the student's responsibility to get with a classmate to learn what they missed. Choreography will not be re-taught to an entire class because of individual absences. Please understand that absences may result in students being offstage for a portion of choreography.
- Students are prohibited from having food, beverages (including water), or gum inside the dance class.
- Sitting between combinations without permission from the teacher is not allowed.
- Always have an "I can with practice" attitude.

Appropriate Dance Attire

Dress-out clothes should be stretchy and fit properly. Appropriate dance attire **may not** be oversized/baggy, too tight, too short, see-through, or revealing. Modesty is essential. Students' knees should be covered at all times for safety reasons. Clothing that is deemed inappropriate or offensive will not be tolerated. Students must always have appropriate school attire to cover their dance clothes when outside the classroom.

- Acceptable bottoms
 - Dance/yoga pants or capris
 - Leggings
 - Tights with long shorts over (ex. bike shorts)
- Acceptable tops
 - Leotard
 - Camisole
 - Tank top
 - Fitted cap sleeve shirt
 - Supportive sports bra under top
- Acceptable footwear
 - Jazz shoes (may be purchased from Academy Sports, a dance wear store, or online - not required)
 - Sports socks
 - Bare feet
 - Tap shoes (required for dance team)
- Hair must be pulled back with no flyaways
 - Have extra hairbands, bobby pins, and clips in your backpack
- Dangling jewelry is not allowed in the dance classroom

Supplies

- One-inch 3-ring binder with 3 dividers (notes, handouts, dance terminology) and college rule paper
- Spiral single-subject notebook for your journal
- Writing utensil - pencil w/ eraser or black/blue pen w/ white out
- Highlighter

Grading

- Homework 10% (2 lowest grades will be dropped)
- Exams 10%
- Quizzes 20% (2 lowest grades will be dropped)
- Classwork 25% (2 lowest grades will be dropped)
- Tests 35% (the lowest grade will be dropped)

You may earn a grade of 100% daily for classwork.

- Being on time 5%
- "Exit sticky" 5%
- Journal entry 20%
- Appropriate Attire 20%
- Class Participation 50%
 - Students must be actively engaged throughout the entire dance class.
 - Including but not limited to following class policies, listening, working hard, having a positive attitude, having all supplies needed for class, completing class assignments, and working respectfully with teacher and classmates.

Important Dates

- October 14th - Grandparents Day Program
- December 1st - 9th - "What happened to Christmas?" Play Rehearsal
- December 9th - "What happened to Christmas? Showcase at 7pm
- December 12th - 15th - Nine Weeks Exams
- January 10th - 11th - Semester Exams & Talent Show Rehearsal 3:30-5pm
- January 12th - 6th Annual School Talent Show at 7pm
- February 13th - 16th - 6th Annual Jazz Night Rehearsal
- February 17th - 6th Annual Jazz Night at 7pm
- March 22nd - 23rd - Nine Weeks Exams
- March 28th - 6th Annual "Artistically Sweet Experience" at 6pm
- April 10th - 13th - APAA Spring Production Rehearsal
- April 13th - APAA Spring Production at 7pm
- April 21st - "A Night at The Carnival" Prom from 7:30-9pm
- May 22nd - 23rd - Semester Exams
- May 31st - Awards Program at 11am (LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!)
- June 1st - APAA Graduation Ceremony!! at 10am