Dance Choreography and Performance

Mrs. Grupe – Spring 2019

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**Materials Needed:**

* Choreography notebook & folder (or 3 ring binder)
* Additional handouts will be given in class and should be kept in class folder/binder
* Appropriate dress-out clothes and dance shoes
* Personal electronic devices will be allowed/required as needed

**Course Description:**

This course is designed for intermediate and advanced dance students who wish to explore the art of dance composition and design. Choreographic elements and techniques will be taught through lectures, demonstrations and improvisational movement exercises. Regular reading assignments as well as written work will also be assigned to convey course material. Dancers will be given theme-based movement assignments and learn to use choreographic tools and creative thinking to complete and refine their projects. Students will be required to create a final routine that will be performed at the Fine Arts Showcase on April 16, 2019. This live performance at the end of the semester will serve as the course exam. Additional time commitments outside of the scheduled class time will be required.

**Expectations:**

* LAP material will convey Elements of Choreography and performance basics. Students will be given choreographic assignments to create, showcasing their understanding of the LAP material. Students will perform these routines in front of the teacher, class members and often a video recorder. With the guidance of the teacher, each student will select one of the studies to develop further for the final performance.  The final performance will be the Fine Arts Showcase on April 16, 2019. This performance will serve as the student’s final exam.
* The instructor and / or a member of the school’s administration must approve all movement, music and costume selections in advance.
* Each student choreographer who intends to have a cast of dancers will participate in an audition process. Cast members must be approved by the instructor. (Additional information and details on auditions will be provided in greater depth as the time nears.)
* The choreographer and teacher will set appropriate rehearsal times for each student piece (according to schedule availability.) Chosen rehearsal times will be considered as ‘structured’ and student attendance is mandatory. Additional out-of-class rehearsal time is to be expected.
* **Participation in the Spring Fine Arts Showcase is necessary to pass this class. Attendance at the following dates are mandatory:**

1. **Dress rehearsal Monday, April 15, 2019 3:30 – 9:00 pm**
2. **Fine Arts Showcase Tuesday, April 16, 2019 Call time TBA/ 7:00 pm show**

* Students can expect that other schedule requirements will be added. A strong effort will be made to convey new dates as soon as confirmation is made.

\**Participation in the Showcase performance is an earned privilege, not a right.*

Failure to demonstrate adequate knowledge of the performed material will result in the student working at but not performing in said showcase; the student will also receive a substantially reduced point credit for that particular exam grade.

**Dance Room Policies:**

1. No food, drink or gum in the dance room
2. No jewelry allowed while dancing. All jewelry must be removed before class.
3. No street shoes on the dance floor.
4. No book-bags in the hallway. All book-bags should be taken to the locker room.
5. Proper floor maintenance will be taught and is expected to be practiced by all dance students.

**Dress Code:**

* **Dance shoes must be worn to every class (appropriate for the lesson)**
* Dance attire is required – dark colored is preferred (black, navy, dark-gray)
* Appropriate dance attire = T-shirts, tank tops, cotton shorts, leggings, dance/yoga pants, leotard
* No baggy sweatshirts, sweatpants or jeans
* Hair must be pulled up and out of the face
* Jewelry must be removed before entering the studio
* Dress code is enforced on Liturgy/Dress Uniform days and dress-out days

Students will be given **three minutes** to dress-out in the locker room before class starts. Please arrive at class dressed and ready to dance – this means in proper attire, shoes on, hair pulled-up and all jewelry off. Bathroom visits should be taken care of before class starts.

All personal items should be kept in your locker. **A lock will be issued to you along with a locker for your use in the locker room. Security for your belongings is your responsibility. IWA is not responsible for lost or stolen items.**

**Formative and Summative Assessments:**

Attendance in class is crucial. A dancer can only develop her skills and her body through repetition and training. Focused attention and engaged participation during each class meeting will help advance technical progression. Regular attendance and participation are essential and factor in as a large part of the grade for this class.

A maximum of 10 participation points **(FA)** will be earned each class period if a student…

* Arrives on time and is prepared for class (this includes remembering your fob, your tennis shoes and, handling all bathroom needs before class)
* Dresses appropriately
* Follows directions & class rules and respects herself, the teacher and fellow students
* Participates to the best level of her ability

\*Each student is allowed one unexcused absence from tap class per semester. This means that a student may miss class once and no participation points will be deducted. (The absence must be documented and verified with the general office.) Be advised that material missed will not be specifically re-taught during the next class time. Therefore, it is the student’s decision whether she needs to attend an Open Lab to catch up on any missed material. After one unexcused absence, all other absences will be recorded as zero participation points until the student attends an Open Lab to learn what she missed from the teacher.

**Physical Education Department Severe Injury/Illness Policy:**

* Injured students are expected to attend class and observe. A written observation of each class must be turned in at the end of that class period for participation points. Make-up work may be required to earn all participation points missed.
* A note form a parent/guardian may excuse any student that cannot participate due to minor injury/illness for a max of two classes.
* A student suffering from a more severe injury/illness must obtain a doctor’s note and may be excused from Physical Education / Dance for up to one cycle (five class meetings). An alternate assignment may be required.
* If a student, per doctor’s note, would need to miss additional classes (up to two classes), these may be made up to regain points in open lab.
* A doctor’s note that excuses a student for more than seven class meetings would be reason for that student to drop physical education / dance for that semester.
* Any student who is not participating in physical education / dance due to a doctor’s note will not be eligible to participate in IWA athletics for the duration of the time prescribed in said note.
* Further information regarding making up missed classes is in syllabus.

Written assignments, group activities, worksheets, and quizzes may be used as formative assessments **(FA)**. Students will be asked to perform individually or in small groups in front of the rest of the class. Students will be expected to participate in group- discussion and give peer feedback after movement observations.

Choreographic Assignments **(FA and SA)** will also be given. Student will learn choreographed routines and perform in front of a class audience during a regular class meeting time. Performances may be recorded and posted for review and learning purposes.

**Final Exam Performance:**

**Students enrolled in Choreography & Performance will be performing in the IWA Fine Arts Showcase on Tuesday, April 16, 2019.** Students will learn a choreographed routine based on the concepts practiced in class. Individual participation, attendance and performance will be assessed as each student’s Exam grade.

\*Additional rehearsal time may be necessary for this performance. Students are expected to make every effort possible to attend all scheduled rehearsals.

\*\***Attendance at the Dress Rehearsal and Showcase are a required portion of this course.**

**Open Labs:**

Open Labs in the dance studio are reserved for students enrolled in a dance class. OL time is recommended for completing make-up work, practicing skills and routines, asking questions, obtaining personal instruction and executing cardio/toning/stretching exercises. Proper dress code, including dance shoes, is required. All other belongings should be taken to the locker room. Each student must fob-in and sign-in upon entering the studio. OL will be reserved for students enrolled in a dance class.

**BYOD Policy:**

The PE department provides each student a locker and lock to secure her belongings during class. Students should not bring their devices with them to class unless otherwise instructed. Please refer to IWA BYOD Policy for additional guidelines about student devices.

*\*This syllabus may be changed at the teacher’s discretion. It is the student’s responsibility to remain aware of changes.*

**Choreography & Performance Syllabus Consent Form**

**Mrs. Grupe**

[**kgrupe@iwacademy.org**](mailto:kgrupe@iwacademy.org)

**314-725-5850 X1208**

**Please sign this section and return to Mrs. Grupe by: *K day – Wednesday, January 16, 2019***

I have read the syllabus for this course and have had the opportunity to ask the teacher any questions I may have. I understand the course expectations and am aware of the policies regarding grading, injury/illness and make-up work. I am also aware that the Final Exam grade for this course will be based upon each student’s participation and performance in the Fine Arts Showcase on April 16, 2019.

Print Student’s Name

Student Signature Date

Print Parent’s Name

Parent Signature Date