

Modern Dance I

Francie Ridenhour

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Office Hours: Break, lunch and after school by appointment

Course Description

This course is an introduction to Modern Dance. The class will cover modern dance technique, which will be useful to students of other forms of dance such as Ballet or Jazz, as well introducing beginners to the world of dance. Stretching and strengthening exercises as well as combinations developing coordination will be taught in place and traveling across the floor. These exercises will follow a musical beat, developing an understanding of rhythm. The class will also cover the elements of dance; space, time and energy and apply them to improvisations and compositions.

Text and References

Videos of professional dance

Handouts

Course Goals and Benchmarks

- learn and understand basic dance vocabulary and concepts
- achieve basic technical abilities
- continue to improve based on individual abilities
- experience and critique dance as a live audience member
- learn and perform choreography in a concert setting
- explore and create choreography
- analyze and critique dance performances

Grading

Final Grades are comprised of the semester (80%) and Final Exam grades (20%).

Semester grades are determined by the following:

60% technical improvement, energy, effort and participation

40% written or practical quizzes and written assignments

Final Exam grades are determined by the effort of student to learn choreography and cooperation during the choreographic process (30%), attendance of scheduled rehearsals and call times (30%), and the performance itself. (30%)

Christmas Concert May 24th at 7:00 pm Rehearsal Tuesday May 24th afterschool.

Classroom Expectations

Participate:

1. Change quickly, find your space in the room and prepare yourself to dance you will have 5 minutes.
2. Follow the instructors lead in all center exercises and across the floor combinations
3. Learn all combinations by listening, watching, moving and asking questions

Written

1. Complete all written assignments on time and typed.
2. **Performance Paper** – Attend any Concert Dance performance and write a 2-3 page paper about you experience. I will organize a group trip to the theater.
3. Late work will result in a deduction of grade, 10 points per day, unless student has a legitimate excuse. Late work will not be accepted after 3 days. Absent students may turn work in via email to fridenhour@ihs.immaculateheart.org

Performance

1. Learn and remember choreography created for final exam
2. Be present at all scheduled after school rehearsals, crew work and call time for Final Exam Concert

Attire

You may wear: leotards and tights, yoga pants, stretch pants, tank tops, t-shirts.

You may not wear: I.H. uniform, regular street clothing or pajamas.

Hair must be tie back

On non-dance days students should wear their uniforms. Students may be required to provide a black leotard and black footless tights to wear with costumes for the Spring Concert. (Final Exam)