

# **Perry High Beginning Dance**

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## **Course Overview:**

This course is designed for the beginning dance student, focusing on technique, history, choreography, and performance. This is a fun, challenging, active course emphasizing all aspects of the art of dance. Class activities will include daily participation, written assignments, skills tests, and performances. Students will also participate in the spring dance concert along with several fundraisers throughout the year. Course may be repeated for credit.

## **Course Goals/Objectives and Expectations:**

**The student will be able to...**

- Demonstrate a working knowledge of correct body alignment, anatomy and warm-ups for prevention of injuries and safety factors related to dance movements.
- Properly demonstrate the ability to perform a variety of beginning modern, jazz, and ballet technique at the intermediate level. .
- Recognize important dance figures and identify their roles in dance history.
- Demonstrate knowledge of dance terminology related to course content.
- Demonstrate the ability to work with various styles of music and rhythmic forms.
- Attend and critique live and pre-recorded dance performances (1each semester)
- To reflect and evaluate personal growth in dance technique.

## **Course Rules:**

- Come to class prepared and on time.
- Participate in all activities to the best of your ability.
- All members of class must treat each other, the school, and personal property respectfully.
- Follow all school rules.

## **Dance Class Rules:**

- NO food, NO drink, NO gum, and NO street shoes allowed on the studio floor. This is to insure the safety and cleanliness of our dance space.
- All class members will be courteous to one another, share space, and keep negative comments to themselves. This includes no vulgar or profane language.
- When the music is off, stop talking and wait for further instruction.

### **Security:**

Theft occurs when a student leaves their belongings in an unsecured area or they fail to lock their locker. Each student is ultimately responsible for their belongings. All personal items - clothing, books, purses, bags, etc. are to be locked up in the locker room.

**Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices** are brought to school at your own risk.

### **Materials Required:**

#### **Class Fee:**

A \$25 class fee is required to take dance. All students will need to pay this fee at the bookstore within the first two weeks of school.

#### **Dance Notebook:**

Every student must bring a 1/2 inch/ 3-ring binder and divider tabs to be used as a dance notebook. We will label the tabs together in class, and use it periodically throughout the course. All class handouts to be included in the notebook will be available on my website, unit-by-unit. Students are best advised to store the notebook in their dance locker so that it is always available without carrying it to and from school every day. The notebook contains information for all written quizzes, tests, as well as various assignments requirements.

#### **Lockers:**

Each student will be issued a lock and a locker. Please do not share your locker or lock combination with other students and USE your locker during your class period. **Report a lost lock to your teacher immediately. If you are unable to find your lock, there will be a \$5.00 fee for a new lock.** Please be sure to double check that your lock is locked before leaving class. **We are not responsible for lost or stolen items. Please leave your valuables at home!**

#### **Proper Attire:**

Females:      Bottoms: Fitted solid black leggings/yoga pants. Leggings are preferred, but yoga pants or jazz pants are acceptable. No sweats or long shorts. *Double check that leggings are not see through!*

Tops: Snug-fitting solid black tee shirt or tank top – no spaghetti straps, revealing necklines, crop tops, or bra straps showing. Length must cover belly and lower back when bending/stretching. No large baggy tops, and no large or torn arm holes.

Males:      Bottoms: Black joggers, sweats, or men's jazz pants. No long shorts.  
Tops: Solid black tank top or snug-fitting tee shirt. Length must cover belly and lower back when bending/stretching. No large or torn arm holes.

Hair:      All hair must be pulled up off the face and neck for class. Keep extra hair

Footwear:      No specific dance footwear is required. Students may dance barefoot if preferred. Jazz shoes, turners, foot undeez, or dance paws are all suitable shoes as well.

**Grading Procedures: Quarter grades are comprised of the following categories:**

**Participation 50%**

This grade is based on your behavior and participation in class along with the number of days you attend class in proper attire. All students who choose not to follow the proper attire, do not participate or have a poor attitude will lose participation points. An unexcused absence will be considered a ditch. **UNEXCUSED ABSENCES, TARDIES, AND NON-DRESSES CANNOT BE MADE UP AND WILL LIMIT YOUR GRADE.** Excused absences can be made up.

**Skills Assessments 20%**

You will be graded on proper knowledge and execution of the movements learned in class, along with how well you are improving your movement skills as a dancer.

**Written Exams 20%**

You will be tested periodically over the various dance units. This will include terminology, anatomy, history, etc.

**Assignments 10%**

Various assignments will be given throughout the year. All assignments will be figured into the final grade and include concert critiques, journals, etc.

**\*\*\*Semester grades are calculated using the 45-45-10 formula\*\*\***

Quarter 1 & 2 = 45% each, Final Exam = 10%

**Attendance/ Participation Policies:**

**Dance Participation Point:** Your participation grade is worth 50% of your overall grade. Failing to follow the Perry High School Dance expectations will result in a loss of points. See the following chart.

**Point values included in Daily Points:**

Unexcused absence	-5
Excused absence	-5
Not dressed properly	-2.5
No participation	-5
Tardy	-2

**Absences:** After 7 absences, or excessive non-participation, students may be placed on an attendance contract or dropped from the class. Ten absences will result in automatic withdrawal from the class. **Students with excused absences will be allowed to make-up those absences.** Each student is personally responsible for any assignments missed. Students are also responsible for scheduling make-up exams with the teacher.

**Tardies:** Students may not make-up points lost due to tardiness. Students who miss more than half of class time will be counted as absent. School policy dictates that after 4 tardies a student will receive an administrative referral.

**Non-Dresses:** A non-dress results when a student does not wear proper attire. All non-dresses will result in a loss of participation points for the day. A student may still participate in class, if the non-dress attire permits safe participation in the class. If not, the student may not participate and will lose ALL participation points for that day.

**Make-Up Work:** Students are responsible for all assignments/quizzes/tests missed. Make-up assignments must be completed and submitted on the specified due dates.

**Concert Critique:** Each student is required to attend one live dance concert per semester. Students may attend any DANCE concert of their choice. A written critique is required **within two weeks** of seeing a show. Refer to the dance notebook for all requirements. If a student cannot attend a live concert due to hardship, an alternate assignment will be given in its place. The student must see the teacher at least **3 weeks in advance** of the final submission due date to receive this assignment.

**Dance Concerts:** Each class will showcase a dance piece they have learned at the Perry Spring Dance Show (SDS) in Quarter 4. **This is mandatory (all 3 performances) and is considered a culminating project which will be given a grade. Extra after-school rehearsals will be required 10 days prior to the performances. The scheduled performances dates are May 14-16, 2020.** More specific details will be issued at a later date. Please be sure to save the date and plan accordingly.

**\*NOTE\*** Dancers who do not take both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> semester dance will not perform in the student Dance Show but instead will work behind the scenes to earn their points. Students who are failing the class at specified checkpoint dates will not perform either, and will work behind the scenes to earn their points.

**Injured/ Long Term Illness/ Medical Excuses:**

If a student is injured and unable to participate in class, the student **MUST** have a note to excuse him or her. The note may be from a doctor, parent, school nurse, or athletic trainer. If the excuse is for more than three (3) consecutive class periods, the student must bring a doctor's note. Once a doctor's note has been received for an injury, the student **MUST** provide a doctor's note for clearance to resume participation. Any time a student does not fully participate in class she will lose participation points for the day. If the non-participation is excused via doctor's note, she will be allowed to turn in make-up work to regain the points.

**\*Please note that dance is a very physically demanding activity. If you suffer from a chronic or recurring physical injury you may want to consider taking a different course to fulfill your requirement.**

**Late Work Policy:** Students are expected to turn in assignments when the teacher asks for them, which is typically during Roll Call. Any work turned in afterward (including later the same day) is considered late. In most cases late work is not accepted in dance class.

**Tactical Teaching Note:** Dance teachers frequently find it necessary to give hands-on instruction in order to correct technique and benefit the dancers. If you have any problems with this, please talk to your teacher so that accommodations can be made.

Parents/Guardians:

Both student and parent/guardian signatures are required to participate in Perry High Dance. Your signatures indicate a clear understanding of all class requirements and an agreement to abide by class policies. Please contact the teacher with any questions.

I \_\_\_\_\_ have received & read:  
(Print Student's Full Name)

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| ✓ Course description | ✓ Grading Procedure                     |
| ✓ Course objectives  | ✓ Attendance and Participation Policies |
| ✓ Course Rules       | ✓ Late Policy                           |
| ✓ Dance Class Rules  | ✓ Tactical Teaching Note                |
| ✓ Materials Required |   |

Period #: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian E-mail or Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Must be signed and turned in by Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup>\***