

6th grade Dance Education- Ms. Vazquez

Course Description

The goal is to build a foundation of dance knowledge through technique, vocabulary, concepts, and class structure that can be carried into all dance disciplines and experiences throughout the program. By the end of the dance program students will experience and understand the diversity of techniques, cultures and people that influence each dance. Students will also begin to develop the skills to communicate ideas as well as learn about the world and themselves through movement. All students will be part of the Dual Language Middle School Winter and Spring dance concerts, where all of their hard work will be presented.

National Dance Standards

Students will:

- **Perform** - Existing and Original work / Different Dance Styles and Technique
- **Create** - Express ideas, images and feelings through choreography
- **Respond** - Demonstrate critical and analytical thinking skills in artistic response (written, verbal, physical) to dance.
- **Connect** - Relate experiences of dance to other content areas and the real world

Course Objectives

- Build on the dance skills, knowledge and movement vocabulary students bring into the classroom from personal experiences and interests
- Provide students with the language to describe, discuss and evaluate dances
- Make dances relevant by connecting dance to student's own personal dance styles
- Expose students to different dance styles, techniques and tools of dance
- Integrate the study of dance to other areas of learning (History, Science ELA etc)
- Provide students with the opportunity to learn through movement
- Explore dance traditions of various cultures
- Learn about the people and places that created the dances
- Connect students to real world opportunities through dance
- Build a classroom community

Course Expectations

Students are expected to:

- Participate in all discussions, movement exercises ,techniques and collaborative projects
- Copy all notes from slide presentation and class discussion

- Complete all classwork/projects correctly and on-time (which includes worksheets, Do Now, learning technique and much more)
- Ask questions when they do not understand the assignment or information given to them in class
- Encourage and support classmates through feedback and mentoring
- Apply the REACH values to all relationships and work in the classroom
- Be engaged, positive, curious and fearless
- Share (ideas, insight, experiences and creativity with classmates and teacher)
- Follow classroom instructions and guideline for a safe and fun experience

Course Materials/Dress Code

Students are expected to bring and wear the following materials to school every time they have dance class:

- Dance Folder and pen/pencil, notes, worksheets
- Sneakers or dance shoes (no flats, sandals, boots, crocs etc)
- Comfortable pants or sweatpants, shorts to go under skirts and other appropriate dance attire
 - Students who do not wear correct shoes can also participate by dancing barefoot
- Hair pulled back in a ponytail or bun to keep hair out of the eyes and help stay cool in the classroom
- No jewelry (earrings/necklaces/watches/bracelets) due to possible injuries to themselves or other classmates

Course Units – Will include, but not limited to:

Unit	Topics to be covered
1. Introduction to dance	- Rules and expectations. What is dance education?
2. Health and Fitness	- Warm – up, Benefits and Exercises
3. Elements of Dance	- Space/Body (shapes, levels, pathways, directions,) - Movement Skills (locomotor and axial movements) - Time (tempo) - Energy (movement quality) - Relationships (group, duet, trio solo)
4. Social/Cultural dances	- Identify different cultural dances around the world - Learn and the history, people and places that contributed to each unique style - Make connections between cultural dances and personal experiences - Gain skills needed to learn different social dances

Course Grading Policy

Class work: 50% - Class work will be measured by: mastery of assignment (written and physical) and quality of work. Classwork will include, but is not limited to

- **Dancing**
 - Physical participation in learning and performing technique
 - Learning/memorizing, executing and leading warm-up
 - Creating choreography/steps
- **Completing written work**
 - Do Now questions, worksheets, note taking etc.
 - Organizing and maintaining folder
- **Active engagement and attention during lesson/class**
 - Participating in class discussion
 - Provide feedback to classmates and asking questions

Assessments: 40% - Assessment will be measured by mastery of assignment/technique, quality of work, contributions and active engagement during projects/presentations. Assessments will include, but not limited to:

- **Individual and Collaborative Team Performance tasks**
 - Choreography and warm up projects
 - Written work – developing rubrics and teamwork guidelines and norms, charting, worksheets, written charts based on group discussions
 - Mandatory performances (2 per school year)
- **Individual and Team Physical exams/quizzes**
 - Technique, choreography, vocabulary and presentations

Reach: 10% - Reach will be measured by mastery of content.

- **Written exams/quizzes**
 - History/concepts
 - Vocabulary

Redoing Work

Depending on the type of work, students may redo certain assignments. They must communicate with the teacher if they intend to redo an assignment. In most cases, redos will be given up to two weeks from the grade being posted in GAMS to complete and hand in; except the two weeks prior to the end of the trimester. There are no Redos on physical/written exams or quizzes.

Classwork

All classwork assignments must be completed and turned in to the teacher by the end of class, unless otherwise specified. Classwork that is not submitted will impact the student's overall Dance grade.

Please note that students who receive mandated services during class time or are absent will be excused from physical/verbal class participation on that day, however they must follow up with the teacher, classmates and Google classrooms regarding notes, worksheets and other important information (such as due dates for projects and exams).

Students and parents/guardians are responsible for reviewing grades on GAMS

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is unacceptable. If a student engages in plagiarism, they will receive no credit, makeup or redos for the assignment which will impact students overall grade.

The NYC DOE Citywide Behavior Expectations defines Plagiarism as “appropriating another’s work and using it as one’s own for credit without the required citation and attribution, e.g., copying written work from the Internet, or any other source.” Plagiarism is a serious offense in the NYC DOE and will result in disciplinary and restorative action. Specifically, plagiarism includes the following:

- Copying, word for word, work from another person (including the Internet and other students) without giving credit to the original source.
- Taking words or language from another’s work with only minor alterations or changes to words and/or sentence structure.
- Representing another person’s original ideas or thoughts as one’s own.
- Paying another person to do one’s work.