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# Syllabus 19-20

## Fundamentals of Dance

White Days: Block 1 or Block 2  
Instructor: Kimberly Herndon Mansilla

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### Course Description

This course is designed for the beginning dance student with little or no previous dance experience. At this level emphasis is placed heavily on personal growth and each individual student is evaluated on their ability to develop and expand their skills and knowledge beyond their own beginning point. This course fulfills the physical education requirement for graduation so students should expect to challenge their bodies physically in every class as the basic skills for each dance style are taught and practiced.

### Dress Code

Students in FOD are required to follow a dress code. Students are allowed 5 minutes at the start and end of class to dress out. Students should consider keeping an extra set of dance clothes in their school locker in case they ever forget their dress out clothes. Each time a student does not dress out their daily assessment is reduced by one letter grade. Repeatedly not dressing out results in the loss of additional points.

For both ladies and gentleman: Form-fitted clothing that allows maximum uninhibited movement is desired. Leotards, Tights, Leggings, fitted dance pants, conservative styled shorts, fitted t-shirts or fitted tank tops are acceptable. Blue jeans, leggings resembling jeans, skirts, khaki pants, "jeggins", and overly baggy sweats are not allowed. Long hair must be pulled back and out of face. Ballet and/or jazz shoes are helpful for the ballet and jazz units but are not required. Bare feet are always acceptable. Street shoes are not allowed on the studio floor. For medical reasons some students are allowed to wear socks in class, for all others dancing in socks is dangerous and you are very strongly cautioned against it. If you dance in socks you do so at your own risk. Note: Wearing your dance clothes over your blue jeans or regular clothes is one of Ms. Mansilla's pet peeves! It's considered dishonest and if you do this you will lose dress points for the day.

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## Grading

### Grade Scale

97+	93	90	87	83	80	77	73	70	67	63	60	59-0
A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	U

**Mastery- Daily Assessment 40%**- Students are assessed one letter grade (A+ thru U) for each class. Grade is based on being on time, following the dress code, physicality, positive attitude and following basic studio etiquette: which includes no gum chewing, removing shoes when walking on the studio floor, not talking or sitting in dance class, etc... Specific dance etiquette protocols will be discussed as they arise in class.

**Mastery- Performances 20%**- Each six weeks grading period students will learn 1-2 short dance routines to be performed for a performance grade. Dances are performed in small groups in front of the class.

Rubric (Each category is evaluated on a 1-5 scale)

- Memory/Recall
- Timing/Rhythm/Musicality
- Body Awareness & Control
- Expressiveness/Quality
- Performance Focus/Commitment/Concentration/Audience Etiquette

**Engagement-Online Lessons 20%**- Students are assessed one letter grade (A+ thru U) for each online lesson homework or assignment. This includes various components including readings/questions/journals/self-evaluations/mini-projects and any other work completed outside of class. Online assignments can be turned in up to 1 days late for partial credit (-25%).

**Progression-Unit Quizzes 20%**-There is one quiz given each six week period that covers content from the online lessons as well as information presented in class. On quiz days the class may meet in one of the YPAS/Manual computer labs. **Students need their JCPS login to use the computers to take their quiz online.**

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## Technology

Ms. Mansilla believes strongly in technology as a powerful tool for learning and for facilitating communication between teacher, student and parent throughout the learning process.

Technology literacy is also one of the 21<sup>st</sup> century skills considered vital for educational and professional success today.

- Class webpage: <http://www.fundamentalsofdance.weebly.com>
- Ms. Mansilla uses an online grade book called Jupitergrades to keep grades, give individual feedback, organize homework and accept make-up work. Each parent & student has their own Jupitergrades account and password. Access your account by clicking *Jupitergrades Login* from the class website.
- If you or your student has limited access to a reliable internet connection please inform Ms. Mansilla as soon as possible. She is very happy to provide all homework assignments in other formats. **Limited internet access need not be a barrier to full participation in the course.**

## Cell Phone/Device Policy

Cellphones and any internet connected device should be stored and silenced during class.

Students may not carry a cellphone or other device on their person while they dance. Students may not use studio outlets to charge their phones. Students may not record audio or video at any time during dance class (including lectures) unless given direct and specific permission.

Violations of this policy will result in device being turned in to office and possible disciplinary referral.

## Absences

- Students who have prior knowledge of an upcoming absence are asked to notify Ms. Mansilla as soon as possible both in class and via email. It is each individual student's responsibility to inquire about their missed work upon their return.
- Please note that while FOD is an elective, it is not a study skills. FOD is a graded course and attendance is not optional. Students should not expect to be excused from FOD to make up work in other classes or for any other "spare of the moment-unofficial" reasons, such as going to Ms. Jones' room to "help out". Only official field trips, performances, masterclasses, etc... in which the teacher in charge has sent out an official excused list in advance will be excused.
- Be advised that class time may or may not be available for students to make-up performances. It is the student's responsibility to schedule a time after-school or during Red

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2 or White 3 to make up any missed performances. Failure to schedule a makeup date upon your return to class will result in a zero performance grade.

- In the case of early dismissals, students are expected to dress out and participate if they will be in class for at least 50% of the class time.

By signing you acknowledge that you have: 1. Setup your own Jupitergrades account, 2. Viewed the course overview and 3. have read and will abide by the syllabus. If you have any questions/concerns please ask Mrs. Mansilla before signing.

X \_\_\_\_\_ (Student) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

X \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)