

Course Syllabus 2020-2021

Contemporary Dance I, II, & III Contemporary Dance Ensemble

Ms. Naomi Elizabeth Montoya

Office Hours: 10:00am – 10:55am

E: nmontoya@paparts.org

Google Classroom code: (given upon request)

Google Dance Department code: 5zqtusx

Contemporary Dance Course Description

Modern/Contemporary dance is a requirement for university/conservatory dance programs as it helps create a strong and versatile dancer. Students will develop an understanding of the artistic and technical elements of physical expression that lead to performance artistry and will attain a technical proficiency based on sound kinesiological principles. Warm-ups are based mostly in Horton technique. Students will also engage in the collaborative process and will build on the intellectual and aesthetic understanding of craft and technique. Workshops and guest instructors will be featured occasionally. A live musician may accompany class on occasion as well. Students will get out of class what they put into it – students who work hard, maintain a positive attitude, keep an open mind, are willing to take risks, and are able to take and implement correction will obtain the most benefits.

Contemporary Dance I: This course is designed to students new to dance, new to modern dance, or have minimal or consistent formal recent study in ballet or modern technique. Students will explore breath, correct body alignment and injury prevention, proper health and nutrition, basic dance modes of body (space, effort, and shape), dance history, performance/audience etiquette, and respect for the art of dance.

Contemporary Dance II: This course is designed for the student who has mastered basic modern dance technique, has a working knowledge of basic anatomy, and is ready for more challenges in dance. Class will be more physically demanding than CD I and exploration in technique, dance history, and movement will be continued.

Contemporary Dance III: This course is for the upper-intermediate to advanced dance student interested in pursuing dance as a career or a serious hobby. It is expected that students be in excellent physical condition, have a strong ballet, jazz, or modern technique base, and take class regularly outside of PAPA. More performance and choreography opportunities will be available to these students. Expectations include professionalism and appropriateness at all times. An audition may be necessary to secure placement for this course.

Contemporary Dance Ensemble: This class is for pre-professional dance students strong in technique and is available by audition only. Students in Ensemble work on repertory and collaborate on choreography for various projects and performance. Ensemble functions as a dance company and members act as professionals who positively represent Ms. Montoya, the CD program, and PAPA in and outside of school. These students have more opportunities to perform, create, collaborate, and take master classes and workshops. Ensemble is a privilege and high expectations are expected of each student. CDE are bound to a contract in addition to the requirements of the course.

Class rules

- * Be prompt * Be polite * Be prepared * Be productive * Be positive *
- No food, drink, or gum is allowed in the dance studio
(or should be chewed when taking class at home)

Class Routines/Procedures/Schedule:

- Class will meet by ZOOM on a daily basis unless announced otherwise.
- On Mondays, a new link will be posted with a brief overview of the week. This information can be found under the “Classwork” tab on Google Classroom.
- During on-line learning, students must be logged in on time, in proper dance attire, hair back, and ready to “take class” every day.
- Computer or phone cameras and microphones need to be in good working order.
- Attendance and punctuality are imperative for safety and student development. Class will also consist of dance history, anatomy, or health & nutrition.
- If/when classes resume for face-to-face instruction, more information will be sent home about in-person protocol for safety of all.

Grading

Participation grades will be given randomly each week. Some weeks it may be on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; other weeks it may be Tuesday and Thursday, for example. The point of the randomness is that students are prepared all of the time. Participation includes discussion, participation in the class, or working with a partner or in a group. Additionally, other assignments and projects will be assigned.

If students must not participate for a medical reason (and have a doctor’s note), dancers will be required to observe and script class or complete an alternate assignment to receive some credit (using the proper form). Excessive absences/tardies will negatively affect the student’s grade as it is a “participation class.”

Absences

Due to the nature of our school, students may out of class for outside performance, auditions, and rehearsals; however, it is expected that students communicate with the instructor BEFORE the absence, not after the absence (unless the absence was due to unforeseen illness or emergency). Regarding non-school related auditions, performances, competitions & such, students can fill out a "Performing Arts Absence Request" form & submit to the office prior to the absence. If this is turned in with appropriate documentation in a timely manner, the performing arts-related absence does not count against the student.

Performances

Since we are in a GLOBAL PANDEMIC, details about Spring Show will be announced as we know more. It is expected to be a "virtual performance."

Dance Uniform

In general, dance uniform consists of the following:

Boys

- Form-fitting black shirt and
- Fitted black pants, tights, leggings

Bare feet or socks!

Girls

- Black leotard or unitard
- Black tights or leggings
- Black Jazz shoes

However, Dance Uniform requirements for online learning will include leggings, fitted sweats, or shorts and a fitted t-shirt or tank top for both boys and girls. Dancers need to keep hair off their face.

Syllabus, Online Learning Addendum, and Publicity Release/Liability Waiver need to be signed by a parent by Friday, September 4, 2020.

A Google "Signature" Form will be sent out to parents on Monday, August 31.

Only turn in ONE signature page per student.

Don't forget to let your instructor know if there are any physical or medical conditions that your instructor might need to know. Note that the instructor might ask for a doctor's release before he/she allows the student to participate. All information will remain confidential.