

PALM SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL  
Dance Department  
SYLLABUS



2019-2020

Mrs. Chelsea Gilbert  
Dance Director

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I. CURRICULAR GOALS:

- A. Students will perceive and respond, using the elements of dance. They will demonstrate movement skills, process sensory information, and describe movement, using the vocabulary of dance.
- B. Students will apply choreographic principles, processes, and skills to create and communicate meaning through dance.
- C. Students will analyze the function and developments of dance in past and present cultures throughout the world.
- D. Students will critically assess and derive meaning from works of dance, performance of dancers, and original works.
- E. Students will apply what they learn in dance to learning across subject areas. They will develop competencies and creative skills in problem solving, communication, and management of time and resources that contribute to lifelong learning and career skills.
- F. Major projects include: cultural dance project/presentation and dance style project. These projects involve research using the PSHS Library computers and putting together a Power-Point presentation with the student's assigned group.
- G. All students enrolled in Dance I are required to participate in the California Physical Fitness Testing, no matter their current grade level.
- H. ***The Homecoming Parade is Wednesday, October 23, 2019 at 3pm, Downtown Palm Canyon. There will be a Winter Dance Show and a Spring Dance Show (dates to be announced as soon as possible).***

## II. CLASS RULES

- A. Be respectful and courteous to your peers and instructor
- B. Dress out (grey shirt and black shorts/pants and tennis/dance shoes)
- C. Sit in roll call lines (until told to move)
- D. If a student is not fully dressed out then he/she will not participate
- E. Profanity is not allowed in the classroom
- F. Food, drinks (except water), or gum are not allowed in the classroom
- G. Absolutely NO CELL PHONES, IPods, or any kind of electronics will be allowed in the classroom
- H. Hair should be tied back and away from the face
- I. No backpacks or books.
- J. No beautifying (applying make-up, brushing hair, etc.) allowed in class

\*Teachers will not be responsible for lost or broken items.

## III. COURSE OFFERINGS:

- Dance I, II, III, IV and Dance Ensemble (by audition only)
  - \* All dance classes may be taken for Physical Education credit or Fine Arts credit (Dance Ensemble will receive Fine Arts credit ONLY)

## IV. DRESS REGULATIONS:

- A. Athletic shoes or dance shoes and socks are required (NO flip flops, flats, or boots)
- B. Shorts must be black and of appropriate length, T-shirts must be light grey. PSHS Logo shirts may be worn no matter the color. (NO tank tops or cut T-shirts).

## V. NON-DRESS POLICY:

- A. Parental Notes: Parents may request limited or no activity for medical reasons for up to 3 days. If a student is too ill to participate in class, they should not come to school. If a student becomes ill during school, they will be sent to the school nurse for treatment, and/or to be picked up. **Students are not excused from physical activity for menstrual periods, cold/cough, or headache unless it is accompanied with a Doctor's note.** If a student has been injured, a parent/guardian may write a note to teacher to excuse from classroom participation for up to 3 days. **Any longer than 3 days must be accompanied by a Doctor's note given to the school nurse.**
- B. Medical Notes: When recovering from an illness or injury, students must submit a note from their doctor stating the length of time and/or limitations that the student is to be out or limited in physical activity. Students may be assigned written make-up work for a maximum of 10 days. Students who are out for more than 6 weeks may not receive credit.
- C. If a student has a sports activity after school they are still required to fully dress out and participate. If the activity for the day is too intense for a game day the student will be given a make-up or alternate activity.

D. Non-Dress Consequences:

1<sup>st</sup> non-dress: 5-minute detention (student will call their parent) & point deduction

2<sup>nd</sup> non-dress: 15-minute detention, point deduction & parental contact will be made by the teacher

3<sup>rd</sup> non-dress: 30-minute detention, point deduction & referral to administration

4<sup>th</sup> non-dress: 30-minute detention, point deduction referral to administration

5<sup>th</sup> non-dress: Student is now in danger of failing the class!

VI. GRADING POLICY: PSUSD School Board Adopted Grading Scale (2010)

97-100= A+    92-96= A    90-91= A-

87-89= B+    82-86= B    80-81= B-

77-79= C+    72-76= C    70-71= C-

67-69= D+    62-66= D    60-61= D-

In class participation (including fitness days): 40%

Dressing out: 30%

Performances, Projects and Critiques: 20%

Tests and Quizzes: 10%

Extra Credit: 10% credit can be earned if a student attends an outside dance concert and write a two-page critique to be turned in along with a program and ticket stub no later than 1 week after the event.

No more than 2 concerts can be seen for extra credit per semester. Prior approval of the concert must be given in order to receive credit.

\*Students will receive a grade each day. Grading is as follows:

A: student is on time, participates to the best of their ability, is not a disturbance to the class

B: student is tardy, student is not participating to the best of their ability, is not a disturbance to the class

C: student is not participating to the best of their ability, is a disturbance to the rest of the class, or if a student is not able to participate during class due to injury or a doctor's note, the student will be asked to write a critique of the class

D: student is not able to participate due to not dressing out (will be asked to write a critique of the class)

F: Truant (if you are not present you are not participating!)

\*If a student is going to have excused absences exceeding 2 days (vacation, doctor's notice, etc.) arrangements need to be made beforehand to pick up dance assignments.

NOTE: SCHOOL ATTENDANCE POLICY:

5 Truancies = 1 Letter Grade Drop

7 Truancies = FAIL THE CLASS

VII. MAJOR TOPICS/ASSIGNMENTS (assignments progress with equivalent dance level)

All About Me Project

Dance Vocabulary/Terminology

Nutrition log/project

History of Dance

Dance Scrapbook with reflections

Dance Lesson Plan

Cultural Dance Project/ Presentation

California Fitness Testing

Dancing through the Decades

Video Project

Dance Style Project/Presentation

Lead class/warm-up & across-the-floor

