

LVHS Dance Course Syllabus

Welcome to Dance!

My name is Shaquida Vergo and I have been teaching dance for over fifteen years. I have an Associates of Arts from Cypress College, a bachelor's from UNLV, and a Master's from Western Governor's University. I am very happy to be here with you all this year and I hope you are as well.

Dance is a performance art that uses the mind and body as its medium. Dance as an art form gives students not only an opportunity to move but also to think and create. As your teacher, I expect great things from you. I will never accept less than your personal best academically, in participation, and in attitude. You are expected to be here to learn and contribute to the greater good of the class and the art form.

COURSE FEES: \$40.00

DAILY EXPECTATIONS:

- Students should demonstrate kindness and respect for other classmates and instructors at all times. There will be no teasing, poking fun, harassment, or other rude behavior at any time. We are all here to learn, and we will all make mistakes.
- All students will dress and participate every day. A doctor's note only will excuse a student from participating for a long-term illness or injury. If you are not feeling well, you will dress and participate as much as possible. If you are well enough to attend school, you are well enough to dress out.
- A written class observation will be done in order to earn points for the day. It must include all activities and a reflection paragraph.
- Absolutely no food, drink (other than water), or chewing gum in the dance space.
- No street shoes are allowed in the main dance studio. Socks and dance shoes only.
- Cell phones are not permitted in class (from bell to bell). Unless stated otherwise.

STUDENTS WILL BE EXPECTED TO DRESS OUT DAILY FOR CLASS

BEGINNING AUGUST 15TH AND 16TH.

DRESS CODE:

- All dance students are expected to wear black/gray/red bottoms and a black/gray/red/white shirt, LVHS Dance t-shirt, or leotard. **No jeans.**
- Students are expected to wear black socks. **No bare feet.**
- Students who do not have their uniform are expected to participate to the best of their abilities
- Hair must be securely pulled out of your face.

- Please be mindful of your jewelry so it does not hinder your dancing or harm the people around you.
- You have ten minutes from the bell to dress and be in your attendance spot.
- **Note: All dancewear must abide by the school dress code.**

MAKE-UP WORK:

- If you miss class, it is up to you to complete assignments, review the rehearsal videos, and check the modules in [Canvas](#)

PERFORMANCES:

Students are **required** to perform at the end of the semester. Performance attendance is excused for emergencies only. Unexcused absences will not be allowed to be made up and will result in a zero. **Keep in mind that performances are a major portion of the end of semester grade.** If an excused emergency occurs, the alternative assignment should be completed. It must be turned prior to the end of the semester. If students do not communicate with the Director prior to the week of the show, no exceptions will be made.

FIRST SEMESTER: FALL PERFORMANCE WILL BE Friday, December 6th at 6pm.

Mandatory Dress rehearsal for the show will be Thursday, December 5th from 2:00-5:00pm.

Onstage Spacing Rehearsals during class time: 12/04, 12/05, and 12/06

SECOND SEMESTER: SPRING PERFORMANCE WILL BE Friday, May 2nd at 6pm.

Mandatory Dress rehearsal for the show will be Thursday, May 1st from 2:00-5:00pm.

Onstage Spacing Rehearsals during class time: 4/29, 4/30, 5/01 and 5/02

Performance expectations:

- Students must arrive 2 hours prior to performance. **Students are expected to arrive at 4:00.**
- Hair must be pulled completely back or abide by the expected hairstyle
- Performance style make-up
- All personal items used in addition to the costume you are given must be brought to the dress rehearsal and shows.
- No bright/distracting fingernail or toenail polish
- Audience members will be admitted into the auditorium 30 minutes prior to the show
- Tickets are sold to the shows as a fundraiser. Tickets will be \$10 at the door and \$5 presale. Tickets will be \$5 for all children, students, and LVHS Faculty. More information will provided prior to the show.

Academic Expectations

Students are expected to complete **all assignments**. It is impossible for a teacher to measure student mastery without the completion of assignments and missing assignments hinders the success of all students. Therefore, Las Vegas High School has implemented a strict assignment policy and all teachers are required to follow the policy. This policy will result in an extension of the school day (Academic Opportunity/AOP) when the student fails to complete any assignment or does not reach mastery on the test or assignment.

Grading Policy

We DO NOT allow missing assignments at Las Vegas High School so if you do not complete an assignment, you will be assigned to Academic Opportunity Period and if you fail to use this opportunity, you will receive a Minimum F for the AOP assignment.

90% - 100 = A

80% - 89% = B

70% - 79% = C

60% - 69% = D

50% - 59% = F

10 Points per day: daily class participation (skills and technique progression will be considered) You must be working towards progressing into the intermediate level. Each student has the opportunity to earn 10 points per day. These points are earned by properly dressing out and participating 100%. You can lose points by not dressing out and not participating fully.

100 points: Semester Concert Dress Rehearsal

200 points: Semester Concert Performance

30-50 points: movement projects, research project, and tests (both written and performance based)

5-20 points: Lecture Responses/Journal

Journals:

Journal topics are given in class and will be available via Canvas. These journals will consist of short answer questions, quizzes on learned materials, and project/concert reflection.

Projects:

Movement projects will be assigned throughout the semester. Many will be in-class projects that may be done in groups or alone depending on the assignment.

Tests:

Assessments will be given throughout the semester on vocabulary, history, and other learned aspects.

Attendance:

Attendance is required for students to experience **maximum academic growth**. You will receive a truancy for every unexcused absence in any one period. If you receive three truancy letters you may be cited by CCSD Police. Additionally, truanancies on your school record affects your driving rights and you will not be allowed to get a permit or license. After the tenth unexcused absence, the student may lose credit for the course. Because we believe you should attend school every day, your parents will be requested to attend a meeting if you are absent 10 times in one quarter, excused or unexcused. Attendance is a **career ready skill** and we do expect all students to attend EVERY day!

2-2-2

For all Dance courses, 2-2-2 does not exempt you from completing the end of semester exam. You must take all course assessments to show course knowledge, improvement, and mastery.

Remember, to earn 2-2-2 you can only have a total of two absences, excused or unexcused.

Tardy Policy

Tardiness is a serious disruption to the educational program. Every student is required to be in his/her seat when the tardy bell rings and understands that the Las Vegas High School Tardy Policy will be strictly enforced, and tardy sweeps will occur daily. If a student is late thirty minutes or more, they are then marked absent.

- First tardy: Warning
- Second tardy: Parent Contact
- Third tardy: Thirty-minute teacher's detention
- Subsequent tardies: Behavioral Referral

(Remember that more than two tardies in one semester will eliminate you from 2-2-2.)

General description of each course:

Dance 1

This one-year course is designed to develop an appreciation of dance as an art form. Students will relate personal experiences to create movement. The students will communicate in a way

that is different from the written or spoken word, or even from other visual or auditory symbol systems. Students develop higher order thinking skills through creating, performing, responding and connecting to dance. The student will examine the role and meaning of dance in diverse social, cultural, and historical contexts through a variety of dance forms. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills either the one Arts/Humanities/CTE credit, or one physical education credit required for graduation and may be repeated.

Dance 2

This one-year course is an intermediate level course designed to build upon an appreciation of dance as an art form. Students will relate personal experiences to create movement. The students will communicate in a way that is different from the written or spoken word, or even from other visual or auditory symbol systems. Students develop higher order thinking skills through creating, performing, responding and connecting to dance. The student examines the role and meaning of dance in diverse social, cultural, and historical contexts through a variety of dance forms. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills either the one Arts/Humanities/CTE credit, or one physical education credit required for graduation and may be repeated.

Advanced Techniques

This one-year course is designed for high school students who have successfully completed an intermediate dance course and want to explore more advanced performance techniques. Major topics include the skills required for performance and creation in ballet, jazz, modern, tap, and theatrical dance forms. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills either the one Arts/Humanities/CTE credit, or one physical education credit required for graduation and may be repeated

Elements

This one-year course is designed to develop the students' performance through extensive exploration of the fundamentals of dance. The elements of space, force, time, and locomotor and non-locomotor movements will be incorporated into the composition and choreographic process. This course will develop and extend the artistic, affective, cognitive, and psychomotor potentials of the advanced students. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills either one of the elective credits or the Arts/Humanities/CTE credit required for high school graduation and may be repeated