



## Mount Hebron High School Dance Program



**Course Title: Dance II**  
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### **Dear Parents & Guardians:**

Welcome to the Mt. Hebron Dance Program and a wonderful and exciting year of dance! This year your child will be in one of our technique-based courses, which aligns with our county dance curriculum and covers a variety of dance styles and disciplines. This course requires participation, performance, and both written and practical assessments. Your child will also have the opportunity to attend a field trip to NYC to see a Broadway show. This trip is not required, however it is a unique and wonderful opportunity should your child choose to attend the trip. Details (upon approval) will be posted on Canvas. Please read through the information provided below and feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank You and I look forward to working with your child this year!

Ms. Reyes

### **Course Description:**

In this Fine Arts course, students are challenged in sessions of dance technique that use their maximum movement range. Various styles of dancing are explored. Individuality of artistic expression is encouraged through improvisation and composition, using specific choreographic forms. This course fulfills the Fine Arts elective requirement as it provides instruction in aesthetics, dance history, anatomy, and choreographic techniques. Performance components beyond the regular school day are required.

The HCPSS Dance Curriculum and grading policies are based on the following county-wide Dance Standards:

- Ds1: Performance Skills & Practices: Demonstrate professional standards of performance etiquette and practices to meet course expectations.
- Ds2: Technical Development: Utilize movement vocabulary and terminology of various styles and genres to create original work.
- Ds3: Reflection: Critically examine and reflect how content and context guide personal effort and aesthetic development in choreography and performance.
- Ds4: Composition & Choreography: Communicate artistic intent by combining the elements of dance, aesthetic principles, and choreographic forms.
- Ds5: Aesthetic Judgment: Analyze and critique choreography for structure, meaning, and artistic intent using specific dance terminology.
- Ds6: Production & Collaboration: Synthesize production elements necessary to fulfill technical details and artistic intent during the rehearsal process and performance.

### **Required Supplies & Materials:**

Appropriate Dance Attire include the following:

Dance/Athletic apparel that is form fitting and appropriately covers the body for dance movement. Dance shoes (ballet, jazz, modern) may be and are encouraged to be worn and in correspondence with each unit.

Hair must be worn back off the face and either pulled up or in ponytail.

No food, drink or gum is permitted in the studio or dressing areas.

No dangling jewelry, tank tops, shorts, athletic pants, sports uniforms, pedestrian clothing.

### **Learning Objectives/Outcomes:**

All units of study for this course address the following major outcomes for the term:

1. The students will demonstrate precision in their final performance in the Spring Dance Concert.
2. The students will comprehend as well as critique.
3. The students will respond to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and discipline.
4. The students will demonstrate the ability to create dance utilizing creative movement and elements of composition and production.

5. The students will demonstrate the ability to analyze, evaluate, and apply aesthetic criticism.

**Classroom Expectations:**

1. Students are expected to arrive to class on time, dress in the appropriate dance attire and participate during the entire class.
2. Students are expected to respect classmates, choreographers, teachers and visitors.
3. Students are expected to demonstrate appropriate behavior in class, at rehearsals and during performances.

**Lateness to Class Policy:**

<b>Offense</b>	<b>Consequence</b>
a. 1 <sup>st</sup> Offense	Student-teacher conference
b. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense	Parent Phone Call by The Teacher/Parent Conference
c. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense	After School Detention with the teacher
d. 4 <sup>th</sup> Offense	Detention Assigned by the administrator
e. 5 <sup>th</sup> Offense	Administrative Discretion

**Class Cut Policy:**

<b>Offense</b>	<b>Consequence</b>
a. 1 <sup>st</sup> Offense	Parent Contact/Detention
b. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense	Parent Contact & Saturday School assignment
c. Additional Offenses	Discretion of Administrator

**Grading Policy:**

All grading will be done according to the Howard County standard scale:

A = 90 – 100%	D = 60 – 69%
B = 80 – 89%	E = Below 60%
C = 70 – 79%	

Averages will be weighted 50% participation and 50% written and practical assessments. Grades will be rounded up to the next letter grade if they are 0.5% or higher (ex: 89.5% will be rounded to 90% and will receive an A).

Sources of grades will include but are not limited to:

1. Daily Participation: Students are expected to change into appropriate dance attire and fully participate each day unless otherwise specified by the teacher.
2. Classroom Assignments: These assignments may include written assignments, research, documentation, choreography and the bulletin board. Projects and presentations will include group and individual completion. Class assignments will be weighted under participation unless otherwise specified.
3. Written Assessments: The Dance Program is based on the county curriculum, which includes written assessments for Dance 1, 2, 3, and 4. These tests are based on dance history and vocabulary learned in class. Students may also be graded on written critiques and documentation of choreography. Tests will be announced.
4. Performance Assessments: Students may be evaluated on combinations learned in class, composition, and informal and formal performances in and out of school. In cases regarding performances, students are required to be attendance for the full time (including, but not limited to rehearsals) in order to receive full credit for the performance. Participation in production and preparation for performances are included under performance assessments. Dance Companies should review their folder for a detailed explanation of expectations and requirements.
5. Make-up work and Alternative Assignments: The first class that a student is unable to physically participate requires a note from the parent/guardian. After the first class and in the event of an extended illness and/or injury students are required to provide a doctor's note for the teacher which states limitations, restrictions and time pd. Alternative assignments will be issued for students based upon their individual situation and ability. A doctor's note is required in order to be excused from mandatory rehearsals, dance events and performances. Students are responsible for making up missed work. Contact by the parent(s) with the teacher for students with extended illness and/or injury is strongly encouraged.
6. Transportation Policy: Parents/Guardians must sign a transportation form in order for their child to be transported to and from an event or performance. An approved bus company or the parent/guardian will provide transportation for students. Students will not be excused from an event or performance due to transportation. Performances and events will be provided for all students at least 2 weeks prior. Teachers are not permitted to drive students and students are not permitted to drive other students.

### **Attendance Policy**

County policy allows the student two days to submit written verification that an absence was excused. A parent note must be brought into the attendance office and the absence pass shown to the teacher within two days of the absence otherwise the absence is considered unexcused and a disciplinary referral is issued.

Missing more than 5% of the year could result in loss of credit for the course. In accordance with the Howard County absence policy, teachers are required to submit the student's name when he/she has missed nine days of class whether they are legal or not.

### **Honor Code**

See page 6 in the Student Agenda Book.