

Creative Project Requirements

For Ms. Lewis

You will be required to complete several homework projects this year. We will always discuss the due dates in class. You will be allowed to design your own project as long as you clear it with me. This will be a chance for you to get creative by incorporating elements from another discipline or area of interest for you. Put some serious thought into what you'd like to do as the more passion you have about the work you'll be doing, the better your project will turn out and the more fun you will have doing it. The grade from this project will, combined with your concert critique, be worth 15% of your grade. In addition, you will be allowed to do extra products to make-up participation points for excused absences. *Please note that unexcused absences, tardies, and truancies will not be made up.* In the case of make up projects, they will be due 2 weeks prior to the reporting period. It's your job to find out those dates from me.

Below are some examples and ideas for projects. If you enjoy...

Photography then take pictures during a dance class, rehearsal, or performance and make a photo collage. Include a discussion on a paper of your experiences taking the pictures and what you want the photo essay to say to the viewer.

Fashion or costume design then design costume renderings for either a piece of choreography that you have seen or one that you have made up or would like to choreograph at some point in the future. This would include a sketch of each main character's' costume with small swatches of actual fabric attached. You will not necessarily be graded on your artwork so you don't have to be an artist, but instead on the originality and completeness of your design. Include a discussion of why you envisioned the costumes the way you did and why you chose the fabrics you did.

Technical theatre then design a light plot for a piece of choreography you have seen or one that you have made up or one that you like to choreograph at some point in the future. Include a discussion of why you envisioned the lighting the way you did and why it works for the choreography you envision.

Design and technical theatre then design a set for a piece of choreography you have seen or one that you have made up or would like to choreograph at some point in the future. Use a shoe box turned on its side and create the set pieces, backdrop, and other features you envision. You can add dancers, too, if you wish. Include a discussion of why you envisioned the set design the way you did and how it would enhance the choreography for that piece.

Poetry then write poetry that conveys ideas, moods, or your feelings about dance in general or a particular dance piece that you have seen or envision choreographing someday. Include a brief description of how it impacts you.

Graphic Design then design programs, brochures, audition notices or posters, either for a performance you have seen, is coming up, or that you would like to choreograph some day. Include a discussion of why you chose the graphics you did and how you think they are appropriate for and illustrate the performance you have in mind.

Drawing, Painting and Sculpting then observe a dance technique class or rehearsal and either sketch, paint or sculpt a dancer or dancers. Include a discussion of why you chose these particular subjects and how you felt while working and after you finished. What does the finished product represent to you?

Art and Media then create an interesting collage or mixed-media piece using images, text, and 3-dimensional objects. Include a discussion of how this design expressed what you were feeling or trying to get across to the viewer.

Writing then watch a dance performance, either live or on video, and write a critique following our dance critique guidelines. Include a discussion of why you chose this particular performance and what it meant to you.

Research then look up a particular dance-related topic, either in the library using books, magazines, and journals, or on the internet, and report on your findings. Include a discussion of how your impressions changed and what you learned after doing the research.

Reading and Critical Thinking then look up and read dance reviews on a particular performance and write about your impressions and feelings in this performance. Include copies of the actual reviews, as well as a discussion of how you interpreted the reviews and how they made you feel.

Any Other Ideas you Might Have? Get creative! You are only bounded by your own imagination. Just make sure you clear all ideas with me first, prior to beginning work, so I can steer you in a direction that will get you the most points.

Each project will be worth 10 points and you will be graded on originality, your passion, the completeness of your project, and your discussion.