

**Santa Susana High School  
3570 Cochran St. Simi  
Valley, Ca. 93065**

### **CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**COURSE: Ballet I TEACHER: Ms. Lewis**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course will introduce the student to the fundamentals of classical ballet technique. Students will gain a basic understanding/awareness of human anatomy, ballet terminology, and proper body alignment. Barre and center work will provide the foundation for proper ballet technique, increased flexibility, strength, coordination, and control. This course will include lecture and demonstration, written critical analysis of concert dance, performance-based and research-based projects, use of audio, video, and computer equipment for creating/editing purposes, with resultant reflection, assessment, and discussion of works viewed.

**COURSE OBJECTIVE:** Students will learn to:

- Demonstrate proper body alignment and turnout
- Demonstrate the strength, coordination, and rhythmic ability necessary to execute the technical skills covered in the course.
- Evaluate movement skills in terms of space, time, and energy, and reproduce accurately through movement using their own body.
- Reproduce simple ballet combinations
- Begin to evaluate the dynamics of performance energy with an understanding of how that informs their own performance.
- Gain an understanding of the history of ballet and the many career opportunities available, through the use of video, handouts, the internet, and discussion.
- Think critically and write reflectively after viewing live dance performances.
- Perform a piece of student choreography for an audience as part of classroom assignment and for a grade.

**GRADING PROCEDURE:** Grading is accumulative over the course of the

semester and is based on several criteria. Students will be graded on **daily participation** (attendance, attitude, effort, and progress), **tests and quizzes**, **assignments** (in class and homework), **projects and papers**, **participation** in the end of semester concerts, and the **student-choreographed final with notebook submission**. Participation is a significant portion of the overall grade and counts as 50% of each quarter grade. Students are required to participate in the end of semester concert (whether dancing or assisting) and failure to participate will result in a 10% lowering of the final grade. All excused absences, excused tardies, and excused non-dresses/non-participation **MUST** be made up in order to preserve the attendance portion of the participation grade. **PLEASE NOTE:** Unexcused absences, tardies and trancies **CANNOT** be made up.

Participation (attendance, attitude, effort, and progress) 50% Tests and quizzes 15% Projects and papers/class assignments/homework 15% Student choreography final/notebook submission 20% \*Participation in semester concert is a requirement \_\_\_\_\_

100%

**\*Lack of participation in the end of semester concert will result in a 10% drop in the student's final grade.**

#### **HOMEWORK/ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION:**

- All homework, papers, and projects are to be turned in or performance ready by the due date assigned.
- Students may turn assigned work in by the end of the day and still receive credit.
- Extensions will not be given unless there are extenuating circumstances out of the student's control and are verified by a parent/guardian.
- Class time missed due to school business may be made-up, however, other absences, tardies, and trancies may not. Make-up work will be reflected in the grade for the reporting period in which it's turned in.
- Time outside of class for the Student Choreography Project is not required, however, students may feel that it is necessary to put in extra hours in order to submit clean work.
- All students are required to view an outside professional dance performance each semester and write a critique. Selection of this performance should happen **within two weeks** after the assignment is

given. **I WILL HAVE A LIST OF MANY PERFORMANCES FOR STUDENTS TO CHOOSE FROM POSTED IN THE STUDIO. HOWEVER, THIS IS NOT A COMPREHENSIVE LIST AND IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO FIND ONE !** There are performances available in larger theatres as well as small local ones, and in all price ranges, including some that are free. Choose one that is right for your circumstances! **Late papers due to procrastination are not accepted!**

- Students are expected to participate in class every day. **Our department does not accept parent notes for non-participation.** If there is an injury that requires non-participation, the student will be **required to submit a doctor's note** to sit out during class time, and a medical release to resume activity. If you do not have a doctor's note but it is obvious to me that you truly need to modify your activity, I will make sure that you are taken care of (only barre, no jumping, etc). Period cramps are not an excuse for non-participation! If you need to sit out you are expected to handle it respectfully and responsibly by coming to me upon entering the studio, to inform me of the problem, present your doctor's note, and ask for permission to sit out.
- Students who sit out for the day will be required to turn in 3 pages of class observations written in class that day.
- **Students must participate, either by dancing or assisting, in the end of semester dance performances.** A failure to do so will result in a 10% loss in their final grade. **Place dates on your calendar NOW!**

**CONSEQUENCES:** Infractions of school rules or class expectations will be dealt with as follows:

- First: verbal warning
  - Second: student/teacher conference and possible phone call home
  - Third: phone call home and possible office referral
  - Fourth: office referral requesting a two-day suspension
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- **The teacher reserves the right to remove a student with greater than ten absences in a semester from a show. This will be done at the teacher's discretion, and an alternative assignment will be given.**

**EXTRA CREDIT POLICY:** Extra credit work may be possible in certain situations. If you feel it is necessary or you have the desire, please schedule time to discuss the matter with me.

**CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE AND STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Please be on time. Latecomers are distracting and risk injury from not being warmed up.
- Dress appropriately for each class, each day according to the dress code. **Keep an extra pair of sweats in your locker for emergency situations** when you've left your dance clothes in the washer, parents' car, etc.
- Though we many times will use cell phones for music when brainstorming or rehearsing for student choreography, **YOU MAY NOT HAVE CELL PHONES OUT AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS!** To that end, I will have a receptacle on my desk for dancers to place phones in while we are giving announcements, etc. If we need phones for rehearsal, student chor., etc. you may then retrieve them.
- Respect others' space. Show courtesy to fellow dancers by observing personal space, not crowding, not walking in front of those still dancing, not stopping in the middle of traveling combinations.
- Respect school property and the property of others. Keep studio and dressing areas clean, free of your papers and trash.
- You will be given a locker in the dressing room. **Keep it locked at all times** so your belongings will be safe. Unfortunately, theft does occasionally occur so please **keep all valuables locked in your locker!**
- Please refrain from talking during class and demonstrations, but please don't hesitate to ask questions!
- **No gum**, food, or drinks (other than water) will be allowed in the studio.
- Follow all school rules while on campus.
- Maintain a positive attitude. Be patient, kind, courteous, and helpful to others in class. **DISRESPECT TO THE TEACHER OR OTHER STUDENTS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.**
- In all classrooms at Santa Susana there will be:
  - NO eating NO headphones (unless used for classroom assignment) NO cell phones (unless used for classroom assignment) NO hoodies on your head NO sunglasses on

during class NO sleeping or heads down during class

**DRESS CODE:** The dress code must be followed so instructors can see your placement, alignment, and body position and to insure ease of movement.

Ballet ● **Hair back** in bun/twist/clip (ponytail/headband/hairclips if hair is short)...**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN SUPPLIES!**

- Black leotard
- Pink tights (convertible are best)
- Pink canvas split sole ballet shoes – NO BLACK BALLET SHOES!!!
- Leg warmers, extra clothing OK appropriate to weather provided they are neat, leave lines unobstructed, and don't hamper movement.

Modern

- Hair back and off face
- Solid color leotard or snug fitting baby tee (need to be able to see lines of torso)...**TIGHTS UNDER STREET CLOTHES NOT OK!**
- Black tights, leggings, or slim fitted jazz pants. NO BAGGY SWEATS.
- Bare feet or half soles. Light jazz shoes OK if necessary. NO dance sneakers. It is important to be able to work through the feet. Boys ● White

form-fitting T-shirt or tank

- Black jazz pants or fitted sweats
- Black or white canvas split-sole ballet shoes

Local dancewear shops: **Dancer's Wearhouse Ballet Arts Dancewear**  
2808 Cochran St. (next to Albertson's) 31308 Via Colinas #102 Simi Valley  
Westlake Village 805-578-4622 805-597-2110

**Pas de Deux Dancewear Capezio Shop** 5853 Kanan Rd. 7128  
Owensmouth Agoura Hills Canoga Park 818-707-1425 818-348-4488