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# Syllabus 19-20

## Junior Modern/Contemporary Dance

Spring 2020

Red Days: 11:25am-12:35pm

Instructor: Kimberly Herndon Mansilla

Email: [Kimberly.Mansilla@jefferson.kyschools.us](mailto:Kimberly.Mansilla@jefferson.kyschools.us)

Class Website: [juniormodern.weebly.com](http://juniormodern.weebly.com)

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### Course Description

This course serves as a continuing study of the physical technique and choreographic processes associated with modern/contemporary dance. Emphasis for second semester juniors is placed on refining performance skills and artistry. In particular juniors will engage in exploration and experimentation as well as a substantial reflective practice in an effort to begin to develop their own unique voice as a dance artist. In addition to a vigorous studio practice, supplemental outside of class assignments help to deepen learning. Note that there are as many different styles of modern dance as there are teachers. Mrs. Mansilla's background is in Limon and Release techniques which does inform the style of the course. However throughout the year coursework will draw from an eclectic mix of various classic and contemporary approaches to modern dance movement.

By the end of this semester students should be able to :

1. Consistently demonstrate high intermediate to advanced level modern dance technique with a sense of personal artistry.
2. Thoughtfully discuss and physically demonstrate the interplay of technique and artistry, both generally as well as related to personal artistic preferences, challenges and goals.
3. Participate thoughtfully in both free & structured high intermediate to advanced level dance improvisation.
4. Design movement and choreography studies that explore a variety of stimuli with greater sophistication than sophomore level.
5. Think, connect, analyze, synthesize, and respond (verbally, physically and through writing) to various media related to modern/contemporary dance.

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## Technology

Mrs. Mansilla believes strongly in technology as a powerful tool for learning and for facilitating communication between teacher, student and parent throughout the learning process. Studies predict that nearly 90% of all students entering college today will take at least one course online in their collegiate career. Technology literacy is also one of the 21<sup>st</sup> century skills considered vital for educational and professional success today.

The course website is located at <http://www.juniormodern.weebly.com>

- Mrs. Mansilla uses an online grade book called Jupitergrades to keep grades, give individual feedback, organize homework and accept make-up work. Each parent & student has their own Jupitergrades account and password. Access your account by clicking **Jupitergrades Login** from the menu of the course website.
- Junior students and parents can access homework, a class calendar and documents on the course website.
- If either student or parent has limited access to a reliable internet connection please inform Mrs. Mansilla as soon as possible. She is very happy to provide all assignments in offline formats. Limited internet access need not be a barrier to full participation in the course.
- Mrs. Mansilla's is available to discuss progress in class, college or future planning, or any other issues by appointment. Please email Mrs. Mansilla to set up a time to meet.

# Grading

## Grade Scale

|     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |      |
|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|------|
| 100 | 95 | 90 | 89 | 85 | 80 | 79 | 75 | 70 | 69 | 65 | 60 | 59-0 |
| A+  | A  | A- | B+ | B  | B- | C+ | C  | C- | D+ | D  | D- | U    |

| Category                  | Components  |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>ENGAGEMENT</b><br>20%  | <p><b>Project-</b> Students receive one letter grade (A thru U) for work required in completing the junior project (each 6wks for as long as the project continues). This grade will come from the junior advisor and is added to both ballet and modern classes. See Junior advisor for specific criteria.</p> <p><b>Class Procedures -</b>Students receive one letter grade (A+ thru U) for each assignment involving class procedures such as: Completing Course Introduction, Music Uploads, Program Info, Etc...</p> <p><b>Reflection/Goal-Setting-</b>Students receive one letter grade (A+ thru U) each for each formal reflection/goal-setting assignment.</p>  |
| <b>PROGRESSION</b><br>30% | <p><b>Choreography/Compositions-</b> Students receive one letter grade (A+ thru U) for each choreography assignment.</p> <p><b>In-class Performances -</b> Students receive one letter grade (A+ thru U) for each in class performance of learned phrasework.</p>   |
| <b>MASTERY</b><br>50%     | <p><b>Technique Assessments-</b> Students receive one letter grade (A+ thru U) for performance in each technique class. Grade is based on professionalism and skill mastery. See Technique Rubric for specific criteria.</p> <p><b>Formal Performance Assessments</b></p> <p><i>Informance-</i> Students receive one letter grade (A+ thru U) <b>multiplied X 2</b> for Spring Informance. Informance is a <b>REQUIRED</b> performance. Injured students with doctors' notes are still expected to attend and will be given an alternate assignment. Other alternate assignments will only be given with excused absences for principal approved educational enrichment or illness with a doctor's note stating specifically that the student was too ill to attend as a spectator. See Informance rubric for specific performance grading criteria.</p> <p><i>Artist Statement-</i>Students receive one letter grade (A+ thru U) <b>multiplied X 2</b> for a summative solo performance. See Artist Statement in Dance rubric for specific criteria.</p> |

**Caution:** Jupitergrades calculates both a six weeks average (includes only scores from current 6wks) and a cumulative semester average (includes scores from the beginning of the semester ). Use the drop down menu at the top of the Grades screen to choose the average you wish to see. It is the cumulative average that will be recorded in Infinite Campus and on progress and report cards.

## Absence/Injury/Illness Policy

Missing class is a serious impediment to your progress in this course. There can **never be a fair or adequate substitute** for physically participating in class. Students are strongly encouraged to make every effort to stay healthy and well-rested so that they may attend class every single day.

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|---|---|
| PENDING                                       | <p>Mrs. Mansilla marks all non-participation <i>PENDING ABSENCE</i> or <i>PENDING OBSERVATION</i> until she is able to check the status of the absence in Infinite Campus or grade the observation assignment. All pending absences and observations become either permanently excused or unexcused at the end of each six weeks period. Pending assignments are not yet calculated into a students average.</p>  |
| NON-GRADED, EXCUSED, OTHER                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Used in Jupitergrades for assignments not scored and not calculated in a student's average.</li> <li>• Includes, among other things, classes not held due to testing or schedule changes and excused assignments.</li> </ul>   |
| UNEXCUSED ABSENCE<br>UNEXCUSED OBSERVATION    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Includes absences or early dismissals deemed unexcused in Infinite Campus by Manual Attendance Office.</li> <li>• Includes observations with no make-up work turned in or turned in late.</li> <li>• Scored as a <i>ZERO</i> in the daily grade average.</li> </ul>  |
| EXCUSED ABSENCE                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Includes absences deemed excused in Infinite Campus by the Manual Attendance Office.</li> <li>• Valid documentation must be received by Attendance Office within 3 consecutive days of return.</li> <li>• Daily Grade scored as excused. No makeup work required.</li> <li>• Student is responsible for completing any missed assignments according to Manual policy.</li> </ul>   |
| EXCUSED<br>OBSERVATION                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One observation per six weeks-no doctor's note required.</li> <li>• Two or more observations in a single 6wks requires a doctor's note.</li> <li>• Doctor's notes must state the length of absence from dance, abilities while not dancing (if applicable) and conditions for return to dancing (if applicable).</li> <li>• Observation assignment must be submitted by end of class time.</li> <li>• Students required to sit up and watch attentively when finished with assignment.</li> <li>• If too sick to sit up attentively, or complete an observation assignment student should call home for early dismissal. If an early dismissal is not possible, the student will be graded as an absence and must have a doctor's note to excused from sitting out without completing an observation (this includes classes spent in the "sick room").</li> <li>• Students are NOT permitted to do work from other classes during observations, doing so results in an automatic <i>ZERO</i>.</li> <li>• Daily Grade scored (A-U) based on quality of work.</li> </ul> |
| LONG-TERM ILLNESS<br>OR INJURY<br>ASSIGNMENTS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation of illness/injury required from a doctor.</li> <li>• Must complete regular observation assignment on first day.</li> <li>• Second and subsequent days complete a long-term assignment.</li> <li>• Long-term assignments must be completed during class time.</li> <li>• Long-term assignments must be turned in at the end of each class for full credit.</li> <li>• Daily Grade scored (A-U) depending on quality of work.</li> <li>• See assignment guidelines on course website.</li> </ul>   |

