

Burbank High School Dance Program

-Dance I Syllabus-

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Class Description

Dance I is a yearlong introductory course in dance. It will include beginning level terminology and execution of basic skills in Jazz, Modern, Hip Hop, Lyrical, and Ballet. Students will be given opportunities to develop creative expression through choreography and performance. They will gain an appreciation for dance as an art form through the study of historical contributions and the influence of culture on dance. They will also be able to recognize the importance of a healthy lifestyle through state-mandated fitness activities and tests (this class meets Physical Education and Visual and Performing Arts, Dance, State Standards). In addition, students will be expected to attend and produce a written critique of the Fall Dance Festival, as well as participate and perform in the annual Spring Dance Concert.

Course Materials: All students will be expected to wear the proper dance uniform. See the Dance Program Dress Code on our website for guidelines. A folder specific to Dance is recommended to store fitness testing profiles, study guides, quizzes, tests, and other dance assignments.

Lockers: All students must provide their own **combination** lock. Once a student has their own lock, they will be assigned a specific locker, and the locker will be officially registered under the student's name. **Sharing of lockers is prohibited.**

Attendance and Participation: Attendance and participation are essential to the Burbank High School Dance Program. Dance is a participatory activity that requires daily physical participation in order to be successful. Students are expected to attend class regularly, dress in the full, proper dance uniform, and report to class on time.

- Students must be inside the glass doors and in the hallway **BEFORE** the tardy bell rings in order to dress for class.
- Students will have **8 minutes** after the tardy bell rings to dress and wait outside of the building doors for their teacher. Dancers should not walk to the dance room or big gym until their teacher escorts them.
- Students who fail to wear the required uniform will be considered a non-suit and will receive zero participation points for the day. **Students who have 8 or more non-suits during a semester will receive a "U" in citizenship.** Please refer to the Dance Program Dress Code.

*Non-suits will be required to do written work during class. Consequences for repeated non-suits will apply, including detention and further intervention.

Loaner Clothes: Loaner clothes are a privilege, and when they are available, students may borrow them in exchange for their current student I.D. **through the Loaner Window only.** Students may access loaner privileges up to five times a semester. After the fifth time, the privilege of borrowing clothes will be revoked. Loaner clothes may only be borrowed for yourself and must be returned after class to receive your I.D.

Make-Up Policy: If a student is absent or cannot participate for any reason, he/she will receive "0" points for the day. Unexcused absences and non-suits cannot be made up. Points lost due to excused absences and medical excuses can be made up for full credit by completing an assignment or activity specified by the dance teacher. Any make-up work must be done within the five-week grading period. **It is a student's responsibility to see their teacher for make-up work!** See the Make-Up Policy document on our website.

Medical Excuses: Students who need to be excused or have their activity modified due to illness or other medical reasons need to have a written note from a parent or guardian on the day of the request. The note must be given to the teacher at the beginning of class. A parent note is accepted for a maximum of two days. A doctor must approve medical excuses for more than two days. Students with medical excuses will NOT receive participation points for the day but are allowed to make up those points by contacting their dance teacher within the grading period of the absence. In addition, medically excused students must dress in the full dance uniform unless otherwise specified by the doctor or teacher.

Behavior, Profanity, and Safety Policies: Students are expected to be responsible citizens and to behave in a manner that is suitable for learning. Please refer to the Burbank High School Policies for more details.

- Students are expected to treat their dance teachers, teacher assistants, substitutes, and classmates with **RESPECT** and in a way that they themselves would like to be treated.
- The use of profane or obscene language is unacceptable and may result in a phone call home to your parent and/or a ‘U’ in citizenship.
- Students must observe and follow all safety rules for the dance space. Failure to do so could result in injury to themselves or their classmates and may be cause for their removal from class.
- Students should not bring phones, iPods, or other personal electronic devices to class unless approved by their dance teacher.

Grading Policy

- ***Quality of Participation/Effort – 50%***

If the student is dressed properly and participates in all activities, they will receive full participation points (10) for the day. Participation points may be taken away for lack of effort, profanity, disruption of class, student defiance, or for any other reason at the discretion of the teacher.

- ***FIRST SEMESTER: Fall Dance Festival Written Critique – 20%***

All Dance I students are expected to observe the **Fall Dance Festival LAB (in class on Thursday, November 14th)** and produce a written critique of the performances. If a dancer is unable to participate in the LAB, they will need to attend the Fall Dance Festival on Friday, November 15th or Saturday, November 16th at 7pm in the BHS Wolfson Auditorium (required to purchase a ticket at the student price), in order to complete their written critique. **Failure to produce a written critique will result in a 20% grade drop for the first semester of this class.**

- ***SECOND SEMESTER: Spring Dance Concert – 20%***

All Dance I students are expected to participate in the **Spring Dance Concert (after school rehearsals TBA the FULL week of the show, with performances on Friday, April 17th, and Saturday, April 18th)**. Exact schedules and show contract will be given at a later date. **Failure to participate in the concert will result in a 20% grade drop for the second semester of this class.**

- ***Progress-Monitoring Assessments – 10%***

For each unit of study, students will participate in videotaped movement exams that involve written and verbal feedback from the dance teacher and classroom peers along with opportunities for self-reflection. Additional, students will set semester goals for themselves to improve dance technique and physical fitness.

- ***Fitness Activities & Run – 10%***

All BHS Dance and PE classes are required by law to administer the Fitness Gram State Test in the spring semester (non-graded). To prepare the students for this test, daily, graded fitness activities and assessments will take place.

- ***Final Exam – 10%***

At the end of each semester, dancers will be given a final exam that has written and physical components.

Disciplinary Action Plan: Please refer to the BHS Discipline Policy.

Tardy and Academic Honesty Policies: Refer to Burbank High School Policies.

Restroom Policy: Students are encouraged to use the restroom before or after class. In the case of an emergency, students must ask the dance teacher for permission to use to go to the restroom. Students must have a pass to leave class for the restroom or nurse.

Video/Photography Release: All students will be photographed & videotaped periodically throughout the year for learning purposes. These videos will remain with the dance teacher and not be reproduced or sold. Students may also be videotaped during the annual Spring Dance Concert, which may be available to purchase on DVD and potentially posted to our website.

Dance Class Rules

- **Respect the dance space** (No food, drinks, or gum).
- **Respect your learning environment** (Avoid tampering with your surroundings).
- **Give your full attention to the learning** (Cell phones, iPods, or other electronic devices are not allowed in the learning environment unless approved by your teacher).
- **Store all of your belongings in the locker room** (Appropriate dance shoes, water, and small personal items are OK).
- **Always be prepared & dressed in proper dance attire** (Dance shoes, hair pulled back, jewelry off, etc.).

Thefts/ Lost and Found: Please lock up all belongings in the locker room. Do not leave valuables or bags unattended. Do not share your locker combination. There are Lost and Found drawers in the Girl's PE/Dance Office. Please check here for your belongings before you report a theft. Please report all thefts to a campus supervisor or the discipline office. BHS Dance/PE is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.

Visitors: Any visitors must sign in at the front office and/or be approved by the dance teacher.

Placement Tests & Unleashed Auditions: In order to advance to Intermediate Dance II a student should maintain a "C" or higher in Dance I, without excessive non-suits, absences, or tardies & should meet skill requirements. In order to advance above Dance II a placement test or audition is required. Requirements and necessary skills for progressing in the Dance Program are outlined on our website along with details regarding the placement tests for Dance III.

The Unleashed Audition Information Session is Tuesday, April 7th (7pm in the BHS Cafeteria). The 2020-21 Unleashed Dance Team Auditions are Friday, May 8th (4-8pm in the BHS Gym). A physical exam is required in order to participate in the audition and must be submitted by the application deadline. The Application to Audition must be submitted to Ms. Sandifer by the Application Deadline, Wednesday, April 29th. **NO DANCER WILL BE CLEARED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE AUDITION WITHOUT AN UPDATED PHYSICAL—ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS!!**

Parent Involvement: We ask that parents volunteer to assist our Program. Parents are invited to the following BHS Dance Events, Fundraisers/Performances, and Parent Meetings:

- **Wednesday, August 28th- PARENT MEETING, 7pm in BHS Cafeteria**
- **Saturday, September 14th- GIANT DANCE CAMP, 7am-6pm on BHS Campus (All Dance Students)**
- **Monday, October 21st- PARENT MEETING, 7pm in BHS Cafeteria**
- **Friday, November 15th & Saturday, November 16th- FALL DANCE FESTIVAL, 7pm in BHS Wolfson Auditorium (Little Bulldog Dance Clinic is Saturday, November 16th)**
- **Friday, February 21st- SENIOR DANCE SHOWCASE, 7pm in BHS Wolfson Auditorium**
- **Monday, February 24th- PARENT MEETING, 7pm in BHS Cafeteria**
- **Friday, April 17th & Saturday, April 18th- SPRING DANCE CONCERT, 7pm in BHS Wolfson Auditorium**

Website & Google Classroom: All information and documents related to BHS Dance are available on our website: www.burbankhigh.dance or on each specific Google Classroom (please see teacher for code).



2019-2020 Donation Form

Please show your support of the BHS Dance Program.

We are asking every family to donate for BHS DANCE. This is voluntary and is a tax-deductible contribution to BHS/BUSD. Suggested amounts are based on what your dance class needs per student. BHS Dance works together to raise the money for the programs, events and supplies, and your help is very much appreciated to reach our goals.

Your donation pays for the dancer's costumes, choreography, Giant Dance Camp, show lighting and sound for two (3) shows, field trips, and dance room supplies not supplied by BUSD. We raise money for our BHS Dance program as a group.

This donation is 100% tax deductible to BHS/BUSD

Unleashed - total budgeted expenses: \$30,000 Suggested donation: **\$350/per student**

Dance 3 - total budgeted expenses: \$20,000 Suggested donation: **\$200/per student**

Dance 1 & Dance 2 - total budgeted expenses: \$15,000 Suggested donation: **\$150/per student**

Your contribution is **KEY** to the success of our program and very much appreciated.

**If you pay the FULL AMOUNT REQUESTED ABOVE FOR YOUR CLASS
you will receive a voucher for one free general admission show ticket.
The voucher is to either the Fall Dance Festival or Spring Dance Concert.**

**In order to receive this voucher, payment must be made prior to the first Parent Meeting on
Wednesday, August 28th, 7pm BHS Cafeteria
(No vouchers will be given out after the first Parent Meeting)**

Payment Options:

**Pay with cash, check, or credit card to the BHS Finance Office.
Submit your receipt & the below portion to your dance teacher.**

I have donated \$ _____ to BHS DANCE.

Student: _____

Dance Class/Period: _____

Parent Name: _____

Teacher: _____

Parent Email: _____

Date: _____



Please submit digital signature bit.ly/bhsdancesyllabus

After you have read and understand what is expected in Dance I, please sign below and return this part of the syllabus to your dance teacher. Your signature acknowledges your understanding of the class guidelines, including our Fall Dance Festival & Spring Dance Concert requirements, & our video/photography release policy. Thank you!

Student's First & Last Name (please print): _____

Teacher: _____

Class Period: _____

Student Email (please print legibly):

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (please print): _____

Parent/Guardian's email address (please print legibly):

Signature: _____ Date: _____