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# Syllabus 19-20

## Senior Modern/Contemporary Dance

Fall 2019/Spring 2020 (White Days 1:00-2:13p)  
[www.seniormodern.weebly.com](http://www.seniormodern.weebly.com)

Instructor: Kimberly Herndon Mansilla  
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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 seniors is on expanding an understanding of contemporary dance as a varied art form in preparation for collegiate dance study or other post-secondary dance experiences. Topics explored may include but are not limited to: Mindfulness, Teaching Dance, Contact Improvisation, etc... In addition to a vigorous studio practice, supplemental outside of class assignments help to deepen this understanding.

#### **By the end of this course students will be able to :**

1. Consistently demonstrate physical and intellectual mastery of advanced modern dance technique and concepts.
2. Participate authentically in both free & structured dance improvisation including with advanced prompts and situations.
3. Design short movement and choreography studies that demonstrate an advanced understanding of how to manipulate space, time and energy, as well as convey meaning and ideas.
4. Think, connect, analyze, synthesize, and respond (verbal, physical and written) to various stimulus related to modern/contemporary dance.

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## Technology

Ms. 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.

- Ms. 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.
- If either student or parent has limited access to a reliable internet connection please inform Ms.Mansilla as soon as possible. She is very happy to provide all coursework in other formats. Limited internet access need not be a barrier to full participation in the course.
- Course website: [www.seniormodern.weebly.com](http://www.seniormodern.weebly.com)

## Grade Scale

97	93	90	87	83	80	77	73	70	67	63	60	0
A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	U

Category	Components
<b>Engagement</b> 10%	<p><b>Class Assignments</b>– Students receive one letter grade (A+ thru U) for each class assignment. Assignments include multiple components including syllabus, resume, etc...</p> <p><b>Self-Reflection</b>-Students receive one letter grade (A+ thru U) for each assignment involving self-reflection.</p>
<b>Progression</b> 30%	<p><b>Projects</b>- Students receive a one letter grade (A+ thru U) for each assignment required in completing the senior project and other projects. Additionally, these grades are combined and averaged into project scores which are added to your ballet class.</p> <p><b>Compositions</b>-Students receive one letter grade (A+ thru U) for each composition study. Criteria for grading vary and will be given as assigned.</p>
<b>Mastery</b> 60%	<p><b>Technique Assessment</b>- Students receive one letter grade (A+ thru U) for performance in each technique class. Grade is based on Professionalism and Skill Mastery. See the Daily Grade Rubric for a detailed breakdown.</p> <p><b>Public Performance Assessments</b>-Students receive one letter grade (A+ thru U) <b>multiplied X 2</b> for each public performance. *Includes: Fall &amp; Spring Informance, 8th grade open house. See performance rubrics for specific criteria.</p>

**Caution:** Jupitergrades calculates both a six weeks average (includes only scores from current 6wks) and a cumulative 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.

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## 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.

Ms. Mansilla marks all non-participation *PENDING ABSENCE* or *PENDING OBSERVATION* 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.

### PENDING

### EXCUSED

- Used in Jupitergrades for assignments not scored and not calculated in a student's average.
- Includes, among other things, classes not held due to testing or schedule changes.

### UNEXCUSED

- Absences or early dismissals deemed unexcused in Infinite Campus by Manual Attendance Office.
- Observations with no make-up work turned in or turned in late.
- Scored as a *ZERO* in the daily grade average.

### EXCUSED ABSENCE

- Absences deemed excused in Infinite Campus by the Manual Attendance Office.
- Valid documentation received by Attendance Office.
- Daily Grade scored as excused. No makeup work required.
- Note no absence will be changed from unexcused to excused after the last day of the six weeks.

### EXCUSED OBSERVATION

- One observation per six weeks-no doctor's note required.
- Two or more observations in a single 6wks requires a doctor's note.
- Observation assignment must be submitted by end of class time.
- Students required to sit up and watch attentively when finished with assignment.
- If too sick to sit up attentively, student should call home for early dismissal.
- Students are NOT permitted to do work from other classes, doing so results in an automatic *ZERO*.
- Daily Grade scored (A-U) based on quality of work.

### LONG-TERM ILLNESS OR INJURY ASSIGNMENTS

- Documentation of illness/injury required from a doctor.
- First day-must complete observation assignment.
- Second and subsequent days complete a long-term assignment based on anticipated length of recovery.
- Assignments must be completed during class time.
- Work must be turned in at the end of class for full credit, see guidelines for specifics.
- Daily Grade scored (A-U) depending on quality of work.

*See Absences/Observations on course website for specific guidelines.*