



S. P. WALTRIP SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

1900 W 34TH STREET HOUSTON, TX 77489

(713)688-1361

DANCE 1-4 SYLLABUS 2021-2022

INSTRUCTOR: Ms. Shelley Gillis **EMAIL:** sgillis@houstonisd.org

ROOM: 1521

OFFICE HOURS: [Monday](#) 12:41pm-2:18 pm & [Tues-Fri](#) :1:05-2:35 pm

COURSE CONTENT

We aim to stimulate and support our students, encouraging the development of independent and challenging thought as expressed and inscribed in the performing arts giving balance to the broad pattern of learning. The fine arts curriculum challenges students to think creatively, encourages risk-taking, and enables students to apply their problem-solving skills beyond the classroom.

ABOUT THE TEACHER

Ms. Shelley Gillis is a Houston Independent School District graduate attending Bonham Elementary, Welch Middle School, and Westbury High School. After graduating from HISD she attended Sam Houston State University to obtain her teaching certification in dance. Ms. Gillis has been at Waltrip since her student teaching and has been working with Waltrip students since 2000.

ONGOING OBJECTIVES

- The student will differentiate between categories of dance forms, explain the three processes of dance, understand the artistic processes that relate to all arts disciplines
- The students will recall elements of dance and understand movement principles
- The student will recognize specific forms, styles and dance artists in the history of dance as entertainment
- The students will understand the timeline and processes for dance audition, rehearsal, performance and production
- The students will learn dance composition, rehearsing and performing skills

CLASS PREPARATION

Drink plenty of water before, during and after **dancing**. Wear layers of clothing that you can take off as your body warms up. Wear professionally fitted shoes appropriate to your style of **dance**. Proper **dance** shoes distribute load, absorb impact, and support your foot.

You are required to participate and to perform dance in this class. The student is required to **wear all black** for days that we are working on movement. Dancers create lines and shapes with their bodies. In order, for your instructor to see the created lines and the correct use of musculature, clothes with a form fitting attire with hair pulled up, are the best uniforms to use for dance classes. (ex, jazz pants, boy cut shorts with tights, camisoles, leotards, etc) is required with hair secured away from the face in a pony tail. Dancers ultimately work harder, are more focused, when dressed uniformly. Please make sure that you are properly covered and follow the guidelines of the campus (ex. Appropriate messaging on clothing, no midriff and shorts at least 1 inch pass the fingertips).

GRADING SCALE

Everything has a point value. If a vocabulary quiz has 11 questions, there are 11 possible points for you. If a section test has 20 questions, there are 20 possible points for you. If an exam has 72 questions, there are 72 points. Simply divide the points you receive by the number of possible points to get your percentage.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Attendance and participation are required; it is difficult to learn the content if you are not present in class. Your class participation and attendance can be a deciding factor if your class average straddles two grades. Be sure to see me about any missed work if you are absent.

The student will be graded on proper preparation for class, weekly journal entries, and performance test. The final for this class is an end of each semester after show performance (pending).

DAILY REQUIRED MATERIALS

1. Laptop-Literacy Mondays
2. Clothes for class (all black)-Tuesday-Friday

CLASS ETIQUETTE

1. **Go jewelry-free.** Obtrusive jewelry is potentially dangerous to you and others.
2. **Listen while the teacher is talking.** That means no talking while they are talking. Not even quietly to your neighbor.
3. **Stow away the cell phone.** Turn off—don't just silence—your cell phone. Putting it on vibrate can still make distracting noise. All phones will be secured in your personal bag.
4. **Don't film or take pictures in class.** Always ask your dance teacher's permission before recording or photographing any portion of your dance class.

5. **Always pay attention, especially when waiting for your turn.** Dance is a physical activity that involves constant movement. Paying attention is best for learning experience as well as for your and your classmates' safety.
6. **Be present for the entire class.** It's always best to be on time for every class, but if you come in tardy be sure to check in with your teacher for attendance purposes. Once you have checked in with your teacher, change into the required class attire or begin your HUB assignment.
7. **Don't leave and come back into your class.** Stay in the studio for the entirety of class—no ins-and-outs. This can be distracting to your fellow dancers.
8. **Demonstrate good spatial awareness.** This includes giving the instructor space, but don't crowd those in the back of the room to do so.
9. **Try your best.** If you make the mistake of taking a dance class that's above your skill level, never walk out of a class or sit down in frustration—hang in there and try your best, no one will fault you for that.
10. **Be courteous and respectful.** At the end of class, applaud and thank the instructor.

UNITS

Unit One- Introduction to Dance

Unit Two-Jazz

Unit Three-Fall Final Performance-December 3, 2021

Unit Four-Contemporary/Lyrical

Unit Five-Hip Hop

Unit Six-Spring Final Performance-May 2022

