

**DUKE ELLINGTON SCHOOL OF THE ARTS**  
**DANCE DEPARTMENT**  
**SENIOR PROJECT**  
*Syllabus Devised By – Sandra Fortune- Green*  
*Syllabus Facilitator w/Modifications – Katherine Smith*

**SENIOR PROJECT** is a required course for all dance seniors, earns one credit unit, meets three times per week and is for the entire school year. **SENIOR PROJECT** uses a non-directive teaching model to foster individual and group learning experiences in planning, acquiring responsibilities for one's own learning the skill to plan, follow through, develop and implement tasks/assignment at hand. The purpose of this non-directive teaching model is to establish interpersonal relationships that can facilitate personal/group productivity. This course also serves the goal of exposing dance students to practical experiences in alternative career paths in dance.

**ATTENDANCE**

*Students who are absent for any reason, including performances, field trips, and extracurricular activities are held accountable and responsible to secure and complete all written assignments, written quizzes/tests (if applicable) according to guidelines of Attendance Policies and Procedures established and mandated in the Ellington Community Handbook and at the discretion of the respective teacher.*

*Late written assignments due to absence must be accompanied by letter of excuse upon students' return with approval from attendance counselor. Verification of absence will also allow students to makeup for only written quizzes/tests without score reduction.*

*Late written assignments without verification will only be accepted one day after students' return resulting in the grade being lowered 10 points from actual grade score accumulated. This also applies to written quizzes/test*

**There are No Make-Ups or Substitute Assignments for Physical Based Projects; group and/or individual.**

*Scheduled Dates of Classes, Assignments, Assessments, Etc... Are subject to change at the Discretion of the Instructor and/or in the Event of Extenuating Circumstances: (School Closings, Unscheduled Activities Etc...)*

**DCPS Attendance Impact Policy**

Student grading and promotion can be impacted by an accrual of unexcused absences as follows:

- Students with ten (10) unexcused absences in any class shall receive an initial written notice that they are at risk of receiving a grade of "FA" (failure due to absences) in that subject upon accumulating more than thirty (30) unexcused absences, unless an exception applies.
- Students with fifteen (15) unexcused absences in any class shall receive an additional written warning that they are at risk of receiving a grade of "FA" (failure due to absences) in that subject upon accumulating more than thirty (30) unexcused absences.
- Students accumulating more than thirty (30) unexcused absences in a course within a full school year shall receive a failing final grade in that course with a resulting loss of course credit.
- Students accumulating more than thirty (30) unexcused absences within a school year shall only be promoted if a written justification is submitted by the principal to the Chancellor, or the student attends summer school and is reevaluated for promotion

Chronic absences, truancy or tardiness are serious problems that will be referred to administration for further review &/or support. (See DCPS Attendance & Truancy Policy)

Ellington's Attendance/Absence & Physician Policies Must be Adhered; Documented & Verified.

(Refer to the Current School Year Ellington Community & Dance Dept. Handbook)

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## **GRADING/COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

The grades for each advisory will be based on the following areas:

**Participation = 10%**

**Practice and Application = 50%**

**Assessments = 40%**

Grading Percentages for assignments to be applied is based on specific requirements for each unit of study. It is a requirement to pass a course that students participate/attend all classes as well as rehearsals and performances as these are also assessments.

*Grading Scale at the secondary level, sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) grade through twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) grade, marks/grades of A through F shall be assigned by teacher to indicate the degree of achievement by a student of the content in each course. (Refer to Ellington's Current School Year Community Handbook)*

### **Marks/Grades Shall Be As Follows:**

**A = 93-100**

**A- = 90-92**

**B+ = 87-89**

**B = 83-86**

**B- = 80-82**

**C+ = 77-79**

**C = 73-76**

**C- = 70-72**

**D+ = 67-69**

**D = 64-66**

**F = 63 and below**

**I = Incomplete (too little work submitted)** Students have ten (10) school days after issuance of report cards to submit assignments and make-up individual physical assignments/exams (physical group projects excluded) Failure to complete work required within the above stated time frame will result in the Incomplete grade converting to an "F".

**M = Medical** (Illness/Injury Policy)

Once an injury has been verified by a physician and the student is deemed unable to participate for a minimum of two weeks &/or more, the students' medical recommendation must be submitted and documented with the dance department who will then refer it to administration. As a support plan, an assignment with detailed specifications of the expectations for each student's engagement with the content of study may be given.

**Support Plan** = Students receiving a grade of **C- or below** will receive a dance department student support plan to be completed with a member of the dance faculty and returned with parent/guardian signature as verification of receipt. ***Student's non-compliance &/or completion of support plan will continue to jeopardize grade. Administration & Parent will be notified by instructor in a timely manner for resolve.***

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## **ELLINGTON'S DANCE DEPARTMENT UNIFORM & GROOMING POLICY**

*(Refer to Current School Year Dance Dept. Handbook)*

**Females** - Black Tank Leotard/Black or Flesh Tone Convertible Tights

**Males** – Black or White Tank T-shirt, Black Convertible Tights, Black Dance Belt and Waist Belt.

### **Hairstyle for Females:**

Hair of any style should be smooth and pulled away from face and in a tight secure “Ballet Bun” and covered with a thin hairnet. Because of the aesthetic quality, safety, discipline and technical demands of dance, it is imperative for the female hairstyle to be in the uniform “Ballet Bun” and of a size that accommodates partnering, balance, all turns and jumps.

**Hairstyle for Boys:** Neatly close-cropped hair.

### **Males And Females:**

**NO** braids, twists, extensions, locs, bantu knots, corn rows, mohawks, sculpted haircuts, no ponytail, hair color, dyes, hennas, head wraps and/or scarves during dance departmental classes.

### **Jewelry & Body Adornments:**

- **NO**- rings, nose rings, lip rings and body adornments, watches, bracelets, necklaces and double or more earrings. Only small studs are permitted for girls (***one in each ear***)
- **NO** nail or toe polish (nails must be no longer than fingertips)
- **NO** make-up permitted (except eyeliner & mascara)
- **Visible Tattoos** must be covered with make-up daily.

## **ELECTRONIC DEVICE(S) DECORUM**

**All Electronic Devices (including cell phones, iPods, etc...) Should be Turned Off and Secured in Students' Lockers with locks Before and During Class.**

*(Refer to Current School Year Dance Dept. Hand Book)*

***NOTE: At the discretion of the Instructor, based upon unit of study, students will be allowed to use phones, laptops and other devise for research***

***NOTE: For Additional Policies,  
Please Refer to Ellington's Current School Year & Dance Department Handbook***

## **UNITS OF STUDY**

### **I. College Admission Unit**

### **II. Portfolio Unit: (Advisory I) Material Requirement**

- 3 Ring Notebook
- Sheet protectors
- Pocket Folders
- Tab Dividers

### **III. Choreography Unit:**

### **IV. Photo Unit**

### **V. Technical Theater Unit: “Behind the Stage/ Theater Operations.”**

### **VI. Arts Management Unit**

### **VII. Senior Dance Showcase Unit**

### **VIII. Spring Concert Unit**

### **IX. Mini Dance Magazine Unit**

### **X. Reflection Unit**

### **XI. Arts Therapy Unit**

### **XII. Careers in the Arts**