

Folklorico Dance Syllabus

Tucson High Magnet School
2017-2018 Academic Year

"There are shortcuts to happiness, and dancing is one of them" - Vicki Baum

How to contact me:

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Folklorico Director

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About your teacher:

Hi everyone! My name is Mr. Loya and I would like to welcome each of you to the Folklorico program at Tucson High Magnet School.

I began my folklorico career 20 years ago with Tucson's official folklorico group BALLET FOLKLORICO SAN JUAN, now celebrating 30 years! In addition, I also currently serve as the assistant director to BALLET FOLKLORICO ARIZONA. My experience ranges from teaching workshops for events such as the Las Vegas International Mariachi Conference, to performing in venues such as the Hollywood Bowl, 2012 Olympic Festivities, and the 2017 International Folk Fest in Italy.

In December 2014 I received my Bachelor's in Accounting from the University of Arizona.

I look forward to getting to know each of you. Please contact me should you have any questions or concerns throughout the school year!

-Bruno Loya



Course Description

Students enrolled in Folklorico will develop an awareness and appreciation of Mexican folkloric dance as a performing art. Throughout the year each student will develop, refine and demonstrate a thorough historical and physical understanding of various regional dance styles and traditions of Mexico. Students will also be expected to gain knowledge of choreography and composition. All students enrolled in this course will be expected to participate & perform in informal and formal dance concerts & presentations. Creativity, critical thinking and problem solving models are used on a daily basis particularly when preparing for annual performances. Class objectives are aligned with the Arizona State Standards and dance curriculum. Students are expected to participate in lessons and activities at all times.

Behavior Expectations

In order to ensure a positive, safe and successful learning environment for all, students shall be:

- **Prompt:** Students must arrive to class before the last bell, dress out as soon as they walk in and sit down in assigned spots within 10 minutes after the bell.
- **Prepared:** Bring dance attire, notebook, water bottle and use restroom *before* class. No bathroom passes will be issued during learning time unless it's an emergency.
- **Productive:** Listen actively, stay on task, show effort and follow directions.
- **Performance:** Students will have tremendous learning opportunities through field trips, workshops, performances and rehearsals. I expect all students to take advantage of these opportunities. *Active participation is a major graded component of this course.*
- **Costumes:** We encourage students to acquire their own costumes. If borrowing a THMS costume, the student is responsible for mending, dry cleaning, keeping it in good shape or replacing it if lost. *Please see costume policy for more information.*



Classroom Rules

- **NO** Gum or Food
- **NO** Cell Phones, Laptops or Electronics (unless indicated)
- **Always** Dress for Class
- Be **Respectful** to One Another

Discipline is not fun for you or for me. However, disciplinary actions will be taken as recommended in the THMS discipline plan -- please take the time to review it. It provides each student with the opportunity to learn to be accountable for his or her own behavior.

Course Materials

- **Notebook/journal:** Students will be writing in class as part of the course curriculum
- **Dance attire** for everyday class: black athletic pants or shorts, black fitted t-shirt or leotard, folklorico boots/shoes, tennis shoes or ballet flats, handkerchief, practice skirt, hair ties, deodorant, bottled water.
- **Folklorico Vendors:** You can purchase folklorico items on line at www.mariachiconnection.com or in town with Viva Dance Studio -- 520-544-9543 (www.vivaperformingarts.com)
- **THMS Badger** Foundation gives grants for students to buy folklorico shoes. Applications are available in the library and are reviewed the first week of every month.
- **Other required performance items and project related materials will be communicated on a separate handout later in the semester.**

Grading Criteria

Grading Scale:

A	90% and up
B	80% to 89%
C	70% to 79%
D	60% to 69%
E	59% or lower

In all avenues of life one thing is for sure... it is better to be **proactive** vs **reactive**. That being said, please be sure to always put in your absolute best effort and commitment toward completing all course assignments and requirements. Grades will be updated via **Synergy** at least twice each week.

As previously mentioned **active participation** will make up a *significant* portion of your grade so please be sure to be present in class, on-time, and always putting your best foot forward.

Student grades will be calculated using a total point system which is cumulative by semester. **See the table to the left for the grading scale.**

More about assignments...

To help you keep a closer eye on your grades, each semester will be worth 100 points each (meaning 1 point = 1% of your grade).

As an example, if you do not turn in an assignment worth 5 points, this is the equivalent of forfeiting 5% of your semester grade which means the highest grade you may receive is 95%.

It is imperative that you manage your time wisely and complete all assignments completely and thoroughly. **No incomplete or late assignments will be accepted!**

Graded assignment categories will be as follows:

- **Daily Warm-up & Rehearsal (25%)**
Points will be deducted for missing warm-ups, not dressing out, or non-participation.
- **Individual Homework (10%)**
Expectations for individual homework will vary by assignment and be communicated at the time the homework is provided.
- **Projects (20%)**
Group projects provide a wonderful opportunity for you to collaborate with peers and solve problems by using an array of diverse perspectives.



Costume Policy

Los Tucsonenses students are privileged enough to have access to over 500 costume pieces and accessories! It has taken nearly 45 years to accumulate such an extensive costume inventory, with each costume averaging \$200 each.

For this reason, it is important that students demonstrate the utmost **responsibility** when entrusted with costuming.

Costumes will be assigned

- **Movement & Written Quizzes (20%)**
Students will be assessed on footwork & dance excerpts throughout the year. Students will also be assessed on content knowledge from in class lectures, homework, and reading assignments in both written and oral forms.
- **Annual Productions (25%)**
Performing arts would not be so if we did not perform! Attendance is **required** at all dress rehearsals & theater productions. These **mandatory** dates are as follows:

11/30/2017: show call time 5pm, curtain 7pm
Dress rehearsal: 11/27-11/29 from 4-7:30pm
Matinee show: 11/30 during 3rd period

03/29/2018: Beginning/Intermediate Concert. All advanced folklorico students will be required to attend this concert & turn in a critiquing assignment.

05/04/2017: show call time 5pm, curtain 7pm
Dress rehearsal: 05/01 from 3-5pm
05/02-05/03 from 4-8pm
Matinee show: 05/03 during 3rd period

***Make-up work** must be turned in NO LATER than **7 days** from returning to class with an excused absence. It is highly recommended that you complete make-up work for your absences before the absence occurs.

to students prior to a performance. It is the student's responsibility to:

- **Maintain costumes.**
You are responsible for *mending any tears to costumes*. A list of seamstresses is available. Notify me of tears prior to taking your costume.
- **Account for costumes.**
Keep track of all costume pieces you are assigned. If something is lost you must replace it. Cost will depend on the lost item.
- **Clean costumes.**
Students are responsible for dry cleaning their costumes at the end of the year.

In the end, treat these costumes items **as if they were your own** to help preserve and protect the resources available to our program.

It is encouraged that students purchase their own costumes and practice skirts. Please contact Mr. Loya for seamstress information.

Please note that this costume policy also applies to any practice skirts that are checked out throughout the school year.

If you have any questions or concerns about this costume policy, please contact Mr. Loya.

Calling All Parents!



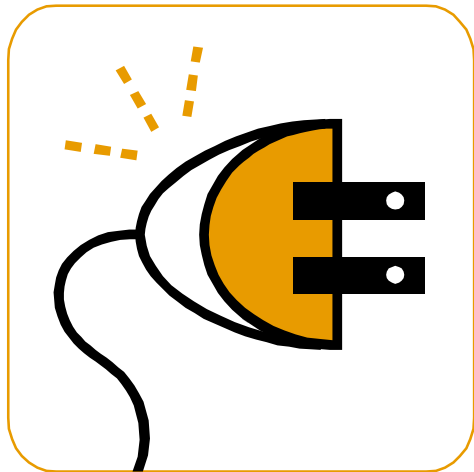
Our groups success would not be possible without the continued support of our parents & guardians! We need your support to continue providing enriching resources to your students.

Please contact Bruno if you are interested in volunteering during the 2017-18 school year!

Examples of different areas you might consider helping with include (see right)....

- **Fundraising & sponsorships**
- **Marketing & promoting** (flyers, social media, print, community outreach)
- **Pre-production tasks** (tickets, programs, backstage)
- **Post-production tasks** (costume check in, set breakdown)
- **Costuming** (repair, cleaning, inventory)
- **Stage design & props**

I encourage parents to get involved and be a part of our program.



Online Classroom

Our program utilizes an online classroom to enhance student learning and parental involvement. You may access our site at:

lostucsonenses.weebly.com

This website will be used to:

- Provide updates
- View calendars
- Access supplemental videos & readings
- Complete homework
- View rehearsal videos
- Download Syllabus
- and more

I encourage parents to regularly visit our online classroom to be informed about what your students are learning and to do a little learning yourselves!

Be sure to bookmark our website for your convenience. Our classroom site has been optimized for easy viewing on desktop computers, laptops, tablets, and smartphone devices.

Like to text? Subscribe today!

Take a minute to subscribe to our text message & email list today to receive instant updates about your folklorico classes wherever you are.

This will be a helpful tool to receive homework reminders, rehearsal schedules, and other last minute details pertaining to your class.

Join via text
Text @thmsfolk1 to 81010

To join, send a text to
81010 ?
with the message
@thmsfolk1 ?

Join via email
thmsfolk1@mail.remind.com

New message

To **thmsfolk1@mail.remind.com**

Subject You can leave this blank

Hello, welcome to Folklorico dance!

My name is Mr. Loya and I am very excited to be working with you this year. This packet contains important information regarding our class, student expectations, grading, and much more.

Please be sure to read this entire document **carefully** as it contains the information you will need to be successful in this course!

Once you are finished reading please initial and sign below:

I, _____, parent/guardian of _____ acknowledge that I have fully read, understand, and agree to the following guidelines set forth in the syllabus provided:

_____ Behavior Expectations

_____ Classroom Rules

_____ Course Materials

_____ Grading Criteria

_____ Assignments

_____ Costume Policy

_____ Online Classroom

_____ I understand that an **activity fee** for folklorico (Beginning \$10, \$50 all others) must be paid to the Finance office **no later** than 9/4/17. The fee is treated as a tax credit donation.

Please kindly sign and date below and return ONLY THIS PAGE no later than Thursday, August 17th for 1 point.

Student signature _____ **Date** _____

Parent signature _____ **Date** _____

Parent Phone _____ Parent email _____

Preferred contact method _____

Would you like to be added to our email listserv? **yes** **no**

Would you like to be added to our texting list? **yes** **no**

Are you planning on being a member of our parent booster club? **yes** **no**

****Did you know that tax credit donations are an easy way to make a positive contribution to your child's education? What's even better is that you get each cent of that money back the next time you file your taxes! Who knew supporting your child's club could be so rewarding? Please be sure to specify Folklorico on your donation and contact Mr. Loya if you have any questions!****