Guidelines to assist dance teachers and fine arts administrators in developing quality, consistent and progressive K-8 Dance curricula throughout Texas. The Guidelines are aligned with the state approved Fine Arts Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, Grades 9-12.

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## Grade Kindergarten

#### KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

A. Perception: The student develops an awareness of the body's movement, using sensory information while dancing.

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Basic kinesthetic and spatial awareness with others	The student is expected to:  Develop an awareness of general and personal space while moving in a group.
Sensitivity toward others when working in groups	Develop the ability to follow a leader and to lead a line.
Dance Etiquette	Follow classroom rules and procedures.
Wellness	Understand the relationship between USDA Food Guide Pyramid and movement potential.
Body science/somatic application	Demonstrate lateral and cross lateral movement.
Dance movement skills	Explore basic locomotor movement e.g. walk, march, run, hop, jump, skip, gallop, slide, and leap and non-locomotor movement e.g. bend, stretch, sway, twist, punch, and stillness.
	with others  Sensitivity toward others when working in groups  Dance Etiquette  Wellness  Body science/somatic application

B. Creative Expression: The student develops knowledge and skills of dance elements and identifies and explores choreographic processes and forms in a variety of styles.

*The student is expected to:* 

1.	. The student demonstrates knowledg	
	of dance elements, styles and genres.	

a. Dance genres and styles Perform rhythmical sequences such as simple

folk and creative dances.

b. Dance composition elements Explore varied directions and pathways, e.g.,

forward, backward, circular and angular using basic locomotor and non-locomotor movement.

c. Experimentation Explore movement to a variety of sensory

stimuli such as sight, sound, and touch.

2. The student will explore choreographic principles as a way to create and communicate meaning through movement and dance styles.

a. Expression of ideas and emotions 

Explore movement in response to various verbal

through movement and sensory stimuli, e.g., pictures, words, objects, nature images or ideas.

b. Choreographic processes Create movement based on a historical timeline.

3. The student will demonstrate knowledge of dance performed on the stage.

a. Performance Recognize that dance requires concentration.

b. Production Experience performing in informal venues,

e.g., classrooms, parks, malls.

4. The student will demonstrate and identify various musical elements.

a. Music Clap and move in time to a simple rhythmic

beat such as 2/4 marching time.

5. The student applies technology to dance and movement.

a. Technology Recognize appropriate use and care for video

and audio equipment.

C. Historical/Cultural Heritage: The student demonstrates an understanding of cultural, historical, and artistic diversity.

The student is expected to:

Recognize that dances are performed to express

special events.

2. Cultural performance Perform simple songs and play party dances/

games.

3. Historical context Identify the cultural and historical contexts of

various dances within ones community.

D. Response/Evaluation: The student makes informed judgments about dance's forms, meaning, and

role in society.

1. Cultural heritage

*The student is expected to:* 

1. Response Verbalize the meaning of dances choreographed

to tell a story.

2. Evaluation Describe dance movements in words and relate

to images, situations, and feelings read in

literature.

## Grade One

#### **BASIC UNDERSTANDING**

A. Perception: The student develops an awareness of the body's movement, using sensory information while dancing.

ınt	ormation while dancing.	
1.	Basic kinesthetic and spatial awareness with others	The student is expected to: Practice awareness of personal and general space while moving in different directions and levels.
2.	Sensitivity toward others when working in groups	Work with a partner to demonstrate the ability the lead and follow.
3.	Dance etiquette	Demonstrate respectful listening skills and movement directions in class.
4.	Wellness	Recognize that muscles and bones work together to produce movement.
5.	Body science/somatic application	Demonstrate the ability to balance while standing on one or two legs.
6.	Dance movement skills	Combine locomotor movements to produce basic step patterns, e.g., two steps (gallop), Schottische (three runs and a hop) and polka (hop and gallop).

B. Creative Expression: The student develops knowledge and skills of dance elements and identifies and explores choreographic processes and forms in a variety of styles.

The student is expected to:

to

	The student is expected to:
1. The student demonstrates knowledge of	
dance elements, styles, and genres	
a. Dance genres and styles	Perform short, simple and repetitive dances
	utilizing locomotor and non-locomotor skills,
	e.g., schottische.
b. Dance composition elements	Explore levels, shapes and varied pathways
	using basic locomotor and non-locomotor
	movement.
c. Experimentation	Recognize that dances are designed with
	elements of art such as patterns and design.

a. Expression of ideas and Create movement expressing ideas or emotions emotions through movement i.e. children's story, seasonal changes or animal

mages.

b. Choreographic processes Create movement sequences with a beginning,

middle, and end.

3. The student will demonstrate knowledge of dance performed on the stage

a. Performance Perform short solo dances within a group in

response to music.

b. Production Identify front/back and right side/left side of the

stage.

4. The student will demonstrate and identify various musical elements

a. Music Explore moving to a musical beat and

responding to changes in the melody and tempo.

5. The student applies technology to dance and movement.

a. Technology View cultural/historical dances on video/DVD.

C. Historical/Cultural Heritage: The student demonstrates an understanding of cultural, historical, and artistic diversity.

*The student is expected to:* 

1. Cultural heritage Recognize that dances are performed to express

special events, messages, and stories.

2. Cultural performance Perform rhythmic songs and play party

dances/games.

3. Historical context Explore the lives of one or two famous

world/cultural dance personalities.

D. Response/Evaluation: The student makes informed judgments about dance's forms, meaning, and role in society.

The student is expected to:

Verbalize how dance is different from other

forms of human movement, e.g., sports,

everyday gestures.

2. Evaluation Observe a dance and predict movement or

1. Response

outcome.

#### Grade Two

#### **BASIC UNDERSTANDING**

A. Perception: The student develops an awareness of the body's movement, using sensory information while dancing.

101111	connation while dancing.			
1.	Basic kinesthetic and spatial awareness with others	The student is expected to:  Demonstrate awareness of personal and general space while changing speed and directions.		
2.	Sensitivity toward others when working in groups	Create a variety of spatial relationships leading and following a partner.		
3.	Dance etiquette	Demonstrate respectful behavior as a performer and audience member.		
4.	Wellness	Observe and describe the immediate effect of dance/movement on the heart and breathing rate.		
5.	Body science/somatic application	Articulate isolated vertical and horizontal body halves to improve coordination and range of movement.		
6.	Dance movement skills	Demonstrate body control while jumping and landing for height and distance using key elements for creating and absorbing force.		

B. Creative Expression: The student develops knowledge and skills of dance elements and identifies and explores choreographic processes and forms in a variety of styles.

The student is expected to:

Ι.	The student demonstrates knowledge	
	of dance elements, styles, and genres.	
	a. Dance genres and styles	
		1

Learn short, simple and repetitive dances utilizing locomotor and non-locomotor skills,

e.g., waltz.

b. Dance composition elements Explore use of energies for movement

expression, e.g., dab, wring, punch, slash, float,

glide, flick, and press.

c. Experimentation Connect to ideas, characters, and situations

found in stories, books, and/or poetry through

movement.

a. Expression of ideas and Create simple movement sequences using

emotions through movement shapes, levels and pathways responding to ideas,

e.g., living organisms/ non-living objects, transportation, or metamorphic cycles.

b. Choreographic processes Create movement into ordered sequences to

selected accompaniment.

3. The student will demonstrate knowledge of dance performed on the stage.

a. Performance Perform with concentration and purpose.

b. Production Demonstrate knowledge of stage directions, e.g.,

upstage, downstage, stage right and stage left.

4. The student will demonstrate and identify various musical elements.

a. Music Create and imitate movement in response to

selected rhythms, beats, and tempo.

5. The student applies technology to dance and movement.

a. Technology Select images from the Internet for a creative

movement study.

C. Historical/Cultural Heritage: The student demonstrates an understanding of cultural, historical, and artistic diversity.

The student is expected to:

1. Cultural heritage Identify dances that are representative of local

cultural heritage.

2. Cultural performance Perform folk/world dances from various local

community cultures.

3. Historical context Explore the emergence of dance masters in

various periods of history and their role in

establishing dance traditions.

D. Response/Evaluation: The student makes informed judgments about dance's forms, meaning, and role in society.

1. Response Compare how dance movements are similar or different using dance terminology.

2. Evaluation Recognize the beginning/middle/end of a dance and relate to a story.

## Grade Three

## **BASIC UNDERSTANDING**

A. Perception: The student develops an awareness of the body's movement, using sensory information while dancing.

orm	ation while dancing.	
1.	Basic kinesthetic and spatial awareness with others	The student is expected to: Apply movement dynamics while traveling in a variety of directions maintaining awareness of personal and general space/formations.
2.	Sensitivity toward others when working in groups	Participate in decision making while working in a small group by both listening and sharing.
3.	Dance etiquette	Focus and reflect on basic instructions during class rehearsal and performance.
4.	Wellness	Comprehend the effects of regular physical activity on the heart, lungs, and muscular systems.
5.	Body science/somatic application	Identify specific body parts that contribute to proper skeletal alignment, e.g., flexion, extension, rotation.
6.	Dance movement skills	Demonstrate a waltz step pattern combining locomotor and non-locomotor movements.

B. Creative Expression: The student develops knowledge and skills of dance elements and identifies and explores choreographic processes and forms in a variety of styles.

		The student is expected to.
1.	The student demonstrates knowledge	
	of dance elements, styles and genres.	
	a. Dance genres and styles	Identify and demonstrate the five basic ballet positions of the arms and feet and beginning
		ballet movement, e.g., tendu, relevé, plié, passé and parallel/turn out.
	b. Dance composition elements	Experience a variety of tempo and accent
		changes in short movement phrases.
	c. Experimentation	Create movement experience relating the
		elements used in dance to elements of other art
		forms, e.g., texture, balance, rhythm, and shape.

a. Expression of ideas and Create movement to express an idea or emotion, emotions through movement e.g., related to a community cultural event or

e.g., related to a community cultural event or lunar and solar properties applying concepts of

space, time, and energy.

b. Choreographic processes Demonstrate repetition using simple

choreographic structures, e.g., A-B, A-B-A.

3. The student will demonstrate knowledge of dance performed on stage.

a. Performance Perform with consistent recall of memorized

steps.

b. Production Recognize that all students have a role in the

production, e.g., stage manager, light/sound

operator, publicity.

4. The student will demonstrate and identify various musical elements.

a. Music Recognize and move in 3/4 and 6/8 time

signatures.

5. The student applies technology to dance and movement.

a. Technology Create a multimedia presentation based on

research of a choreographer or dancer.

C. Historical/Cultural Heritage: The student demonstrates an understanding of cultural, historical, and artistic diversity.

*The student is expected to:* 

1. Cultural heritage Observe and analyze differences and similarities

between two cultural dances.

2. Cultural performance Perform dances from various periods in history.

3. Historical context Identify excerpts of dances representing the

classical period, e.g., Sleeping Beauty,

Nutcracker, and Swan Lake.

D. Response/Evaluation: The student makes informed judgments about dance's forms, meaning, and role in society.

The student is expected to:

1. Response Apply appropriate dance terminology when

observing and identifying dance movements.

2. Evaluation Observe and compare vocations in dance.

#### Grade Four

#### **BASIC UNDERSTANDING**

A. Perception: The student develops an awareness of the body's movement, using sensory information while dancing.

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1.	Basic kinesthetic and spatial awareness with others	The student is expected to: Identify and demonstrate the relationship of one's personal space in relation to others in specific groupings.
2.	Sensitivity toward others when working in groups	Respect individual differences and multiple solutions to problems.
3.	Dance Etiquette	Demonstrate effective communication, consideration, and respect for the feelings for others.
4.	Wellness	Understand the process of developing cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength and flexibility.
5.	Body science/somatic application	Explore weight shifts, initiated by proximal and distal movements.
6.	Dance movement skills	Develop smooth transitions linking fundamental locomotor and elevated movements and body

B. Creative Expression: The student develops knowledge and skills of dance elements and identifies and explores choreographic processes and forms in a variety of styles.

The student is expected to:

1.	The student demonstrates knowledg	
	of dance elements, styles and genres.	

a. Dance genres and styles Execute the five basic ballet positions of the arms and feet and beginning ballet movement,

e.g., tendu, relevé, plié, passé and parallel/turn

control skills, e.g., three runs and a grand jeté.

out.

b. Dance composition elements Manipulate space, time and energy in simple

movement sequences.

c. Experimentation Respond to a dance using another art form, e.g.,

painting, story writing, or miming.

a. Expression of ideas and emotions through movement

Improvise and demonstrate movement to develop geometric and spatial reasoning ideas, e.g., symmetry, angles (right, acute & obtuse),

parallel/perpendicular lines.

b. Choreographic processes

Combine and perform movement sequences into

dance structures, e.g., canon or rondo.

3. The student will demonstrate knowledge of dance performed on the stage.

a. Performance

Perform with self-confidence and commitment

to the movement.

b. Production

Recognize that stage lighting and stage design

creates a mood or scene for dance.

4. The student will demonstrate and identify various musical elements.

a. Music

Demonstrate movement applying changes in speed, rhythm, and meter with accuracy.

5. The student applies technology to dance and movement.

a. Technology

Create a dance using computer-aided design.

C. Historical/Cultural Heritage: The student demonstrates an understanding of cultural, historical, and artistic diversity.

*The student is expected to:* 

1. Cultural heritage

Describe the relationships between folk/world dances and the geography, climate, clothing and

traditions of the country of origin.

2. Cultural performance

Perform folk dances representative of American and Texas Heritage, e.g., schottische, two-step,

and square dance.

3. Historical context

Connect influences of diverse cultures of Texas

to its history and dance.

D. Response/Evaluation: The student makes informed judgments about dance's forms, meaning, and role in society.

The student is expected to:

1. Response Incorporate appropriate movement vocabulary

when describing dance.

2. Evaluation Apply simple criteria to identify Texas dance

history.

## Grade Five

## **BASIC UNDERSTANDING**

A. Perception: The student develops an awareness of the body's movement, using sensory information while dancing.

1.	Basic kinesthetic and spatial awareness with others	The student is expected to: Independently dance with awareness of one's personal and general space while demonstrating the ability to contrast a partner's movement.
2.	Sensitivity toward others when working in groups	Collaborate in finding multiple solutions to problems.
3.	Dance etiquette	Accept successes and performance limitations of self and others, and recognize that improvement is possible with appropriate practice.
4.	Wellness	Identify the relationship between optimal body function and a healthy eating plan according to U.S. dietary guidelines.
5.	Body science/somatic application	Integrate breath support in performing movement.
6.	Dance movement skills	Explore grounded movement such as swings, over/under curves and body isolations.

B. Creative Expression: The student develops knowledge and skills of dance elements and identifies and explores choreographic processes and forms in a variety of styles.

The student is expected to:

			The student is expected to.
1		e student demonstrates knowledge dance elements, styles and genres.	
	a.	Dance genres and styles	Identify and demonstrate beginning jazz
			movement, e.g., jazz hand/arms, jazz walk, Jazz
			Square, grapevine and three-step turn.
	b.	Dance composition elements	Develop short movement phrases applying
			repetition and sequence to demonstrate
			compositional form, e.g., canon, A-B.
	c.	Experimentation	Discover inspiration for movement expression
			from other art forms or discipline.

Expression of ideas and emotions through movement

Improvise with a partner to explore threedimensional shapes to communicate an idea e.g.,

the cycles of plants and animals.

b. Choreographic processes

Create and develop a movement motif into a theme and variations compositional structure.

3. The student will demonstrate knowledge of dance performed on the stage.

a. Performance

b. Production

Accurately perform choreographer's intention and rehearsed skills with kinesthetic awareness. Demonstrate awareness of relationships between various parts of the production e.g., dance

lighting, costuming, make- up.

4. The student will demonstrate and

identify various musical elements.
a. Music

Perform expressive movement phrases in relationship to melody, various time signatures, accents and dynamics.

5. The student applies technology to dance and movement.

a. Technology

Create a dance for video as a group project.

C. Historical/Cultural Heritage: The student demonstrates an understanding of cultural, historical, and artistic diversity.

*The student is expected to:* 

1. Cultural heritage Recognize dances in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, e.g.,

modern, jazz, tap, and social dances.

2. Cultural performance Perform selected European folk dances.

3. Historical context Identify personalities that contributed to the

development of dance in the 20th Century.

D. Response/Evaluation: The student makes informed judgments about dance's forms, meaning, and role in society.

1. Response

Identify major movement ideas and elements using dance terminology.

2. Evaluation

Relate and analyze concepts studied in science and/or math class to an original movement study to form conclusions about intents and meanings.

## Grade Six

## **BASIC UNDERSTANDING**

1.

A. Perception: The student develops an awareness of the body's movement, using sensory information while dancing.

1.	Basic kinesthetic and spatial awareness with others	The student is expected to: Improvise using a variety of movement relationships between dancers.
2.	Sensitivity toward others when working in groups	Demonstrate the ability to contribute constructively and work cooperatively while creating a group composition.
3.	Dance etiquette	Focus and reflect on complex instructions during class, rehearsal, and performance.
4.	Wellness	Recognize the differences between positive body image and negative body image.
5.	Body science/somatic application	Articulate isolated body parts to improve coordination and range of movement.
6.	Dance movement skills	Combine non-locomotor and locomotor movements while applying movement principles of torque and rotation to explore a variety of turns.

B. Creative Expression: The student develops knowledge and skills of dance elements and identifies and explores choreographic processes and forms in a variety of styles.

		The student is expected to:
T	he student demonstrates knowledge	
O	f dance elements, styles and genres.	
a.	Dance genres and styles	Identify and demonstrate intermediate level
		skills and elements in a variety of positions,
		steps, and patterns from at least two different
		dance genres.
b	Dance composition elements	Demonstrate memorization and reproduction of
		movement sequences with balance and control
		of body parts.
c.	Experimentation	Create a movement study based on ideas from
		other art forms.

a. Expression of ideas and emotions

through movement

Create transitions connecting traveling,

balancing and weight transfer movements to

illustrate an idea.

b. Choreographic processes Create a non-literal composition to a musical

selection demonstrating intention, focus and

transition.

3. The student will demonstrate knowledge of dance performed on the stage.

a. Performance Perform with an awareness of relationships

within groups.

b. Production Create, draw and discuss costumes for a specific

learned group dance.

4. The student will demonstrate and identify various musical elements.

a. Music Explore complex rhythmic patterns including

polyrhythmic phrases.

5. The student applies technology to dance and movement.

a. Technology

Compose music to create a sound track for an

original movement study.

C. Historical/Cultural Heritage: The student demonstrates an understanding of cultural, historical, and artistic diversity.

The student is expected to:

1. Cultural heritage Describe the cultural significance as

communicated through dance movement.

2. Cultural performance Explore movement characteristics of African

and Mexican folk dance.

3. Historical context Identify the key figures in the development of

classical ballet.

D. Response/Evaluation: The student makes informed judgments about dance's forms, meaning, and role in society.

1. Response

Design and apply criteria for evaluating the quality and effectiveness of dance performances.

2. Evaluation

Compare and contrast the ways ideas and emotions are depicted in art, dance, music, and theatre.

## Grade Seven

## **BASIC UNDERSTANDING**

A. Perception: The student develops an awareness of the body's movement, using sensory information while dancing.

1.	Basic kinesthetic and spatial awareness with others	The student is expected to: Create clear and distinct spatial designs or patterns in relation to others.
2.	Sensitivity toward others when working in groups	Exhibit commitment and respect toward group goals and projects.
3.	Dance etiquette	Maintain quiet, orderly, positive attitude, and respect for others in the studio and at performances.
4.	Wellness	Assess the relationship between food, exercise, self-concept and physical performance.
5.	Body science/somatic application	Develop kinesthetic sensations while performing.
6.	Dance movement skills	Execute simultaneous and sequential movement patterns demonstrating agility and coordination.

B. Creative Expression: The student develops knowledge and skills of dance elements and identifies and explores choreographic processes and forms in a variety of styles.

		The student is expected to:
1.	The student demonstrates knowledge of dance elements, styles and genres	
	a. Dance genres and styles	Identify and demonstrate more complex dance skills and elements in a variety of positions, steps, and patterns from at least two different dance genres.
	b. Dance composition elements	Demonstrate extended movement phrases that include intermediate dance elements within a compositional form.
	c. Experimentation	Interpret an existing piece of choreography and create a unique and personal approach to the performance through reflection and journal writing.

a. Expression of ideas and emotions through movement

Create a dance response to an event in Texas history demonstrating felt meaning and utilizing space in a variety of directions, pathways, levels,

and shapes.

b. Choreographic processes Generate original movement using

choreographic elements and devices, e.g.,

retrograde, inversion, repetition.

3. The student will demonstrate knowledge of dance performed on the stage.

a. Performance Perform with the intent to communicate with

and project to an audience.

b. Production Perform a dance designed for digital recording

recognizing camera angles in designing

production.

4. The student will demonstrate and identify various musical elements

a. Music Perform dance phrases using even and

syncopated rhythms.

5. The student applies technology to dance and movement.

a. Technology Create a multimedia presentation comparing the

similarities and differences of selected dance

styles.

C. Historical/Cultural Heritage: The student demonstrates an understanding of cultural, historical, and artistic diversity.

The student is expected to:

1. Cultural heritage Compare the styles and movements of a variety

of cultural dances in relationship to the elements

of dance.

2. Cultural performance Perform and teach a dance representative of

one's heritage or environment.

3. Historical context

Research and identify the contributions of Texas dance artists, e.g., Alvin Ailey, Tommy Tune, Debbie Allen, Ben Stevenson, James Clouser.

D. Response/Evaluation: The student makes informed judgments about dance's forms, meaning, and role in society.

*The student is expected to:* 

1. Response Analyze how theatrical elements such as lighting and costuming affect the meaning of a dance.

2. Evaluation Analyze and critique a movement study based on ideas from another subject area.

# Grade Eight

## **BASIC UNDERSTANDING**

A. Perception: The student develops an awareness of the body's movement, using sensory information while dancing.

1.	Basic kinesthetic and spatial awareness with others	The student is expected to: Perform with an awareness of proximity and interconnectedness between dancers.
2.	Sensitivity toward others when working in groups	Maintain a cooperative and respectful attitude while working independently within a small group.
3.	Dance Etiquette	Make appropriate changes in performance based on feedback to improve skills.
4.	Wellness	Examine the effects of substance abuse on personal health, decision-making and physical performance.
5.	Body science/somatic application	Demonstrate the underlying principles of movement, e.g., alignment, balance, weight shifts and articulation of isolated body parts.
6.	Dance movement skills	Perform a variety of centered and off-centered movements.

B. Creative Expression: The student develops knowledge and skills of dance elements and identifies and explores choreographic processes and forms in a variety of styles.

1.	The student demonstrates knowledge of dance elements, styles and genres.	
	a. Dance genres and styles	Independently identify, demonstrate and execute advanced level dance skills and elements with clarity in a variety of positions, steps, and patterns from at least two different dance genres.
	b. Dance composition elements	Demonstrate accurate memorization and reproduction of movement sequences with clarity of dynamics and movement qualities.

c. Experimentation

Integrate art forms, such as music, visual images, and dramatic themes into a dance composition.

2. The student will explore choreographic principles as a way to create and communicate meaning through movement and dance styles.

Expression of ideas and emotions through movement

Generate original choreography using abstract

ideas in response to a social issue by

improvising, problem-solving, and exploring

new movement possibilities.

b. Choreographic processes

Create a structured composition that displays choreographic principles, stage design and group

work.

3. The student will demonstrate knowledge of dance performed on the stage.

a. Performanceb. Production

Perform with an internal focus.

Perform a dance designed for a site specific

location, e.g., park, museum, cafeteria, recognizing environmental differences in

production.

4. The student will demonstrate and identify various musical elements.

a. Music

Create and perform complete dance

compositions using complex rhythmic patterns.

5. The student applies technology to dance and movement.

a. Technology

Develop and present a multimedia presentation

to foster a deeper understanding in dance to

school and community audiences.

C. Historical/Cultural Heritage: The student demonstrates an understanding of cultural, historical, and artistic diversity.

*The student is expected to:* 

1. Cultural heritage Compare and contrast the values and beliefs

reflected in dances from a variety of cultures and

historical periods.

2. Cultural performance Refine stylistic interpretation of mannerisms and

movement characteristics of a folk/world dance

for performance.

3. Historical context Identify the key figures and their contributions

to the development of 20th Century American

modern dance.

D. Response/Evaluation: The student makes informed judgments about dance's forms, meaning, and

role in society.

The student is expected to:

1. Response Compare the content, intent, and choreographic

structures used by various 20<sup>th</sup> Century

American choreographers.

2. Evaluation Interpret, evaluate, and justify artistic decisions

of personal dance works.