

## Classroom Etiquette

Classroom etiquette is one of the ways in which students and instructors demonstrate respect for one another and the art form. Both instructors and students benefit from a classroom setting that is an active and positive place of learning. In an effort to achieve this goal, all participants should strive for an environment of reciprocal respect (student to student, student to instructor, and instructor to student).

Instructors will demonstrate respect for students by:

- Communicating clear expectations for the course through a thoughtfully prepared syllabus.
- Beginning classes on time.
- Ending classes on time.
- Arriving prepared for classes.
- Giving appropriate attention and corrections to students as needed.
  - Individual, group and hands on corrections will be given in class.
- Attempting to answer questions as clearly and thoroughly as possible.
- Adapting the presentation of class material based on the needs of the students.
- Meeting with students outside of class to discuss progress and/or concerns.
- Applying fair and appropriate grading policies and procedures.

In return, students are expected to show respect for instructors, accompanist, and fellow students by:

- Being prepared to begin class on time.
  - If a student is late to class, the instructor may allow the student to participate in class, or the instructor may ask that the student observe and take notes. Instructors will use their best judgment to make the safest and most appropriate decision in each unique situation.
- Demonstrating that they are prepared for classes.
  - Students should be appropriately dressed and groomed for each class. Additionally, students are expected to make every effort to be in the proper frame of mind to fully participate, both physically and mentally. A simple way to demonstrate this readiness is by standing when the instructor enters the room.
- Remaining focused throughout the class.
  - Students are expected to remain focused and engaged throughout the duration of the class. This includes making a sincere effort to learn combinations quickly, paying particular attention to individual and general corrections as given by the instructor, and refraining from idle conversation.
  - Student application of corrections will result in more growth.
- Refraining from behavior that may be interpreted as disrespectful.
  - Often unconscious behaviors, such as yawning, speaking while the instructor is speaking, chatting with classmates, leaning on barres, lack of eye contact, etc., may be interpreted as disrespectful. Please be thoughtful about these behaviors and the message that they communicate to your instructors and classmates.
  - Instructors request that students refrain from leaving the classroom during class unless it is absolutely necessary. If a student *must* leave the room during class, instructors ask that students do so as unobtrusively as possible. If possible, catch the instructor's eye as you discretely leave between combinations. Return to the class as inconspicuously as possible between combinations. If there is a problem of which the instructor should be aware, please discuss this with the instructor after class.

- Showing appreciation for the instructor and accompanist at the end of each class.
  - It is traditional that the instructor and accompanist receive applause from students at the end of a class. If students feel inclined, they may also choose to verbally thank the instructor and/or accompanist.

Cell Phone Use and Texting: Please refrain from using cell phones during class. Students must turn off their cell phones, silence and no vibrating, before class begins. If a student is expecting an emergency phone call, the student must inform the Instructor *prior to class*. Students found texting during class will incur an absence for the day and may be excused from class. Recurrent infringement of this policy will jeopardize the student's grade.