Modern Dance

Course Description

Introduces the fundamentals of Modern Dance as an art form with an emphasis on a variety of techniques, musicality and performance.

Learning Objectives

- Students will recall the principles of a variety of modern dance technique.
- Students will demonstrate a variety of styles and technique within modern dance.
- Students will increase and strengthen body alignment, technique and flexibility.
- Students will illustrate musicality and fluidity while dancing modern.
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in basic concepts of modern dance.
- Students will analyze modern dance as an art form.

List of Supplies

CLASS ATTIRE:
Women—any solid color leotard, black tights or form fitting pants and barefoot or socks.
Men—formed fitting shirt, black tights or form fitting pants/long shorts and barefoot or socks.

Please wear hair secure and away from the face.

The instructor reserves the right to determine if any attire is inappropriate for class. NO BAGGY OUTFITS OR STREET SHOES PLEASE.

Course Policies

90-100 Pts. A
80-89 Pts. B
70-79 Pts. C
60-69 Pts. D
Below 60 Pts. F

- ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION-50 points (Attitude and effort contribute largely which is assessed during each class)
- 3 Evaluations-10 points each (Presentation of combinations as well as a written section comprised of vocabulary and history)
- WRITTEN PAPER-10 points (based on at least one live dance performance)
- LATE TERM EXAM-10 points (Presentation of variations)

Evaluation 1: Skills/Combination Test Wed. Feb. 9
Evaluation 2: Midterm Wed. Mar. 9
Evaluation 3: Skills/Combination Test Wed. Apr. 13
WRITTEN PAPER:
The student is required to write one paper during the semester based on one observation of a dance related concert. The paper is due within one week after the concert is observed. Please turn in a hard copy to the instructor or email an electronic copy to jilissa.cotten@tamucc.edu.

ATTENDANCE:
This is a physical class and therefore, requires attendance. Three unexcused absences are allowed for any reason before your grade is affected. The fourth absence will affect your grade one full letter. Seven absences will result in a failing grade. If a student is more than ten minutes late to class, he/she will be counted absent. Three tardies results in one absence.

If you are unable to participate fully in the class a written observation is acceptable. You may use this substitution for participating in the class only once per semester.

LATE WORK AND MAKE-UP EXAMS:
Late work and make-up exams are not permitted for this course.

EXTRA CREDIT:
Occasionally extra credit is given and will be offered to the entire class when appropriate.

CELL PHONE/ELECTRONIC DEVICE USAGE:
Cell phones and other electronic device usage are not permitted during class and should be turned off.

SAFETY:
Any physical activity requires some risk. Please be aware of others while dancing. If a student has a pre-existing condition, let the instructor know at the beginning of the class. If an injury occurs during class, please let the instructor know IMMEDIATELY! Check the student handbook regarding safety policies and procedures of the department.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY/PLAGIARISM:
University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in withdrawal from the course.

DROPPING A CLASS:
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

CLASSROOM/PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR:
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.
PROPER DANCE CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:
   i. Work hard to do your best.
   ii. Help maintain a friendly atmosphere of discipline.
   iii. Corrections are given verbally and physically to the group and individuals. Please listen to all corrections.
   iv. Any corrections given verbally or physically may involve physical contact with the student. If this makes you uncomfortable, please speak with the instructor.
   v. Ask questions!
   vi. Be willing to think for yourself. Don’t follow in other students’ footsteps.
   vii. No gum in the class.
   viii. Please turn off all cell phones and pagers.

GRADE APPEALS*
As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and the University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamu.cc/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATIONS*
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361)825-5816 in Driftwood 101.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361)825-5816.

*Required by SACS

SYLLABUS

Week 1: Discuss Syllabus
Week 2: Basic Warm Up #1
       Contractions, Spatial Awareness
       Begin Combination #1
Week 3: Basic Warm Up #1
       Contractions, Release/Hold
       Continue Combination #1
Week 4: Basic Warm Up #1
       Continue Combination #1
Week 5: Review all steps
       Evaluate Combination #1
Week 6: Basic Warm Up #2
       Floor Work, Spatial Awareness
       Begin Combination #2
Week 7: Basic Warm Up #2
Floor Work, Release/Hold
Continue Combination #2
Week 8: Basic Warm Up #2
Across the floor: Jumps/Leaps
Continue Combination #2
Week 9: Review all steps
Evaluate Combination #2
Week 10: SPRING BREAK
Week 11: Basic Warm Up #3
Across the floor: Turns
Begin Dance Demo Piece
Week 12: Basic Warm Up #3
Continue Progressions
Continue Dance Demo Piece
Week 13: Warm Up #3
Continue Dance Demo Piece
Week 14: Review all steps
Evaluation #3
Week 15: Work on Dance Demo
Week 16: Work on Dance Demo
Week 17: Monday, November 28, TECH Rehearsal 6-10pm
Tuesday November 29, 7:30pm, PAC, FINAL: Perform Dance Demo