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 techniques.
- 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—form-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

900-1000 Pts. A
800-899 Pts. B
700-799 Pts. C
600-699 Pts. D
Below 600 Pts. F

- ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION-400 points (Attitude and effort contribute largely which is assessed during each class)
- 2 Evaluations-150 points each (Presentation of combinations as well as a written section comprised of vocabulary and history)
- WRITTEN PAPER-100 points (based on at least one live dance performance)
- LATE TERM EXAM-200 points (Presentation of variations, load in, strike)
Evaluation 1: Skills/Combination Test       Wed. Feb. 17
Evaluation 2: Midterm                    Wed. Mar. 23
Written Paper: Observation of Live Performance       Within seven days of seeing concert
Final Exam: Island Dance Demo, Wednesday, April 27, 7:30pm @ Performing Arts Center, TAMUCC

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.

West Side Story
Chicago
Esmeralda
      CC Concert Ballet
Festival of the Arts
Rent
Swan Lake

Aurora Theater
Harbor Playhouse
Selena Auditorium
Heritage Park
Warren Theater
Selena Auditorium

Feb. 5-Mar. 19
Mar. 11-Apr. 24
Mar. 12
Apr. 19-24
Apr. 23-24

ATTENDANCE:
Two absences are without penalty. Three absences will lower the final grade by a letter, the fourth absence another letter, and the fifth absence results in an automatic F. Exceptions under extreme circumstances may be made at the discretion of the instructor. You must consult with the instructor immediately to make such an exception viable.

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. 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*
Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean.

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

ACADEMIC ADVISING
The College of Arts and Humanities requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College’s Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

PERSONAL COUNSELING
Short-term Counseling Services

University Counseling Center staff provide short-term individual counseling and psychiatric services to help students address personal problems that interfere with meeting the demands of college life and their academic success. Counselors can work with you to aid you in increasing self-awareness, improving self-confidence and acceptance, enhancing your ability to cope during changes and challenges, improving your decision making and communication abilities, and teaching you strategies to
replace hurtful or self-defeating thoughts, feelings, and actions with healthy, adaptive, alternatives. Services are available to TAMUCC students who are currently enrolled and whose needs match our services. Walkins are welcome 8am to 5pm.

Driftwood Bldg. #107  361-825-2703

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**Provisional Course Outline**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 20</td>
<td>Discuss Syllabus</td>
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| Jan. 25, 27 | Basic Warm Up #1-Cunningham  
Contractions, Spatial Awareness  
Across the floor: Runs, directions, Triplets |
| Feb. 1, 3 | Basic Warm Up #1-Cunningham  
Across the floor: Triplets, jumps, directions  
Begin Combination #1 |
| Feb. 8, 10 | Basic Warm Up #1-Cunningham  
Across the floor: Triplets, jumps, directions  
Begin Combination #1 |
| Feb. 15  | Review all steps                              |
| Feb. 17  | Evaluation #1                                 |
| Feb. 22, 24 | Basic Warm Up #1-Horton  
Contractions, Release/Hold  
Begin Combination #2 |
| Feb. 29  | Begin Dance Demo Piece                        |
| Mar. 2  | Basic Warm Up #2-Horton  
Floor Work, Release/Hold  
Continue Combination #2 |
| Mar. 7, 9 | Basic Warm Up #3 – Cunningham/Horton  
Combinations based on two techniques |
| Mar. 14, 16 | Spring Break                                 |
| Mar. 21  | Review all steps                              |
| Mar. 23  | Evaluation #2                                 |
| Mar. 28, 30 | Continue Cunningham/Horton techniques  
Across the floor: Turns, leaps |
| Apr. 4   | Work on performance piece                     |
| Apr. 6   | Work on performance piece                     |
| Apr. 11, 13 | Work on performance piece                    |
| Apr. 18, 20 | Work on performance piece                    |
| Apr. 25  | Monday: Load in                               |
| Apr. 26  | Tuesday: Load in & Tech for the Dance Demo; Tech dance piece |
| Apr. 27  | Wednesday: Tech during class; Dance Demo Performance 7:30 p.m. |