Modern Dance I

Course Description

Introduction to 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 performing modern dance.
- 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 or tank, with black tights or form fitting leggings 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

ECOMUNICATION POLICY

- The best way to contact me is email or text me at 361.249.0579.
- BlackBoard 9 is the form of communication I will make regarding any announcements, grades, etc.
- Please like the Facebook group page for this course.

GRADE POLICY

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<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>900-1000</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>800-899</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>700-799</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>600-699</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Below 600</td>
<td>F</td>
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- ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION-500 points (Attitude and effort contribute largely and 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-100 points (Presentation of variations)
Evaluation 1: Skills/Combination Test    Feb. 20th & 22nd
Evaluation 2: Skills/Combination Test    Apr. 3rd & 5th
Written Paper: Observation of Live Performance    Within 7 Days of Observing Performance
Final Exam: Island Dance Demo, Wednesday April 25th, 7:30pm @ Warren Theater, 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 upload a copy to Blackboard 9.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Festival of the Arts</th>
<th>Downtown CC</th>
<th>TBA</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cinderella (CC Concert Ballet)</td>
<td>Richardson Performance Hall</td>
<td>Apr. 7, 7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Giselle (CC Ballet)</td>
<td>Selena Auditorium</td>
<td>Apr. 21, 7:30pm</td>
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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 two times per semester.

LATE WORK AND MAKE-UP EXAMS:
Late work and make-up exams for this course are permitted at the discretion of the instructor.

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. April 6th 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 necessarily follow in another’s footsteps.

vii. No gum in the class.

viii. Please turn off all cell phones and pagers.

**GRADE APPEALS PROCESS**

As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, *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 Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, *Student Grade Appeals*. These documents are accessible online at: [http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C0.03_student_grade_appeals.pdf](http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C0.03_student_grade_appeals.pdf). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal in CLA, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, [http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html](http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html).

**ACADEMIC ADVISING**

The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

**DISABILITY SERVICES**

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 Corpus Christi Hall, Room #116. 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.

**STATEMENT OF ACADEMIC CONTINUITY**

In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.

**PERSONAL COUNSELING**

*Short-term Counseling Services*

VIII. 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 aide 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

**PROVISIONAL COURSE OUTLINE**

**Dates and assignments subject to change**

Jan. 16:  Discuss Syllabus/Attire
Jan. 18:  Basic Overall Body Warm Up
         Movement exploration: Body Awareness; Spatial Awareness; Focus; Non-locomotor/Locomotor
Jan. 23, 25: Cunningham Technique
           Body Curves; Footwork; Tilts; Arches; Rotation; Balances; Directional Changes; Focus
Jan. 30, 1: Expanded Cunningham Technique
           Long leg stretches; Leg Circles, Beats; Releves; Lunges; Transfer of Weight
           Across the Floor: Triplets; Walks; Runs; Jumps; Turns; Leap Variations
Feb. 6, 8:  Graham Technique Floorwork
           Breath; Contract/Release; Core Focus; Spirals; Rise/Fall
           Across the Floor: Triplets; Prances; Brushes, Leap variations
           Work on performance piece
Feb. 13, 15: Review for Evaluation #1 – Cunningham/Graham
           Work on performance piece
Feb. 20, 22: Evaluation #1 Terminology and Combinations
            Work on performance piece
Feb. 27, 1:  Limon Technique
              Breath; Weight, Gravity; Fall/Recovery; Suspension; Opposition
              Work on performance piece
Mar. 6, 8:  Expanded Limon Technique
           Impulse; Succession of movement; Floorwork; Inversions
           Across the Floor: Leap Variations; Inversion Variations; Fluid, Full-Body Concentration
Mar. 12-16: Spring Break
Mar. 20, 22: Technique Collective Classes – Cunningham, Graham, and Limon
            Spatial Awareness; Directional Changes; Focus; Weight Transfer; Contract/Release; Fall/Recovery;
            Weight; Floorwork; Across the Floor
Mar. 27, 29: Review for Evaluation #2 – Limon/Culmination
            Work on performance piece
Apr. 3, 5:  Evaluation #2 Terminology and Combinations
            Work on performance piece
Apr. 10, 12: Utilizing Modern in Contemporary Dance
             Adapting Modern Techniques with emotional presence and qualities; Body Connections with Impulse;
             Shared Weight; Positive/Negative Space
             Rehearse and refine performance piece
Apr. 17, 19: Rehearse and refine performance piece
Apr. 23:   Monday: Load in for Dance Demo
Apr. 24:   Tuesday: Load in & Tech for Dance Demo; Tech dance piece
Apr. 25:   Wednesday: Island Dance Demo Performance 7:30 p.m., PAC, TAMUCC