

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
Department of Theatre and Dance

SYLLABUS  
DNC 232: SOCIAL AND FOLK DANCE FORMS  
3 Credit Hours

FALL SEMESTER 2007  
ABIII 104: The Ballroom  
MWF 11-11:50AM

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Cindy Gratz  
OFFICE: Academic Building III #245  
HOURS: MW 2-5/ TTH 3:30-5:30  
(and by appointment)

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#### OBJECTIVES

Participants will be introduced to social dance, international folk dance, square dance steps and concepts. Ballroom etiquette and folk dance pedagogy is addressed. Terminology is an important aspect of this course.

#### ATTIRE

Comfortable clothes and shoes that will not inhibit dance movements or steps are necessary. Please speak to Dr. Gratz if you have physical or other problems that would prohibit you from dancing.

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Attendance is very important. The attendance grade in this course can influence a grade by as much as 10%. If 12 hours of class are missed, the course cannot be passed. When medical documentation is presented, the instructor will decide whether or not an absence can be made up. A doctor's note does not automatically excuse you from a class. Anyone arriving for class after attendance has been taken will be counted as tardy. Four tardies equals one absence. Four absences will not affect the grade. 12 Absences equals an F grade for the course.

Classes meet three times a week for one hour. On Mondays, the students are taught the dances for the week. Each dance includes background information, terminology, dance formations, dance positions, music, costumes, rhythmic structure, meter, tempo, and dance steps. On Wednesdays, participants are given a practical exam over the dances learned on Monday. Fridays are frequently used to evaluate student progress by means of response papers, quizzes, and discussions.

#### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

40% = Daily Class Assignments and Activities

30% = Mid Term Exam

Practical Exam and Written Exam

30% = Final Exam

Practical Exam and Written Exam

#### ATTENDANCE

1. Attendance is taken at 11:00 AM
2. Arriving after roll has been taken constitutes a "tardy"
3. Four tardies = one absence
4. Five absences are allowed
5. Perfect attendance: missing no classes = 10 points added to final grade
6. Semi-perfect: missing 1-5 classes = 5 points added to final grade
7. 6-11 absences do not effect your grade
8. Missing 12 classes = FAILURE OF THE COURSE. ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS!

## ATTENDANCE BONUSES

Perfect attendance: 10 points added to final grade in course

Semi perfect attendance: 5 points added to final grade in course

## CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

Each assignment is posted on the Blackboard. Printed handouts with the specifics of each assignment are available upon request. For each assignment, the specific criteria for evaluation are included. On-line quizzes are also announced one week ahead of time -- in class and on the Blackboard.

MID TERM EXAM – PERFORMANCE (50% of Mid Term Exam Grade)

Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> during class

MID TERM EXAM – WRITTEN (50% of Mid Term Exam Grade)

Friday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, during class

FINAL PERFORMANCE – PERFORMANCE (50% of Final Exam Grade)

“Dance Majors’ Workshop” - Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7PM.

FINAL EXAM – WRITTEN (50% of Final Exam Grade)

Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 11AM-1PM

## ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students are expected to withhold Academic Policy Statement 810213 of the SHSU Faculty Handbook:

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

## CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT

According to Section 5 of the Student Handbook, students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning:

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Cellular telephones and pagers must be turned off before class begins. Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

## VISITORS IN THE CLASSROOM

According to the Faculty Handbook, the following is recommended concerning visitors to the classroom:

Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted in the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.

## AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Student requests for accommodations must be initiated by the student. The student seeking accommodations should go to the Counseling Center and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in a timely manner.

## RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

University policy states that a student who is absent from class for the observance of a religious holy day may take an exam or complete an assignment within a reasonable time after the absence. The student must notify the instructor of each scheduled class that will be missed (including travel time needed) by the 15<sup>th</sup> calendar day after the first day of the semester.