

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
Department of Theatre & Dance

COURSE SYLLABUS  
DNC 533  
The Development of Advanced Skills in Dance  
3 credit hours  
Fall 2007

Class Location: as student is placed in technique  
Class Meeting Times: Ballet--1:00-2:20 M,F; 2:00-3:20 T,Th  
Modern—2:30-4 M,F; 12:30-2 T, Th  
Repertory—as cast  
Instructor: Jennifer Pontius  
Office: AB III, Room 245  
Contact Information: 936-294-1300  
[dnc\\_jkp@shsu.edu](mailto:dnc_jkp@shsu.edu); [Pontius@shsu.edu](mailto:Pontius@shsu.edu)  
Office Hours: by appointment, schedule will be posted on my door soon

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course includes theoretical concepts and laboratory experiences in modern dance and ballet, with performance opportunities in the faculty dance concert.

#### COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Demonstrate ability to incorporate theoretical concepts of ballet through performance in ballet class
- Demonstrate ability to incorporate theoretical concepts of modern dance through performance in modern class
- Demonstrate ability to apply technique in performance
- Demonstrate improvement in skill levels in all three areas

Students are placed in ballet and modern class based on faculty's assessment of their level in each technique. Additionally, students are required to audition for faculty repertory. The instructor of record writes an individual contract with each student, specifying each portion of the grade (ballet class, modern class, repertory). The final grade is an average of the student's grades in the three areas. Students enrolled in DNC 533 are responsible for all portions of the individual syllabi provided by their ballet, modern, and repertory instructors, including jury participation, reading assignments, papers, and adhere to established policies for absences.

#### ATTENDANCE POLICY

The nature of this course, and the life of a dancer, requires consistent physical participation. Development of appropriate muscular habits and mastery of dance technique will not occur with sporadic application. If you don't have the habit of daily

class ingrained already, it's time to acquire it! Students are permitted four absences in ballet, modern, and repertory during the semester without penalty to their grade. Absences in excess of four will each lower the final grade by 5%. Consistent late arrival, early departure, or long intermissions in the middle of class will also adversely affect the grade.

Students with injuries or illness that significantly limit their ability to participate for extended periods of time will be advised to drop the class. Please consult promptly with the instructor in the event that you are experiencing such problems.

## ASSIGNMENTS/EXAMS

Grades reflect:

- assessment of your level of achievement
- instructor's perception of your consistent application of effort, focus, and progress
- both technical and artistic merits

### Grade Components

33% Ballet

33% Modern

33% Performance