

Course Syllabus
DNC 474W.01: Dance Pedagogy (writing enhanced)
3 hours credit
Fall 2007

Instructor: Curry, Fayla
Instructor Office: 215, AB III
Instructor Phone: 294-1300
Office Hours: MWF 10:00-11:00; T Th 8:30-9:30
also by appointment
Class Time: MO 6:00-8:50
Class Location: AB 3, Room 104

Course Description

This course introduces students to methods for teaching ballet and other dance forms, and examines the curriculum for dance as proposed by the National Standards for Arts Education for Grades K-12. The standards developed for Texas will also be studied. Development of class structure, design and progression of exercises, effective communication with students, and the selection of appropriate musical accompaniment will be practiced.

Prerequisites: No prerequisites are officially established for this class. However, students are advised that the course presumes strong foundations in ballet, modern dance, improvisation, rhythmic structure of movement, and choreography I, all of which should have been completed by the senior year.

*******Approach/Method:** The course will consist of some lecture, but a substantial portion of class time will be devoted to student demonstrations of exercises and, as the course progresses, fuller class presentations.

Course Objectives

1. Practice elements of systematic training in forms of dance, focusing primarily on ballet and improvisational/choreographic elements.
2. Examine the dance curriculum proposed by the National Standards for Arts Education, as well as the objectives established for dance education in the state of Texas
3. Demonstrate ability to apply these concepts through development and presentation of lesson plans.
4. Develop skills in assessing dancers' proficiency, alignment, and form in the execution of dance exercises
5. Develop/ improve communication skills in the role of teacher

Textbook

Required: *National Standards for Arts Education: What Every Young American Should Know and Be Able to Do in the Arts*, Consortium of National Arts Education Associations, 1994.

****Highly Recommended: A standard dictionary of ballet terminology, such as Gail Grant's or Agrippina Vaganova's. There are slight differences in the books' organization and descriptions of terms, but either one is an excellent, and inexpensive, reference. If you don't already have a dictionary, get one now!! Those French terms will kill you otherwise.

You are also responsible for the content of all handouts, whether distributed by Ms. Pontius or by fellow students as part of their presentations.

Supplies/Attire:

Students should prepare for this course as if it were a dance technique class—leotard, tights, ballet or jazz shoes.

Attendance Policy

Students are permitted three absences without penalty to their final grade. Each additional absence will lower the final grade by 5%. Arriving to class more than five minutes late, or leaving before the class time is complete will also lower the final grade by 2% for each occasion. Attendance will be taken daily.

Students are responsible for any material missed. If a legitimate, documented excuse is presented at the next class meeting, the student will be permitted to reschedule any presentations they have missed; without said documentation, the student will not receive credit for the assignment. Acceptable excuses include: personal illness, death in the family, and professional development. Other excuses may be acceptable as determined at the instructor's discretion.

*******Assignments**

40 points Quiz #1: terminology.

40 points Quiz #2: structure of both a ballet and modern class

50 points Presentation #1: a ballet exercise.

50 points Presentation #2: an improvisation/interpretive exercise

150 points Project #1: Development of 5 progressive exercises

150 points Project #2: Analysis and contrast of 2 dancers in a technique class

200 points Paper #1: Apply concepts in the arts objectives to a lesson plan

300 points Paper #2: Apply concept in the arts objectives to development of a six weeks curriculum in dance

20 points Additional quizzes given as needed

1,000 points

Academic Dishonesty

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.

Students found guilty of cheating on an exam or plagiarizing material will, minimally, not receive credit for that assignment. Egregious cases, or multiple cases, will result in failure of the course.

Classroom Rules of Conduct

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and thus impedes the mission of the University. Cell phones, pagers, etc. must be turned off before class begins. Students may not eat, drink, smoke, or use tobacco products in the classroom. Other behaviors that shall not be permitted include: use of offensive language, talking at inappropriate times, sleeping, reading material unrelated to the discussion at hand, or engaging in other behavior that distracts others.

Inappropriate behavior will result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive may also be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with University policy.

Visitors in the Classroom

Visitors must not present a disruption of the class by their presence. Occasional visits by responsible persons may be permitted at the instructor's discretion. Regular visits by the same person are not appropriate. Visitors are subject to the same rules of conduct as students enrolled in the course, as outlined in the section above.

Americans with Disabilities Act

Requests for accommodations must be initiated by the student. Students should go to the Counseling Center and Services for Students with Disabilities to obtain the request form, which must be submitted to the instructor within two weeks of the start of the semester.

Religious Holidays

Not later than the 15th calendar day after the semester begins, students who will be absent in order to observe a religious holy day must notify the instructor in writing of each scheduled class that will be missed.