

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY
Department of Theatre and Dance
Dance Program – Fall 2007 Semester

DNC 126.03- Jazz 1
(2 credit hours)

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Kyla Olson
Office: AB3, Room 213
Telephone: 936-294-4195
Class Location: AB3, Room 103
Class Times: MWF 9:00-9:50 am

Course Description:

Jazz 1 is a physical class in which the student learns the basic technique of jazz dance forms.

Course Objectives:

1. To learn the basic fundamentals of jazz dance technique.
2. To learn the proper body alignment and body isolation and to improve the dancer's overall body awareness, while increasing strength and flexibility.
3. To learn the basic jazz dance vocabulary as well as the history of the development of dance.
4. To develop musicality, spatial and rhythmic awareness while dancing.

Recommended Reading:

Jump Into Jazz: The Basics and Beyond for the Jazz Dance Student (Kraines, Pryor – 5th Ed.)
McGraw Hill, July 2004
ISBN: 0-07-284404-3

Required Attire:

Women: Leotard, Camisole or Tank top, Tights or Jazz Pants (Capri or ankle length), and Jazz Shoes or Jazz Sneakers

Men: Form Fitting t-shirt, tights or sweat pants, and Jazz Shoes or Jazz Sneakers.

No Baggy Clothing will be allowed. Street shoes are not allowed.

Participation:

Dance is an art form that must be practiced daily for mastery. Students are expected to fully participate in each class. It is recommended that any student who is ill attend class unless confined to bed. Any student who opts to not participate will receive partial credit for that class. Lack of participation due to injury must be accompanied by a doctor's note.

Attendance:

When possible notify the instructor, preferably by E-mail, when you will be absent from class. 3 Absences are allowed for any reason (3 individual class days). Each additional absence will drop your grade by 1 full letter grade. 3 tardies = 1 absence. Any student who is more than 10minutes late will be counted absent. Tardies will also be given to students who leave class prior to dismissal. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor when late. Attendance will be strictly enforced.

Grading Policy:

Daily Participation 10%

Written/Daily/Outside Assignments 5%

Quizzes 10%

Skills Tests (Technique, Presentation & Execution) 20%

Midterm 25%

Final 30% (Required Participation in Non-Majors Workshop. Date TBA.)

*Please refer to written assignment handouts for specific requirements. Includes attendance of at least 1 Dance Concert.

Make-up Policy:

Any missed skills tests must be made up within 1 week of the original test date. It is the students' responsibility to set up a time with the instructor outside of class. Written assignments will be accepted late, however 1 letter grade will be deducted for each day the assignment is late. Extra Credit will not be given.

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 students 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. "Plagiarism" means the appropriation of another's work or idea and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work or idea into one's own work offered for credit.

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. 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 the University Policy.

Visitors Policy:

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 or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.

Religious Holiday Policy:

Students who are absent from class for observance of a religious holy day will be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within one week of returning to class. The student must notify the instructor of each scheduled class day that he/she will be absent for a religious holy day no later than the 15th calendar day after the first day of the semester.

Disabled Student Policy:

According to the University Policy, request for accommodations must be initiated by the student. Request for accommodations must be initiated by the student. A student seeking accommodations should go to the Counseling Center and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) and follow the stated procedure in notifying faculty in a timely manner. Accommodations for disabled students are decided based upon documentation and need on a case by case basis by the Counseling Center.