

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY
Department of Theatre and Dance
Dance Program – Spring 2008
DNC 126.06 (2 Credit Hours) – Tap I

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Samantha Angus
Class Meeting Time: MWF 9-9:50 a.m.
Class Location: AB3, Room 110
Instructor Phone: 936-294-4195
Instructor Office: AB3, Room 213
Instructor Email: sda002@shsu.edu
Instructor Office Hours: MWF 10am-12noon; or by appointment

Course Description:

- Tap I is a physical class in which the student develops the basics and fundamentals of tap dance technique and tap forms.

Course Objectives:

1. To learn, understand, and develop tap dance vocabulary.
2. To develop and expand on musicality, as well as spatial and rhythmic awareness while dancing.
3. To learn and to be able to discuss dance as an art form; including the origin and history of tap dance and the varieties of tap dance technique.

Text:

- Various handouts given in class

Required Attire:

- Tap Shoes (I suggest ordering from www.discountdance.com)
- Comfortable clothing that allows you to move freely.

Participation:

- Dance is an art form that must be practiced frequently for mastery. Students are expected to fully participate in each class. It is recommended that any student who is ill, yet ambulatory and not contagious, still attend class. Lack of participation for any sustained period of time due to illness or injury **MUST** be accompanied by a doctor's note. *Students should consider all course work, in class and outside assignments, seriously. Registering for a course is a commitment.*

Attendance:

- **4** absences are excused for this class. Further absences will greatly affect the quality of the student's class participation, therefore adversely affect the student's final grade. **7 or more absences in the class will cause the student to fail the course.**
- Any student who is 10 minutes or more late for class will NOT be counted present.
- If the student arrives tardy and/or after roll call, it is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor he/she is present, at the END of class.
- 3 Tardies = 1 Absence.
- Tardies will also be given to students who leave class early.
- Attendance will be strictly enforced. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of the number of absences acquired.

Grading Policy:

On the first day of class, you begin the semester with 0 points. Each day you are present (and participate accordingly) you earn 1 point towards your grade. The first Skills Test is worth 12 points. The second Skills Test is worth 14 points. Your attendance to Samantha Angus and Kyla Olson MFA Graduate Thesis Concert

on February 14th and 15th @ 8pm in the ABIII Dance Theatre is worth 5 points. Your Midterm is worth 10 points. Your Final is worth 15 points.

So...

Presence and participation in class:	Possible 44 points
1 st Skills Test:	Possible 12 points
2 nd Skills Test:	Possible 14 points
Attendance to Angus/Olson Thesis Concert: (2/14 & 2/15)	Possible 5 points
Midterm:	Possible 10 points
Final:	<u>Possible 15 points</u>
	Possible 100 points (Grade= A)

Grading Scale:

- 90-100 points: A
- 80-89 points: B
- 70-79 points: C
- 60-69 points: D
- Below 60 points: F

Assignment/Test Schedule:

February 14/15, 2008:	Angus/Olson MFA Graduate Thesis Concert ABIII Dance Theatre
February 22, 2008:	1 st Skills Test
March 17, 2008:	Midterm
April 11, 2008:	2 nd Skills Test
May 5, 2008 7:00pm (tentatively):	Final (Performance in Non-Majors Workshop)

Make-Up Policy:

- Skills Test CAN NOT BE MADE-UP, unless the student has a doctor's note for the missed class day on which the Test was given.
- Written Assignments will be accepted late, however, 1 letter grade will be deducted for each day the assignment is late.
- If the student is in good academic standing with the class, an absence may be made up for *partial* credit by receiving an extra assignment from the instructor. Upon completion of the assignment, it is at the instructor's discretion if the student will be granted partial credit. It is up to the student to set up a time with instructor to discuss this option.

The instructor reserves the right to change this syllabus at any time, in accordance to SHSU policy.

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. **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, requests for accommodations must be initiated by the student. Requests 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.