

**Sam Houston State University
Department of Theater and Dance
Dance Program – Fall 2007
DNC 126.02 – Modern I
(2 credit hours)**

Syllabus

Class Location: AB3, Room 104
Class Times: Tu – Th 9:30-10:50 am
Instructor: Mary Zepeda
Office Location: AB3, Room 215
Office Phone: 936-294-3988
Office Hours: by appointment only

Course Objectives:

- To learn basic fundamentals of modern and post modern dance technique
- To learn proper body placement and alignment essential to efficient movement
- To gain a basic understanding of spatial and rhythmic awareness while dancing
- To build performance, projection, confidence, strength, stability and increase range of motion
- To improve overall body awareness

Required Textbook:

Inside Motion, an ideokinetic basis for movement education. By John Rolland
ISBN 0-9615665-0-3

Attire:

Wear form fitting clothing that will allow the instructor to see your bodyline and allow for the maximum amount of mobility. I prefer that you dance barefoot and, for safety reasons, socks are strictly prohibited, Excessive jewelry is not acceptable and hair should be secured away from the face.

Attendance:

Because this class involves technique and skills which must be practiced in order to be mastered, **ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY!!!!!!** For details on departmental attendance guidelines see attachment. You will be allowed two unexcused absences. Any more than that will drop your letter grade 5% per each additional absence. (Come to class)

Class Format:

This class will consist of warm-ups, center work and across the floor. There will also be written tests and performance exams throughout the semester. Daily grades will be given based on participation or assignments from the text. There will be two performance exams, a mid-term and a final. These will consist of combinations that we learn in class.

Test and Class Make-up Policy:

There will be no make-up for missed exams. The nature of the performance exams is such that it must be done that day and in your assigned groups.

There will be a midterm and a final exam.

You will be allowed to make-up maximum of two missed classes. All classes must be made up within two weeks of the missed class and arrangements must be made with your instructor prior to the make-up.

Grading Policy:

Mid-term	20 %
Final Exam	30 %
Dance Performance Critique Papers	20 % (10 % each)
Modern Dance Research Paper	20 %
Daily Grade	10 %

The following Scale will be used

90 - 100 %	A
80 - 89 %	B
70 - 79 %	C
60 - 69 %	D
Anything less than 60 %	is a F

Academic Honesty:

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.

Performance Critique Papers:

You will be required to attend two of three dance performances at SHSU this semester and write a two page critique of the performance. Your paper should include the date, time and place of the concert and a brief description of each

dance. You must include the program from the concert and these are **due no more than one week after the performance occurs.**

Modern Dance Research Paper:

You will be responsible for researching and writing a paper on one of the modern dance artists on the list that I provide. This paper should be at least two pages and include their history and any major accomplishments of the artist.

Paper guidelines:

Standard margins and 12 point font on letter size paper. Typed double spaced and include a cover page with your name and the class information centered.

Daily Grade:

The daily grade will consist of a variety of activities and assignments including... Quizzes, participation in class activities and workseets.

Exams:

The exams will be combinations that you will combine into a short dance with your assigned groups and perform in those groups in front of an audience. You will be graded on memory, performance/ projection, technical ability/ improvement, and creativity.

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

Disabled Student Policy

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program or activity. Disabled students may request help with academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities by contacting their instructors, school/department chair, or by contacting the Chair of the Committee for Continuing

Assistance for Disabled Students and Director of the Counseling Center at SHSU (which is located on the north side of the Lee Drain Annex, or by calling (936) 294-1720.

A student with a disability is encouraged to register with the SHSU Counseling Center Office, as well as personally contacting their instructor about assistance needs. Please note that accommodation cannot be made until the student has contacted the Counseling Center to request assistance. A student may rest assured that confidentiality procedures are followed in handling a request for assistance.

Visitors in the Classroom

Please make prior arrangements with instructor.