

Spring 2009
DCE 212 Intermediate Level Technique
1 CREDIT HOUR
M/W/F 8:00-9:50

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OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

PREREQUISITES: A grade of B or higher in two semesters of DCE 112, or departmental permission. This course may be repeated for credit.

FOR WHOM PLANNED: Required course for dance majors.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: Refinement of technical skills in modern dance at the high intermediate/ advanced level, including complex movement capabilities, rhythmic structures, and spatial relationships, with emphasis on aesthetic and expressive qualities that lead to performance.

STUDENT LEARNING GOALS:

To the degree appropriate to the high intermediate/ advanced level of modern training, students in this course will learn to:

1. Demonstrate dynamic alignment (see UNCG Dance Website for more information).
2. Prompt grasp of class exercises and combinations.
3. Refined sense of the body in relation to itself and to the space.
4. Refined sense of initiation and articulation of movement.
5. Demonstrate rhythmic accuracy and qualitative understanding of musical nuances by moving on the beat and anticipating it when required.
6. Deep exploration of the qualitative aspects of movement sequences, without extraneous tension.
7. Dynamic phrasing of movement sequences to enhance the variations within movement phrases.
8. Projection of energy while dancing, performing with confidence/full engagement.
9. Exploration of the range and depth of motion in space and through space, going beyond one's comfort zone.
10. Performance creativity through spontaneous solutions to improvisational prompts and/or demonstrate creative spontaneity within a given technique.
11. Commitment, engagement, and responsibility to course assignments and activities (movement based, written, or as defined by the instructor).
12. Demonstrate development of professional skills, independent work practices within the class, and responsible preparation before and after class.

Learning goals 1-10 mark distinct *areas of skill* in dance technique. Excellence in dance artistry is a matter of developing a high degree of skill in each area and intergrading these skills during the performance of movement.

Learning goals 11 and 12 describe *efforts/attitudes* necessary for progress toward excellence in dance and indicate specific *behaviors* that demonstrate them.

TEACHING STRATEGIES:

To enable student achievement of the learning goals, I will

1. Demonstrate, explain, analyze, and lead explorations of movement exercises and combinations designed specifically to develop the skills required for achievement of learning goals 1-10;
2. Observe your daily work in class and (a) orally assess your achievement of learning goals 1-12, and (b) make recommendations for improvement in achieving goals 1-12*;
3. Provide a written assessment on the Dance Technique Feedback sheet of your achievement at mid-term and again near the end of the semester;
4. Provide opportunities for individual appointments in which we may discuss your learning efforts;
5. Provide opportunities for you to assess your own and others' progress toward the actual achievement of the learning goals;

* not every student will receive individual feedback during each class, but all students will receive individual feedback regularly throughout the course of the semester.

EVALUATION METHODS AND GUIDELINES FOR ASSIGNMENTS:

The fundamental and ongoing assignments in this class are:

1. Attend to movement material presented, as well as to explanations and analyses of its specific components;
2. Listen carefully to and apply all corrections and recommendations for improvement that I provide in class;
3. Learn the movement material as quickly as you can through observation and practice;
4. Perform the movement material as accurately as possible each time you are called upon to do so;
5. Reflect in writing as assigned on your progress toward and actual achievement of the learning outcomes;
6. Observe other dancers and assess their performance as assigned.

I will assess your progress toward and your actual achievement of the learning goals through:

1. Daily oral feedback to you and/or others on work done in class;
2. Written mid-term evaluations of your achievement using the Dance Technique Feedback sheet;
3. Oral and/or written feedback of the accuracies and inaccuracies I perceive in your written self-assessments.

Your achievement in mastering the learning goals to the degree appropriate for this course, and as documented on the Dance Technique Feedback sheet, will provide the

primary basis for calculating your final letter grade. 90% of your grade is based on the DTFS and the other 10% to written work and projects

Grading Scale

93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D
60-62	D-
Below 60	F

The relationship between attendance and your final grade is as follows: 1/3 of a letter grade will be deducted for each absence incurred over the maximum absences allowed for this class.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Grades and Mastery of Material can improve only with regular attendance and active participation. You are allowed THREE ABSENCES. Any extra absence will lower your final grade 1/3 of a letter grade. You are not allowed to make up but ONE extra absence in another modern technique class of the same level.

**Long-term injuries, or health or other emergencies will be handled on an individual basis. Please notify the instructor as soon as possible, and be prepared to supply a doctor's note or other documentation as needed.

OBSERVATION, PARTICIPATION, AND LATENESS POLICY:

If you arrive more than ten minutes late, please sit down and watch. Arriving more than ten minutes late three times will count as an absence and will take your grade down 1/3 of a letter. The Dance Department requires an 80% participation rate. Students must dance in 36 out of the 45 meetings in classes that meet three times a week to get credit for the course. Sitting and watching a class does not count as participation. Students who do not meet the participation requirement for any reason will need to repeat the course.

**Observations: In the case of temporary injury, non-contagious illness, or some instances of tardiness, you may still be counted as present if you attend class and record specific notes about what you observe. (Note that this will NOT count as a day of participation in the class.) Observing class provides an opportunity to develop your eye as a dancer/teacher. You should take detailed notes that make correlations between what you see, what you hear, and what you personally experience when you are physically participating in the class. How does observing class further enrich your kinesthetic and cognitive understanding of contemporary dance? These notes should be legible and must be submitted at the end of the class period.

TOPICAL OUTLINE:

Warm-up exercises and combinations designed to enable your achievement specifically of learning goals 1-4 remain fairly consistent over the course of the semester. Other exercises and combinations will develop over the course of the semester in length, speed, and in rhythmic and qualitative complexity so as to (a) enable the achievement specifically of learning goals 5-12 and (b) provide opportunity to practice the integration of skills inherent to the achievement of learning goals 1-10.

ACADEMIC HONOR CODE:

Academic integrity is founded upon and encompasses the following five values: honesty; trust; fairness; respect; and responsibility. Supporting and affirming these values is essential to promoting and maintaining a high level of academic integrity.¹ Each member of the academic community must stand accountable for his or her actions. As a result, a community develops in which students learn the responsibilities of citizenship and how to contribute honorably to their professions.

If knowledge is to be gained and properly evaluated, it must be pursued under conditions free from dishonesty. Deceit and misrepresentations are incompatible with the fundamental activity of this academic institution and shall not be tolerated. Members of the UNCG community are expected to foster in their own work the spirit of academic honesty and not to tolerate its abuse by others.

First responsibility for academic integrity lies with individual students and faculty members of this community. A violation of academic integrity is an act harmful to all other students, faculty and, ultimately, the university.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

You will be required to keep a journal for this class! Please have your journal with you at all class sessions. You will need to keep notes and vocabulary from class in your journal. There will also be questions posted on Bb under “course documents” that you will be responsible for writing responses to. Journals will be collected at both midterm and at the end of the semester.

Always bring a long sleeve shirt to class for floor work. Wear dance pants that fully cover the knee, the length should fall to middle shin region but should not be too long where you could slip on your heel. No jewelry period.

Bring your own bottle of water to class, no glass. You are not allowed to leave class for water. You may leave class to use the bathroom.

Always have band-aids, foot tape, scissors, and an antibiotic pain relieve cream for cuts and floor burns available.

I HIGHLY recommend getting kneepads for this class!!

You can order some at: <http://www.contactquarterly.com/kp.html>

(It takes 3 weeks for them to arrive)

Important Dates: TBA

