

Advanced Beginning Modern Dance Spring 2009

Course Prefix and Number: DCE 112C-01

Course Title: Advanced Beginning Modern Dance

Credits: 1:0:3

Prerequisites/Co requisites: Departmental permission

For Whom Planned: Required course for dance majors

Instructor: Professor Robin Gee

Class Times: Tuesday/Thursday 2:00 – 3:15pm

Office: HHP 220A

Office Hours: By Appointment

Telephone: 256-1487

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Catalog Description: Development of technical skills in modern dance, including rhythmic perception and spatial awareness, with emphasis on aesthetic and expressive qualities that lead to performance.

Student Learning Goals:

To the degree appropriate for the advanced beginner level of dance 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 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 integrating 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 1-14, and (b) make recommendations for improvement in achieving learning goals 1-14*;
3. Provide a written assessment on the African 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 to:

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 goals 6. 6.
6. Observe other dancers and assess their performance as assigned.

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

1. Daily oral feedback to you and others in work done in class
2. Written mid-term and final 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. Your attendance record and your record in turning in the written assignments will be additional factors in calculating your final letter grade which is aligned with the following matrix:

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

Additional Requirements for this class:

You will need to be prepared for class, each and every day. This means:

Appropriate attire: No jeans, skirts, hats, chunky jewelry or extra-baggy clothing. Please pull back long hair.

Appropriate etiquette: Be on time, ready to dance. Turn off your cell phone. Do not bring gum or food into the studio. It is a good idea to bring a water bottle.

Appropriate behavior: Be aware of your peers during class. When it is not your turn to dance, respect the others by remaining QUIETLY attentive. Ask questions when you have them. You learn as much from listening, watching and asking as you do from doing.

Attendance Policy

In classes meeting two days a week **two absences** are allowed per semester. For each absence over the number allowed, the final grade will drop 1/3 of a letter (for example, from an A- to a B+, or from a B to a B-). When injured or ill (but not contagious), students may still be counted as present if they attend class and are able to accommodate some form of movement activity (to be prescribed by the instructor). If a student is not able to participate in class they must *first speak with the instructor to obtain permission to watch class*. However, this will not be counted as a day of participation in the class. You are allowed **one** make up lesson (allowable only if you have four or more absences.) You may attend another African, Ballroom, Jazz or Brazilian class as a make-up. See below for the participation requirements.

Please note: there are no "excused" absences in this class. It is not necessary to e-mail regarding your absences unless you will be absent beyond the allowable limit. If you are ill or injured THEN you should see a physician and provide detailed documentation on your illness and limitations. You are allowed two absences in this class and ANY additional absences will adversely affect your grade. It is your responsibility to keep track of your absences. You will receive an "absences to date score" on the midterm and final DTFS.

Lateness:

Students who arrive more than 15 minutes after class has begun should not come directly onto the dance floor. Any one who arrives after opening exercises should begin to warm up on the side of the class and wait for the instructor to indicate when to enter into class. If you arrive after the opening exercise is finished, please sit out and watch. Arriving after the opening exercise is finished three times will take your grade down 1/3 of a letter.

Participation

The Dance Department requires an 80% participation rate (students must dance in 24 out of the 30 meetings in classes that meet twice a week, and 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.

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.

Important Dates:

Monday January 26th – Last day to drop w/tuition refund

Tuesday March 17th – Last day to drop class w/out academic penalty

Thursday March 5th - Midterm videotaping

Tuesday & Thursday – March 17th & 19th – MIDTERM CONFERENCES

Tuesday March 10^h & Thursday March 11^{2th} - Spring Break NO CLASS

Thursday April 30th - Last day of classes

Wednesday May 6th –Final Conferences

. *Conference Sign-up sheet will be posted on my door rm 220A HHP