

CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

APPROVAL PAGE

Proposal Title: Change of 8 Dance Courses' Titles

College: Liberal Arts

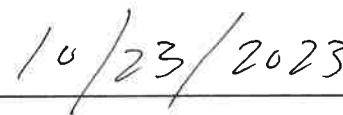
Department: Theatre and Dance

DEPARTMENT CHAIR- Hideaki Tsutsui

I have read the enclosed proposal and approve this proposal on behalf of the department.



Signature



Date

COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CHAIR – Dr. Selfa Chew-Meléndez

I have read the enclosed documents and approve the proposal on behalf of the college curriculum committee.

Signature

Date

COLLEGE DEAN – Dr. Anadeli Bencomo

I have read the enclosed documents and approve the proposal on behalf of the college. I certify that the necessary funds will be allocated by the college in support of this proposal.

Signature

Date

UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM CHANGE MEMO

Date: 10/20/2023

From: Melissa Melpignano, Department of Theatre and Dance

Through: Chair Hideaki Tsutsui, Department of Theatre and Dance

Through: Dean Anadeli Bencomo, College of Liberal Arts

To: Chair Selfa Chew-Meléndez, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Proposal Title: Change of 8 Dance Courses' Titles

The UTEP Dance Faculty proposes to change the title of eight dance courses in the UTEP Catalog, so that the title changes will also appear in the degree plans of the BFA in Dance, BA in Dance, and Minor in Dance. Note that such modifications do not alter the current content of the classes or the rotation of classes.

As Kulkarnia and Vinuales (2020) argue, course titles are instrumental in manifesting the perceived value of a course and in enrollment rates. As award-winning higher ed dance educator Nyama McCarthy-Brown (2014) suggests, the process that leads to full accessibility to dance—fundamental in our open-access institution—goes through the progressive undoing of epistemic barriers in theory and practice. We have identified such barriers in the way some of our courses are designated.

The goals of this proposal are:

- To clarify for the students the actual content of the classes (favoring enrollment for upper-level courses and better engaging our majors);
- To clarify for the students how specific courses offer specific levels of expertise (levels);
- To decolonize the language in the course titles to mirror the praxis of our pedagogy.

We believe this proposal is necessary for further actualizing our ongoing plan to elevate the Dance Program in line with R1 standards and in service of our student population and future recruitment.

Nyama McCarthy-Brown (2014) "Decolonizing Dance Curriculum in Higher Education: One Credit at a Time," *Journal of Dance Education*, 14:4, 125-129, DOI: 10.1080/15290824.2014.887204.

Gauri Kulkarni & Gema Vinuales (2020) "The Importance of Course Title and Student Perceived Value of a Course to Employers in Motivating Students to Enroll in Quantitative Marketing Courses," *Marketing Education Review*, 30:4, 225-235, DOI: 10.1080/10528008.2020.1794900.

COURSE CHANGE FORM

COPY OF CATALOG PAGE NOT REQUIRED

All fields below are required

College : Liberal Arts
Term : Fall 2024

Department : Theatre and Dance

Effective

Rationale for changing the course:

The term "appreciation" as in Dance Appreciation has been heavily contested in Dance Studies discourses, for it suggests an aesthetic relation with dance from the audience perspective. Historically, "dance appreciation" has been associated to the teaching of Eurocentric concert forms, with only an "acknowledgment" of non-Western and non-theatrical forms and their social aspects. In line with the UTEP "Reimagine Core," we prefer a class title that manifests its intent to critically introduce students to dance in its multifarious processes, practices, contexts, and impacts.

All fields below are required

Subject Prefix and number DANC 1304

Course Title Dance Appreciation
(Course descriptions are limited to 600 characters)
(Course titles are limited to 29 characters)

| Change | From | To |
|--------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Course Title | Dance Appreciation | Introduction to Dance |
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These changes will be reflected in Banner, Goldmine, and the catalog

COURSE CHANGE FORM

COPY OF CATALOG PAGE NOT REQUIRED

All fields below are required

College : Liberal Arts
Term : Fall 2024

Department : Theatre and Dance

Effective

Rationale for changing the course:

The current title suggests that the relevant study of dance history is limited to its consideration "as a performance art," which commonly encompasses only Western and concert forms, excluding, for instance, the history of social dancing and more current trends like digital dance. This title doesn't reflect the deeper historical, and historiographic study of dance we offer as an R1 institution with a commitment to analysis and critical thinking. We also want to highlight the plurality of narratives and experiences by pluralizing "history" into "histories."

All fields below are required

Subject Prefix and number DANC 3303

Course Title History of Dance as a Performance Art
(Course descriptions are limited to 600 characters)
(Course titles are limited to 29 characters)

| Change | From | To |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Course Title | History of Dance as a Performance Art | Critical Dance Histories |
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All fields below are required

College : Liberal Arts
Term : Fall 2024

Department : Theatre and Dance

Effective

Rationale for changing the course:

"World Dance" is another problematic expression in the dance field that reiterates the colonial hierarchy among dance forms. Historically, it indicates "othered," non-EuroNorthAmerican concert dance forms. This article from 2021 from the most popular dance publication, Dance Magazine, offers a deeper insight: <https://www.dancemagazine.com/world-dance/>. Dance scholar and pedagogy expert Nyama McCarthy published a chapter entitled "World Dance: Retire the Term." We propose a new title that mirrors our intent of acknowledging the transformation of dance in relation to globalization.

All fields below are required

Subject Prefix and number DANC 3322

Course Title World Dance

(Course descriptions are limited to 600 characters)

(Course titles are limited to 29 characters)

| Change | From | To |
|--------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Course Title | World Dance | Dance in the Global Context |
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College : Liberal Arts
Term : Fall 2024

Department : Theatre and Dance

Effective

Rationale for changing the course:

The current course title neglects the germinal history and roots of jazz as a dance form (see, for instance, the edited book "Rooted Jazz Dance: Africanist Aesthetics and Equity in the 21st Century"). The revised title allows for a more just and expansive understanding of jazz as a dance form (reflecting our program's pedagogy), and also highlights the fact that this specific class is an entry level.

All fields below are required

Subject Prefix and number DANC 3348

Course Title American Dance Forms-Jazz
(Course descriptions are limited to 600 characters)
(Course titles are limited to 29 characters)

| Change | From | To |
|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Course Title | American Dance Forms-Jazz | Jazz Dance 1 |
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All fields below are required

College : Liberal Arts
Term : Fall 2024

Department : Theatre and Dance

Effective

Rationale for changing the course:

The current course title neglects the germinal histories as well as the past and current transformations and circulations of Hip Hop as a complex dance form, deeply connected to cultural, social, and economic changes. The revised title allows for a more just and expansive understanding of Hip Hop as a dance form (reflecting our program's pedagogy in theory and practice), and also highlights the fact that this specific class is an entry level.

All fields below are required

Subject Prefix and number DANC 3349

Course Title American Dance Forms-Hip Hop
(Course descriptions are limited to 600 characters)
(Course titles are limited to 29 characters)

| Change | From | To |
|--------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Course Title | American Dance Forms-Hip Hop | Hip Hop Dance 1 |
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College : Liberal Arts
Term : Fall 2024

Department : Theatre and Dance

Effective

Rationale for changing the course:

The proposed new title expands the understanding and practice of dances associated to Hispanic heritage beyond the restrictive colonial relation Spain-Mexico. Indeed the new title suggests the recognition of a multiplicity of communities, cultures, and forms as well as their circulations, reflecting a rich and complex genealogy of the dances practiced among Latine, Mexican, Mexican-American, and frontera communities. The new title would also appeal to a larger student body with benefits on enrollment.

All fields below are required

Subject Prefix and number DANC 3350

Course Title Dances of Mexico and Spain
(Course descriptions are limited to 600 characters)
(Course titles are limited to 29 characters)

| Change | From | To |
|--------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Course Title | Dances of Mexico and Spain | Latine Dances |
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College : Liberal Arts
Term : Fall 2024

Department : Theatre and Dance

Effective

Rationale for changing the course:

The current title on the Catalog doesn't include the level (1). We have another class, DANC 4311 entitled Choreography 2, so the change wants to bring more clarity to the students in understanding the rotation of classes and their progress in the choreography track.

All fields below are required

Subject Prefix and number DANC 4301

Course Title Choreography

(Course descriptions are limited to 600 characters)

(Course titles are limited to 29 characters)

| Change | From | To |
|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| Course Title | Choreography | Choreography 1 |
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Term : Fall 2024

Department : Theatre and Dance

Effective

Rationale for changing the course:

The change eliminates "group forms" from the current title as this class supports also the students' process in the creation of high quality duets and solos. The idea that choreography is learned at a higher or more complex level when it involves groups of 2+ dancers is outdated and irrelevant in relation to the current professional trends.

The change from Roman to Arabic numeral is to uniformize levels, in line with other courses in the dance catalog.

All fields below are required

Subject Prefix and number DANC 4311

Course Title Choreography II Group Forms
(Course descriptions are limited to 600 characters)
(Course titles are limited to 29 characters)

| Change | From | To |
|--------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Course Title | Choreography II Group Forms | Choreography 2 |
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