

UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM CHANGE MEMO

Date: November 15, 2018

From: Lisa Smith, Theatre and Dance

Through: Cristina Goletti, Chair, Theatre and Dance

Through: Dr. Denis O'Hearn, Dean, Liberal Arts

To: Dr. Jose Maria Herrera, Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Proposal Title: Restructured Requirements in the BFA and BA degrees in Dance

As our program needs in Dance have grown and changed over the years, our efforts to keep up have led to degree plans that have been cobbled together and lack organization. Our current degree plans are dated, difficult to follow, and a deterrent to recruitment efforts. We seek to streamline our BFA and BA degrees in Dance by creating a "Foundations" level that is consistent across both degrees for the Freshman and Sophomore-level required courses, creating a uniform experience for students' first two years in our program.

When the BFA in Dance was created, particular pre-requisites for gen-ed core classes were thought to enhance the scope of the degree. This idea has since been re-thought and we propose to eliminate these pre-requisites, reasoning that it will allow students more choice in their curriculum, and if the University accepts all core choices, we should as well.

These changes align with the proposed new concentration in the BFA in Dance: Dance Studies and Choreography, and all course changes and additions will be applied concurrently.

This proposal includes:

- a. Catalog/degree plan changes for the BA in Dance degree and the BFA in Dance degree including the re-ordering of Freshman and Sophomore-level courses in both degrees as a "Foundations" sequence, and the elimination of gen-ed pre-requisite courses for the BFA.
- b. The renaming of studio dance class sequences in Ballet, Contemporary Dance, and American Dance Forms.
- c. The addition of new course DANC 2301 Improvisation.

CURRICULUM CHANGE PROPOSAL

APPROVAL PAGE

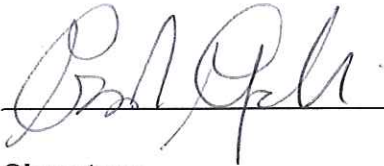
Proposal Title: Restructured Requirements in the BFA and BA degrees in Dance

College: Liberal Arts

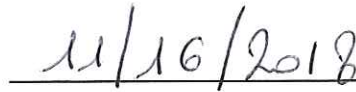
Department: Theatre and Dance

DEPARTMENT CHAIR

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



Signature



Date

COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CHAIR

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

Signature

Date

COLLEGE DEAN

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

BA in Dance

Concentrations

- 8-12 Dance Teacher Certification

Bachelor of Arts in Dance with a Minor in Education

Students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Dance must pursue a minor in education. Students will be required to take 42 credits to satisfy the University Core requirements, 21 credits to satisfy the minor in education, ~~3 credits of English at the 3300 level or higher~~, and ~~54-57~~ credits in the major.

Degree Plan

Required Credits: 120

| Code | Title | Hours |
|------|-------|-------|
|------|-------|-------|

Background Check Required

A complete background check is required of all students who wish to receive teacher certification in the State of Texas. Students will be required to pass a background check before certification will be conferred by the State Board of Educator Certification (SBEC).

ESOL Track

Students who completed [ESOL 1311](#) and [ESOL 1312](#) will need to also complete [ESOL 2303](#) with a grade of C or better.

University Core Curriculum

| | |
|---|----|
| Complete the University Core Curriculum requirements. | 42 |
|---|----|

Dance Major

Required Courses: Foundation:

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|--------------|
| DANC 1022 | Dance Theatre Lab (Complete five semesters) | 0 |
| DANC 1341 | Ballet I | 3 |
| DANC 1342 | Ballet II | 3 |
| DANC 2341 | Ballet III- Foundation 1 | 3 |
| DANC 2342 | Ballet IV- Foundation 2 | 3 |
| DANC 2345 | Contemporary Dance I Foundation 1 | 3 |
| DANC 2346 | Contemporary Dance II Foundation 2 | 3 |
| DANC 3301 | Dance Theory and Composition | 3 |
| DANC 3302 | Improvisation in Dance | 3 |
| DANC 3303 | History of Dance as a Perf Art | 3 |

| Code | Title | Hours |
|-------------------------------------|--|-------|
| DANC 3322 | World Dance | 3 |
| DANC 3305 | Dance Production | 3 |
| DANC 3345 | Contemporary Dance III | 3 |
| DANC 3346 | Contemporary Dance IV | 3 |
| DANC 3363 | Somatics | 3 |
| DANC 3371 | Dance for the Music Theatre III | 3 |
| DANC 4301 | Choreography | 3 |
| DANC 4345 | Contemporary Dance V | 3 |
| DANC 4346 | Contemporary Dance VI | 3 |
| DANC 4371 | Dance for Music Theatre IV | 3 |
| DANC 4390 | Seminar | 3 |
| <u>Choose Two of the Following:</u> | | |
| DANC 3348 | American Dance Forms – Jazz | 3 |
| DANC 3349 | American Dance Forms – Hip Hop/Urban | 3 |
| DANC 4371 | American Dance Forms – Musical Theatre | 3 |
| Total | | 27 |

Embodied Studio Practices: Choose
15 credit hours

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| DANC 3341 | Intermediate Ballet 1 | 3 |
| DANC 3342 | Intermediate Ballet 2 | 3 |
| DANC 4341 | Advanced Ballet 1 | 3 |
| DANC 4342 | Advanced Ballet 2 | 3 |
| DANC 3345 | Intermediate Contemporary Dance 1 | 3 |
| DANC 3346 | Intermediate Contemporary Dance 2 | 3 |
| DANC 4345 | Advanced Contemporary Dance 1 | 3 |
| DANC 4346 | Advanced Contemporary Dance 2 | 3 |
| DANC 3348 | American Dance Forms – Jazz | 3 |
| DANC 3349 | American Dance Forms – Hip Hop/Urban | 3 |
| DANC 4371 | American Dance Forms – Musical Theatre | 3 |
| DANC 4390 | Selected Topics in Dance | 3 |

Commented [LS1]: Inherit 12 pt.

Embodied Theory Practices: Choose
15 credit hours

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| THEA 3312 | Performing Arts Management | 3 |
| DANC 3302 | Theory and Composition | 3 |

| Code | Title | Hours |
|---------------------------|---|-------|
| DANC 3322 | World Dance | 3 |
| DANC 3323 | Writing for Dance | 3 |
| DANC 3350 | Dances of Mexico and Spain | 3 |
| DANC 3351 | Research and Performance Practice | 3 |
| DANC 4301 | Choreography 1 | 3 |
| DANC 4302 | Choreography 2 | 3 |
| DANC 4390 | Seminar | 3 |
| DANC 4391 | Performance Studies | 3 |

Secondary Education Minor

Required Courses:

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| DANC 4394 | Dance Pedagogy | 3 |
| EDPC 3300 | Developmental Variations | 3 |
| RED 3342 | Content Area Literacy | 3 |
| SCED 3311 | Curriculum Plan-Secondary Schl | 3 |
| SCED 3317 | Multicultural Ed in Sec School | 3 |
| SCED 4691 | Student Teaching in Sec School | 6 |

English Upper-Division Electives:

Select three hours of the following: 3

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| ENGL 3300 | Intro. to Literary Studies | |
| ENGL 3301 | Literary Studies | |
| ENGL 3302 | Literature and Film | |
| ENGL 3303 | Grammar and Writing | |
| ENGL 3304 | Gothic Literature | |
| ENGL 3305 | Children's Literature | |
| ENGL 3306 | Young Adult Literature | |
| ENGL 3307 | English Phonetics & Phonology | |
| ENGL 3309 | Detective Fiction | |
| ENGL 3310 | Chicana/o Literature | |
| ENGL 3311 | American Literature to 1865 | |
| ENGL 3312 | Am. Literature 1865 to Present | |
| ENGL 3314 | Struct Engl for Lang Professl | |
| ENGL 3315 | African American Literature | |
| ENGL 3316 | Native American Literature | |
| ENGL 3317 | Postcolonial Literature | |

| Code | Title | Hours |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-------|
| ENGL 3318 | British Literature Before 1485 | |
| ENGL 3319 | Sixteenth-Cent. Prose & Poetry | |
| ENGL 3320 | Shakespeare | |
| ENGL 3321 | Shakespeare's Plays and Poetry | |
| ENGL 3323 | 17th-Century Prose and Poetry | |
| ENGL 3325 | Literature of the Bible | |
| ENGL 3327 | Jewish-American Literature | |
| ENGL 3328 | Holocaust Literature and Film | |
| ENGL 3329 | Early-Modern British Drama | |
| ENGL 3330 | Restoration & 18th-Century Lit | |
| ENGL 3331 | World Literature | |
| ENGL 3332 | Contemporary Global Literature | |
| ENGL 3333 | Romantic Literature | |
| ENGL 3337 | Victorian Literature | |
| ENGL 3341 | History of Form I | |
| ENGL 3342 | History of Form II | |
| ENGL 3344 | Am. Poetry 1900 to Present | |
| ENGL 3345 | Editing | |
| ENGL 3349 | Multimed. & Hybrid Forms in ELA | |
| ENGL 3350 | English Laboratory | |
| ENGL 3351 | The Dynamics of Language | |
| ENGL 3352 | Reading and Writing Nonfiction | |
| ENGL 3353 | Reading/Responding/Literature | |
| ENGL 3357 | Computers and Writing | |
| ENGL 3358 | Special Topics in Writing | |
| ENGL 3360 | Women in Literature | |
| ENGL 3371 | Southwestern Literature | |
| ENGL 3372 | Folklore and Mythology | |
| ENGL 3374 | Folklore of Mexican-American | |
| ENGL 4300 | Senior Writing Practicum | |
| ENGL 4308 | Chaucer | |
| ENGL 4309 | Milton | |
| ENGL 4314 | Literary Criticism | |
| ENGL 4315 | Development of English Drama | |

| Code | Title | Hours |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| ENGL 4316 | Am. Nonfiction/Poetry To 1900 | |
| ENGL 4317 | American Fiction To 1900 | |
| ENGL 4318 | Early 20TH Cent Am. Fiction | |
| ENGL 4319 | Am. Fiction 1945 to Present | |
| ENGL 4322 | The American Drama | |
| ENGL 4325 | British Drama Since 1880 | |
| ENGL 4340 | Advanced Literary Studies | |
| ENGL 4347 | British Novel thru 18th Cent | |
| ENGL 4348 | British Novel: 19th Century | |
| ENGL 4349 | British Novel: 20th Century | |
| ENGL 4350 | Maj Am. Writer(s) through 1900 | |
| ENGL 4351 | Maj Am. Writer(s) since 1900 | |
| ENGL 4354 | Writing Processes of Children | |
| ENGL 4355 | Tch Compos and Lit in Sec Schl | |
| ENGL 4357 | Sp Subjects in Engl for Tchrs | |
| ENGL 4390 | Directed Study | |
| RWS 3355 | Workplace Writing | |
| RWS 3359 | Technical Writing | |
| RWS 3365 | Adv Composition: Rhet Theory | |
| RWS 3366 | Advanced Composition: Argument | |
| Total Hours | | 120 |

[Course List](#)

University Core Curriculum

NOTE: The department may make specific suggestions for courses which are most applicable towards your major.

Psychology and Criminal Justice majors and minors are required to take [MATH 1320](#) Math for Social Sciences I (C) or a higher level Calculus course.

Business majors are required to take [MATH 1320](#) Math for Social Sciences I (C) or a higher level Calculus course.

NOTE: All courses require a C or better

BFA in Dance

There are two Bachelor of Fine Arts concentrations students can choose from: Dance Performance and Dance Studies. All Dance majors must take a minimum of 120 credits to graduate, 48 of which must be at the 3300-4300 level. Outside of the required Dance credits in the concentrations, all dance students must take 42 credits to satisfy the University Core requirements.

Concentrations

- Dance Performance
- Dance Studies and Choreography

Degree Plan

Required Credits: 120

| Code | Title | Hours |
|--|--|-------|
| ESOL Track | | |
| Students who completed ESOL 1311 and ESOL 1312 will need to also complete ESOL 2303 with a grade of C or better. | | |
| Dance Prerequisites (All courses require a grade of C or better.)¹ | | |
| Required Courses: | | |
| BIOL 1103 | Introductory Biology Lab (C) | 1 |
| BIOL 1104 | Human Biology Laboratory (C) | 1 |
| BIOL 1203 | Introductory Biology | 2 |
| BIOL 1304 | Human Biology (C) | 3 |
| HIST 2302 | World History Since 1500 (C) | 3 |
| MUSL 1324 | Music Appreciation (C) | 3 |
| PSYC 1301 | Introduction to Psychology (C) | 3 |
| University Core Curriculum | | |
| Complete the University Core Curriculum requirements. | | 42 |
| Dance Major | | |
| Required Courses: Foundations: | | |
| DANC 1341 | Ballet I | 3 |
| DANC 1342 | Ballet II | 3 |
| DANC 2341 | Ballet III-Ballet Foundation 1 | 3 |
| DANC 2342 | Ballet IV-Ballet Foundation 2 | 3 |
| DANC 2345 | Contemporary Dance I-Foundation 1 | 3 |
| DANC 2346 | Contemporary Dance II-Foundation 2 | 3 |
| DANC 3151 | Dance Performance (Complete two semesters) | 2 |

| Code | Title | Hours |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------------|
| DANC 3301 | Dance Theory and Composition | 3 |
| DANC 2301 | Improvisation in Dance | 3 |
| DANC 3303 | History of Dance as a Perf Art | 3 |
| DANC 3305 | Dance Production | 3 |
| DANC 3311 | Music for Dancers | 3 |
| DANC 3322 | World Dance | 3 |
| DANC 3345 | Contemporary Dance III | 3 |
| DANC 3346 | Contemporary Dance IV | 3 |
| DANC 4301 | Choreography | 3 |
| DANC 4311 | Choreography II: Group Forms | 3 |
| DANC 3363 | Somatics | 3 |
| DANC 4390 | Seminar | 3 |
| DANC 4394 | Dance Pedagogy | 3 |
| THEA 2303 | Acting Fundamentals | 3 |
| <u>Choose One of the Following:</u> | | |
| DANC 3348 | American Dance Forms - Jazz | 3 |
| DANC 3349 | American Dance Forms - Hip Hop/Urban | 3 |
| DANC 4371 | American Dance Forms - Musical Theatre | 3 |
| Total | | 30 |

Emphasis: Concentration in Dance Performance

Complete an emphasis of the following options—Embodied Studio Practices – Choose 24 credit hours 12

Ballet Emphasis:

| | | |
|----------------------|--|--------------|
| DANC 1022 | Dance Theatre Lab (zero credit course – 4 semesters required) | |
| DANC 3341 | Ballet V-Intermediate Ballet 1 | 3 |
| DANC 3342 | Ballet VI-Intermediate Ballet 2 | 3 |
| DANC 4341 | Ballet VII-Advanced Ballet 1 | 3 |
| DANC 4342 | Ballet VIII-Advanced Ballet 2 | 3 |

Contemporary Dance Emphasis:

| | | |
|----------------------|--|--------------|
| DANC 3345 | Intermediate Contemporary Dance 1 | 3 |
| DANC 3346 | Intermediate Contemporary Dance 2 | 3 |
| DANC 4345 | Advanced Contemporary Dance V 1 | 3 |
| DANC 4346 | Advanced Contemporary Dance VI 2 | 3 |

| Code | Title | Hours |
|---|--|--------------|
| <u>DANC 3348</u> | <u>American Dance Forms – Jazz</u> | <u>3</u> |
| <u>DANC 3349</u> | <u>American Dance Forms – Hip Hop/Urban</u> | <u>3</u> |
| <u>DANC 3371</u> | <u>Dance for the Music Theatre III</u> | |
| <u>DANC 4371</u> | <u>Dance for Music Theatre IV American Dance Forms – Musical Theatre</u> | <u>3</u> |
| <u>DANC 4340</u> | <u>Selected Topics in Dance (may be repeated for credit)</u> | <u>3</u> |
| Upper-Division By Advisement: | | |
| <u>Select six additional hours of upper-division DANC by advisement</u> | | <u>6</u> |
| <u>Embodied Theory Practices (18 credit hours)</u> | | |
| <u>DANC 3305</u> | <u>Dance Production</u> | |
| <u>DANC 3311</u> | <u>Music for Dancers</u> | |
| <u>DANC 3151</u> | <u>Dance Performance</u> | |
| <u>DANC 3341</u> | <u>Ballet V</u> | |
| <u>DANC 3342</u> | <u>Ballet VI</u> | |
| <u>DANC 3347</u> | <u>Jazz & Other Stage Dance Form I</u> | |
| <u>DANC 3348</u> | <u>Jazz & Other Stage Dance Form II</u> | |
| <u>DANC 3350</u> | <u>Dances of Mexico and Spain</u> | |
| <u>DANC 4340</u> | <u>Selected Topics in Dance (Complete two semesters)</u> | |
| <u>DANC 4341</u> | <u>Ballet VII</u> | |
| <u>DANC 4342</u> | <u>Ballet VIII</u> | |
| <u>DANC 4345</u> | <u>Contemporary Dance V</u> | |
| <u>DANC 4346</u> | <u>Contemporary Dance VI</u> | |
| <u>Dance Technique</u> | | |
| <u>Complete four hours of dance technique courses</u> | | |
| <u>THEA 2303</u> | <u>Acting Fundamentals</u> | <u>3</u> |
| <u>DANC 3301</u> | <u>Theory and Composition</u> | <u>3</u> |
| <u>DANC 4301</u> | <u>Choreography 1</u> | <u>3</u> |
| <u>DANC 4302</u> | <u>Choreography 2: Group Forms</u> | <u>3</u> |
| <u>DANC 4390</u> | <u>Seminar</u> | <u>3</u> |
| <u>Choose one of the following:</u> | | |
| <u>DANC 3323</u> | <u>Writing for Dance</u> | <u>3</u> |
| <u>DANC 4391</u> | <u>Performance Studies</u> | <u>3</u> |

| Code | Title | Hours |
|--|--|------------|
| <u>Electives (6 credit hours)</u> | | |
| <u>Upper Level Elective in Any Area of Study 1</u> | | <u>3</u> |
| <u>Upper Level Elective in Any Area of Study 2</u> | | <u>3</u> |
| Total Hours | | 120 |
| Course List | | |
| Although the UTEP choice is larger, these choices satisfy the requirements of both the core and the major. | | |
| <u>Emphasis: Concentration in Dance Studies and Choreography</u> | | |
| Complete an emphasis of the following options – <u>Embodied Studio Practices – Choose 4 credit hours</u> | | 12 |
| <u>Ballet Emphasis:</u> | | |
| <u>DANC 1022</u> | Dance Theatre Lab (zero credit course – 4 semesters required) | |
| <u>DANC 3341</u> | Ballet-V-Intermediate Ballet 1 | <u>3</u> |
| <u>DANC 3342</u> | Ballet-VI-Intermediate Ballet 2 | <u>3</u> |
| <u>DANC 4341</u> | Ballet-VII-Advanced Ballet 1 | <u>3</u> |
| <u>DANC 4342</u> | Ballet-VIII-Advanced Ballet 2 | <u>3</u> |
| <u>Contemporary Dance Emphasis:</u> | | |
| <u>DANC 3345</u> | Intermediate Contemporary Dance 1 | <u>3</u> |
| <u>DANC 3346</u> | Intermediate Contemporary Dance 2 | <u>3</u> |
| <u>DANC 4345</u> | <u>Advanced</u> Contemporary Dance V 1 | <u>3</u> |
| <u>DANC 4346</u> | <u>Advanced</u> Contemporary Dance VI-2 | <u>3</u> |
| <u>DANC 3348</u> | <u>American Dance Forms – Jazz</u> | <u>3</u> |
| <u>DANC 3349</u> | <u>American Dance Forms – Hip Hop/Urban</u> | <u>3</u> |
| <u>DANC 3371</u> | <u>Dance for the Music Theatre III</u> | |
| <u>DANC 4371</u> | <u>Dance for Music Theatre IV-American Dance Forms – Musical Theatre</u> | <u>3</u> |
| <u>DANC 4340</u> | <u>Selected Topics in Dance (may be repeated for credit)</u> | <u>3</u> |
| <u>Upper Division By Advisement:</u> | | |
| Select six additional hours of upper-division DANC by advisement | | 6 |
| <u>Embodied Theory Practices (30 credit hours)</u> | | |
| <u>DANC 3305</u> | Dance Production | |
| <u>DANC 3311</u> | Music for Dancers | |
| <u>DANC 3151</u> | Dance Performance | |

| Code | Title | Hours |
|--|---|----------|
| DANC 3341 | Ballet V | |
| DANC 3342 | Ballet VI | |
| DANC 3347 | Jazz & Other Stage Dance Form I | |
| DANC 3348 | Jazz & Other Stage Dance Form II | |
| DANC 3350 | Dances of Mexico and Spain | |
| DANC 4340 | Selected Topics in Dance (Complete two semesters) | |
| DANC 4341 | Ballet VII | |
| DANC 4342 | Ballet VIII | |
| DANC 4345 | Contemporary Dance V | |
| DANC 4346 | Contemporary Dance VI | |
| Dance Technique | | |
| Complete four hours of dance technique courses | | |
| THEA 3312 | Performing Arts Management | <u>3</u> |
| DANC 3322 | World Dance | <u>3</u> |
| DANC 3323 | Writing for Dance | <u>3</u> |
| DANC 3301 | Theory and Composition | <u>3</u> |
| DANC 3351 | Research and Performance Practice | <u>3</u> |
| DANC 4301 | Choreography 1 | <u>3</u> |
| DANC 4302 | Choreography 2: Group Forms | <u>3</u> |
| DANC 4390 | Seminar | <u>3</u> |
| DANC 3350 | Dances of Mexico and Spain | <u>3</u> |
| DANC 4391 | Performance Studies | <u>3</u> |

Electives (6 credit hours)

| | |
|---|----------|
| Upper Level Elective in Any Area of Study 1 | <u>3</u> |
| Upper Level Elective in Any Area of Study 2 | <u>3</u> |

Total Hours 120

Course List

COURSE ADD

All fields below are required

College : Liberal Arts

Department : Theatre and Dance

Rationale for adding the course:

In the area of dance making/choreography, Improvisation serves as the beginning level of movement generation and sequencing. It is the foundation of critical inquiry into how meaning is made through movement, therefore, it is part of the overall "foundational" experience in the first two years of the BFA and BA in Dance.

All fields below are required

Subject Prefix and # DANC 2301

Title (29 characters or fewer): Improvisation

Dept. Administrative Code : 2833

CIP Code 500301

Departmental Approval Required Yes No

Course Level UG GR DR SP

Course will be taught: Face-to-Face Online Hybrid

How many times may the course be taken for credit? (Please indicate 1-9 times): 2

Should the course be exempt from the "Three Repeat Rule?" Yes No

Grading Mode: Standard Pass/Fail Audit

Description (600 characters maximum):

This beginner level course in improvisation explores basic tools used in the creative art of instantaneous choreography, as well as the process of organizing movement and evaluating the choices made within the craft of composing dance. Students will learn through improvisations, assignments, class discussions, viewing of videos, and the completion of a final piece that will be presented at the end of the term in front of an audience.

Contact Hours (per week): 3 Lecture Hours Lab Hours Other

Types of Instruction (Schedule Type): Select all that apply

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A | Lecture | <input type="checkbox"/> H | Thesis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B | Laboratory | <input type="checkbox"/> I | Dissertation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> C | Practicum | <input type="checkbox"/> K | Lecture/Lab Combined |
| <input type="checkbox"/> D | Seminar | <input type="checkbox"/> O | Discussion or Review (Study Skills) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E | Independent Study | <input type="checkbox"/> P | Specialized Instruction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> F | Private Lesson | <input type="checkbox"/> Q | Student Teaching |

Fields below if applicable

If course is taught during a part of term in addition to a full 16-week term please indicate the length of the course (ex., 8 weeks):

TCCN (Use for lower division courses) :

| Prerequisite(s): | | |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| Course Number/ Placement Test | Minimum Grade Required/ Test Scores | Concurrent Enrollment Permitted? (Y/N) |
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| Corequisite Course(s): |
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| Equivalent Course(s): |
|-----------------------|
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| Restrictions: | |
|----------------|--|
| Classification | |
| Major | |

IMPROVISATION DANC 2301

Professor: Cristina Goletti

Email: cgoletti@utep.edu

Office: 371^a, Fox Fine Arts

COURSE GOALS:

Improvisation, unlike other genres, cannot be defined as any particular style, but is an ongoing investigation of approaches to aesthetic human movement. It is an exploration of the “how” of moving, a way of working, a tradition of digging into personal experience and developing innovative methods for expression in movement. The ultimate goal of this study is to alert body and mind through scores, improvised and awareness exercises, to access physicality in a functional end effortless way so that the body gains more freedom, trust and consciousness. It also serves as a way to investigate issues related to artistry and performance qualities while developing an effective and responsible work ethic.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This beginner level course in improvisation explores basic tools used in the creative art of instantaneous choreography, as well as the process of organizing movement and evaluating the choices made within the craft of composing dance. Students will learn through improvisations, assignments, class discussions, viewing of videos, and the completion of a final piece that will be presented at the end of the term in front of an audience. The primary methods of learning for this class will be improvisation, in class individual and group assignments, which will need further time outside class to be completed, assigned readings and videos, several informal presentations, and the final class project. Through my guidance and the guidance of guest artists visiting the class, support from your classmates and personal reflection, you will tap into your self-knowledge and learn to communicate what you know and like, thus finding your individual voice. Yet, at the same time, you will be asked to explore ways of moving that are unfamiliar to you in an effort to broaden your movement vocabulary. You will develop your skills in observing dance, learning how to articulate your responses to what you see both verbally and in writing. You will become familiar with the meanings of space, time and energy, and comfortable in moving through all aspects of these dance elements, by opening yourselves to the possibility of new experiences will be encouraged.

Ultimately this class is a discovery-oriented forum in which we all mutually learn from our collective research—a format that requires personal investment and a mature attitude towards learning.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. ARTISTRY

To develop awareness of the body as a medium for artistic expression and to start considering the important of focus, phrasing, confidence and artistry in a technique class, regardless of style.

2. TECHNICAL/PHYSICAL ABILITIES

To improve the physical potential of each student by developing strength, flexibility, coordination, alignment, clarity, and fluidity, through the experience of different technical principles as well as somatic techniques.

To nurture a more holistic view of what technical tools we need to develop as dance artists to cope with an ever-changing dance scene. Students should become more confident in improvisation, floor-work, contact, and creating movement and scores.

3. WORK ETHIC and PARTICIPATION

To engage in a variety of self-assessment and reflective practices, that encourage life-long learning.

To develop an awareness of the extent of one's personal responsibility toward his/her own learning process and social contribution.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Consistent attendance and participation in classroom activities, assignments and discussions.
- Sincere, sustained and dedicated participation and self-motivation in all assignments and activities.
- Openness to feedback, risk taking and personal growth.
- Completion of all assignments and effective use of time during workdays.
- Completion of reading assignments.
- Participation in group discussions.
- Creation, rehearsal and performance of a final project to be performed at the end of the semester
- Wear clothing that is both comfortable to move in and allows the body to be seen clearly. Extra layers, such as sweatpants and sweatshirts are recommended for warmth, as needed.
- Hair must be secured away from the face. Do not wear jewelry or chew gum in class. Only bring water in closed containers into the dance studio. Other types of beverages are not permitted.
- Remove shoes before entering the studio. Cell phones are not permitted in the dance studio.

GRADING:

| | |
|---|-----------|
| 3 MOVEMENT STUDIES | 30 |
| (10 each) | |
| CREATION of FINAL SCORE | 20 |
| ARTISTIC STATEMENT about final project | 10 |
| 2 SHOWS ATTENDANCE | 10 |
| (5 each show) | |
| JOURNAL | 10 |
| IN-CLASS PARTICIPATION/ WORK ETHIC | 20 |

A= or >85

B= or > 70

C= or > 60

D= or > 50

F= or > 40

Academic Dishonesty:

Any form of academic dishonesty: cheating, plagiarizing, or taking a test for another student is considered a very serious matter at UTEP. Our library webpage provides good information on what UTEP considers Academic Dishonesty and what steps the university takes in such cases. Please review this information at:

<http://libraryweb.utep.edu/research/plagiarism.php>

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ADA:

The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that reasonable accommodations be provided for students with physical, sensory, cognitive, systemic, learning, and psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass.