

PROGRAM IN DANCE

FACULTY

L. Lowry

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Department of Communication Studies, Dance & Theatre offers a 16-hour minor in dance. The minor prepares students for further involvement in the dance profession as artists, educators, researchers, leaders, and administrators. The program values individuality, diversity, community, and the empowerment of women through artistic expression. The curriculum fosters the development of the individual creative voice, encourages risk-taking and provides diverse artistic and academic opportunities.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The student who successfully completes the minor in dance will have acquired knowledge, understanding, and skills in the following:

Knowledge and understanding:

- of dance as it is practiced in the twenty first century from the perspectives of performer, choreographer, observer;
- across a range of dance technique and movement analysis in order to ensure that certain basic areas essential to dance knowledge are covered;
- to ensure that students will be equipped with the necessary skills and abilities with which to develop their interests at a higher level;
- of the interdisciplinary elements of dance and how to apply appropriate knowledge, concepts, and skills from a range of disciplinary bases;
- of the complex artistic ideas which can be articulated as a choreographer, performer, and knowledgeable observer;
- of current issues within the discipline of dance studies.

Ability to demonstrate skills:

- as a dancer in a range of movement vocabularies and styles;
- in communicating ideas about physical, written, and oral methods of presentation;
- as effective collaborators in their interaction with peers;
- in problem-solving, risk, and initiative in the conception, creation, and performance of choreography;
- in self-reflective evaluation as a tool to improve personal performance;
- in sensitive and appropriate critical skills in evaluation of others' work;
- in the ability to work autonomously, collaboratively, and responsibly.

The superior student may explore the possibility of a Student-Designed Major (SDM) which encourages interdisciplinary and cross-cultural study. Please refer to page 69 of this bulletin for SDM guidelines.

NOTE: Students receive 2 hours for technique courses taken for the first time and 1 credit for subsequent enrollment in the same level technique course. Level determination occurs each semester with the dance faculty.

PROGRAM IN DANCE

Minor in Dance—DANC (16 hours)

DANC 243 Dance Ensemble Workshop (DEW) 3 hours

One of the following:

DANC 240 Introduction to Dance 3 hours

DANC 241 Contemporary Issues in Dance 3 hours

DANC 242 Dance Composition I/Improvisation I 3 hours

DANC 342 Dance Composition II/Improvisation II 3 hours

One of the following:

DANC 344 Modern Dance Technique: Advanced 2, 1 hours

DANC 345 Ballet Technique: Advanced 2, 1 hours

Four (minimum) of the following (8 hours):

DANC 144 Modern Dance Technique: Beginning 2, 1 hours

DANC 145 Ballet Technique: Beginning 2, 1 hours

DANC 146 Improvisation 2, 1 hours

DANC 148 Jazz Technique: Beginning 2, 1 hours

DANC 149 Body Conditioning I 2, 1 hours

DANC 150 Tap Technique: Beginning 2, 1 hours

DANC 151 Musical Theatre Dance Forms 2 hours

DANC 239 History of Ballet 3 hours

DANC 243 Dance Ensemble Workshop (DEW) 1–3 hours

DANC 244 Modern Dance Technique: Intermediate 2, 1 hours

DANC 245 Ballet Technique: Intermediate 2, 1 hours

DANC 247 Classical Pointe Technique: Beginning/Intermediate 1 hour

DANC 248 Jazz Technique: Intermediate 2, 1 hours

DANC 249 Body Conditioning II 2, 1 hours

DANC 250 Tap Technique: Intermediate 2, 1 hours

DANC 344 Modern Dance Technique: Advanced 2, 1 hours

DANC 345 Ballet Technique: Advanced 2, 1 hours

DANC 347 Advanced Pointe Technique/Variations 1 hour

DANC 348 Jazz Technique: Advanced 2, 1 hours

DANC 390 Special Topics in Dance 1–3 hours

DANCE COURSES (DANC)

NOTE: All dance technique classes (except DANC 247 and 347) include an academic component. There are required and recommended literary sources as well as written mid-term and final examinations testing knowledge of terminology and movement concepts. A performance final exam is required in upper level technique classes. Dance composition courses present a concert of works.

144 Modern Dance Technique: Beginning (2, 1)

An introduction to movement concepts of modern dance. Designed for students with no previous movement training. May be repeated for one credit.

145 Ballet Technique: Beginning (2, 1)

An introduction to basic ballet technique and terminology. Designed for students with no previous movement training. May be repeated for one credit.

146 Improvisation (2, 1)

Movement exploration in response to given problems or ideas. Emphasis on individual movement and group interaction. May be repeated for one credit.

148 Jazz Technique: Beginning (2, 1)

A practical course in contemporary jazz technique hip hop and lyrical styles. May be repeated for one credit.

149 Body Conditioning I (2, 1)

An introduction to the Pilates conditioning process includes beginning mat, stretch band, fitness circle and foam roller workouts. Muscle groups are strengthened through a series of resistance exercises. Primary areas of concentration are core conditioning and maintaining the natural curves of the spine. General knowledge of muscle groups, movement, function, and personal alignment will be explored. May be repeated for one credit.

150 Tap Technique: Beginning (2, 1)

An exploration in basic tap technique developing elementary concepts at the beginning level. May be repeated for one credit.

151 Musical Theatre Dance Forms (2)

This course is a study of a variety of dance genres utilized by Musical Theatre performers. It is designed for students with no previous movement training. Students will perform beginning level exercises and explorations in four dance styles (ballet, jazz, tap, and ballroom) utilized by Musical Theatre performers, along with identifying and understanding the accompanying terminology.

160 Introduction to Ballroom Dancing (1)

This course is an introduction to beginning steps in six classic ballroom dances: waltz, fox trot, rumba, cha cha, tango, and swing. In each case, the student will learn: proper posture and position; proper technique; how to connect a piece of music to the appropriate dance; and five basic steps.

239 History of Ballet (3)

History of Ballet follows an extensive evolution of ballet from Ancient Greek to the expansion of territory in the Twentieth Century tracing over 350 years of continuous development. Artistic, political, social trends and cultural influences reflected in ballet history will be discussed in conjunction with human advancement. Movement progression will be traced and defined through motif notation description. The manner movement is demonstrated in ballet through history reflects the changing times of human progression. Video recordings and picture renderings will provide a visual document to parallel the historical and artistic choices in movement, music, literary works, costume and set design relating to ballet.

240 Introduction to Dance (3)

This course surveys western and non-western dance forms through lecture and studio format. Movement characteristics are linked to cultural identity through the function of dance. Folk, social, and theatrical dance forms will be explored. In addition, Motif (basic movement notation) reading and writing will be introduced at an elementary level and used as a tool for movement identification and creative exploration. This course is intended to foster the student's personal aesthetics and appreciation of dance.

241 Contemporary Issues in Dance (3)

This course addresses recent and current aspects of the ever-changing world of dance. The fusion of forms, mediums and cultures that impact the art form will be considered. Exposure to dance performance and analysis will encourage the student to develop a personal aesthetic and become dance "literate" in terms of knowledge, communication and expression. Dance education, pedagogy and career options will be explored.

242 Dance Composition/Improvisation I (3)

An exploration of the creative choreographic process incorporating elements of composition. Improvisation will be used as a tool for forming ideas, developing movement vocabulary and creative problem solving. The course culminates in an informal concert of studies and solo choreography.

243 Dance Ensemble Workshop (DEW) (1–3)

The ensemble functions as the student dance company in residence. The dancers meet on a regular basis for technique classes, master classes and rehearsals with faculty and guest choreographers. D.E.W. presents an annual concert. Variable credit offered for performance and production. Performance students must be concurrently enrolled in a technique class. May be repeated for credit. By audition/permission only.

244 Modern Dance Technique: Intermediate (2, 1)

A course exploring various approaches to technique, with emphasis on the concepts of weight, space, time and flow. May be repeated for one credit.

245 Ballet Technique: Intermediate (2, 1)

Ballet technique at the intermediate level emphasizing correct alignment and proper execution of barre and center exercises. Prerequisite: placement audition. May be repeated for one credit.

247 Classical Pointe Technique—Beginning/Intermediate (1)

A course for the intermediate level ballet student who wishes to explore an extension of ballet technique. Proper alignment and strength will be emphasized in building a strong point foundation. Corequisite: DANC 245. May be repeated for one credit.

248 Jazz Technique: Intermediate (2, 1)

Jazz technique at a more advanced level including hip hop and lyrical styles, with an emphasis on performance. Prerequisite: placement audition. May be repeated for one credit.

249 Body Conditioning II (2, 1)

This course is an extension of Body Conditioning I. Beginning mat and reformer work will be reviewed before proceeding to intermediate work. Students will experience a more intense conditioning process and investigate conditioning for injuries. May be repeated for one credit.

250 Tap Technique: Intermediate (2, 1)

A course for the student who wishes to continue study and be challenged by intermediate level tap technique. Emphasis on clean, clear sounds and movement combinations. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. May be repeated for one credit.

342 Dance Composition/Improvisation II (3)

An extension of Dance Composition I, this course incorporates complex theories and ideas in composition and improvisation. Development of the students personal artistic voice will be nurtured through creation and manipulation of movement material in solo and group work. Performance and production elements will be emphasized as part of the advanced study of choreography. Prerequisite: DANC 242.

344 Modern Dance Technique: Advanced (2, 1)

A more advanced technique course with an emphasis on technical execution and artistic expression. May be repeated for one credit.

345 Ballet Technique: Advanced (2, 1)

Ballet technique for the advanced level student emphasizing accuracy, style, intricate combinations, strength, endurance and advanced vocabulary. Prerequisite: DANC 245 or placement audition. May be repeated for one credit.

347 Advanced Pointe Technique/Variations (1)

A course exploring advanced technique in pointe work. Classical variations will be taught to widen the student's knowledge of historical ballets and give them a physical experience in classic works. Prerequisite: placement audition. Corequisite: DANC 245 or 345. Placement audition. May be repeated.

348 Jazz Technique: Advanced (2)

A continuation of jazz technique providing a stimulating and rigorous application of both the traditional jazz dance vocabulary and contemporary styles. The course prepares the dancer for complex group and solo work for concert performance, video, and musical theatre. Prerequisite: DANC 248 and placement audition. May be repeated for credit.

390 Special Topics in Dance (1–3)

Courses in technique and/or theory. Possible topics: Labanotation, Laban Movement Analysis, Pedagogy, Dance in World Cultures, Music for Dancers, Liturgical and Sacred Dance, Ballet Variations, Historical Social Dance, Folk Dance. May be repeated.

397 Independent Study (1–3)

Independent study proposed by the student, conducted under the supervision of a faculty member with the approval of the department chair.