

Course Syllabus

Course Information

DANC 3333.001 Intermediate Modern Dance
Spring 2013
JO 1.216
Tuesday & Thursday 11:30a.m. – 12:45p.m.

Professor Contact Information

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Office Hours: Tuesday 10:00am – 11:00am or by appointment

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

Three semesters of DANC 2332 or equivalent experience.

Course Description

DANC 3333 is an intermediate modern dance technique class designed for those having had at least three semesters of modern dance experience. Starting with a review of basic concepts of technique and postural alignment, the course will quickly build to the development of intermediate level modern dance technique and movement vocabulary. For this class you will need to wear:

Women – leotard, tights, sweat pants (optional)

Men – Tee shirt, sweat pants, dance belt

Hair must be kept out of eyes and face – tied back if shoulder length or longer.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

DANC 3333.001 Intermediate Modern Dance

- Students will improve on movement skills from previous training. This will enable them to execute movement connected together within a movement phrase at an intermediate level of dance through their daily participation in this class.
 - Students will be able to analyze live performances from specific criteria given to them at the beginning of the semester.
 - Students will demonstrate they have mastered technique, performance, and comprehension of material given throughout the semester by performing a short choreographed work.
 - Students will value the importance of the art form, technique, creativity, physical health, and expression of movement through their personal participation in class, video viewing, and live performance attendance.
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Required Textbooks and Materials

No text

Students are required to dress appropriately as defined above under “Course Description.”

Assignments & Academic Calendar

Students will study intermediate level modern dance technique. This study will be augmented with written assignments through which students will demonstrate growth in understanding of modern dance performance and technique.

Students will attend and critique one live modern dance performance. Approved dance concert events will be posted in the dance studio. Students will also complete an in-class critique of one video dance performance. Students will keep a journal recording their daily work in class and personal goals and strategies for improvement, as well as reflecting on personal growth in modern dance performance and technique

1/15	Review Syllabus/ first technique class
2/6	<i>Faculty @ 5: Elledanceworks</i> , Jonsson Performance Hall, 5:30pm, Free
2/14	Video viewing and analysis
2/26	Mid-semester assessment
2/28	Stretch/ tennis ball release class (bring a tennis ball to class with you)
3/5 & 3/7	Class will not meet – alternative assignment due 3/19
3/10 – 3/16	Spring Break
3/19	Alternative assignment due
4/23	Video viewing day
4/25 – 4/27	<i>Spring Dance Show</i> , University Theater, 8pm, Free
4/25	Review for skills & vocab. exam
4/30	Skills and vocabulary exam
5/2	Last day: Perform final combination in class, Live Analysis due, Self-Evaluation due, completed Journal due, all make-up and/or extra credit work due
5/4	University - last day of semester

Modern dance technique classes except as indicated above.

Grading Policy

Student evaluation is based on the following:

- Attendance – student should demonstrate growth in modern dance technique through daily class work and successful completion of in-class assignments and projects.
- Participation - the nature of this course requires that a student be present in order to master the material and grow in the subject area. Basic attendance is expected and will be part of but not the entire participation grade. Students will be evaluated according to the quality of their involvement in the class work as demonstrated through individual comprehension and improvement, as well as mastery of skills.
- Written work – includes weekly journal entries, live performance and video analyses, and final self-evaluation. Technique and terminology exams will be given throughout the semester as needed and/or indicated in the course schedule – these will be considered in the participation grade.

98 – 100	A+
93 – 97	A
90 – 92	A-
88 – 89	B+
83 – 87	B
80 – 82	B-
78 – 79	C+
73 – 77	C
70 – 72	C-
68 – 69	D+
63 – 67	D
60 – 62	D-
Below 60	F

Participation	40%
Attendance	15%
Video Analysis	10%
Live Performance Analysis	15%
Journal	10%
Self-evaluation	10%

Course & Instructor Policies

Attendance is mandatory. You will be given 2 absences without penalty; any additional absence(s) (excused or unexcused) will be .5 points off the 15-point attendance grade for each class missed. If you arrive after roll has been taken it is your responsibility to remind the instructor that you attended class. Failure to do so could result in an absence recorded and applied for that day. After one tardy, you will be considered late if you arrive after roll has begun and you will receive a .25-point deduction from your attendance points. You may not physically participate without the instructor's permission if you arrive more than fifteen minutes after the class has begun (which may affect your participation grade). A total of 4 excused absences may be made up with the instructor's approval, please speak to the instructor for various options. Students making up absences in other approved dance classes must turn in documentation that is dated and signed by the instructor teaching the make-up class. If you observe the make-up class instead of physically participating, you must write a one-page paper that includes a description of the class, personal observations, and a comparison of your class and the makeup class. All classes must be made up before the last two weeks of the semester. Excused absences require documentation.

Performance Analysis: You are required to see a live dance production, write an analysis and submit it with a ticket and program attached. The performance must be a dance concert approved by the instructor. The Live Analysis is due no later than May 2. The Live performance analysis must include an in-depth examination of one dance work from the program you attended using the analysis format learned in class. If you do not choose the first or last piece on the program for your analysis, you must also include a brief (one – two sentence) summary of those pieces. You must include both the opening and closing works as either a summary or complete analysis. 3 points will be deducted for the omission of each.

Concert attendance:

Attendance at the UTD Spring Dance Show 4/25 – 4/27 is required. You are not required to write about the UTD concert for your live analysis, however UTD concert program and ticket must be submitted to the instructor to verify attendance by May 2nd.

Extra Credit: Extra credit may be received by attending additional dance performances. You may receive 1 point by just turning in a ticket and program or up to 3 if accompanied by a critique. The credit will be added to the final total of points accrued for the course at the end of the semester. Students may complete no more than two extra credit assignments - accepted up to May 2.

General Class Etiquette and Attire

- Minimum jewelry.
- Hair up and away from face.
- No chewing gum or food in studio.
- Closed liquid containers (water only).
- No sitting down during class.
- No talking while dancing or during demonstrations of exercises.

You are required to wear specific dance attire:

Women: leotards or dance top, tights or dance pants, sweat pants (optional) dance warm ups, sweaters, and solid color sweat shirts (when it is cold) are allowed.

Men: sweat pants, solid color t-shirts or sweat shirts, You may wear men's leotards and tights with a dance belt if you choose.

Cell phones must be turned off and remain off during class time (1:00 – 2:15)

Respect the space of other students by being aware of your own use of space.

Notify the instructor of any ailments – physical or otherwise – that may negatively effect your ability to participate in a given technique class before the start of class.

Points may be deducted from your participation grade for inappropriate attire or etiquette.

Course Expectations:

Student will demonstrate a focused mental and physical application of the course material.

Student will take responsibility for his/her own growth through watching, listening, participating, processing, and clarifying during each class session.

Video Viewing days: 2/14 & 4/23

VIDEO DANCE ANALYSIS: In class Thursday, February 14.

Analysis format will be introduced in class.

LIVE PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS: Due no later than Thursday, May 2.

Use the analysis format introduced during the video analysis on 2/14.

Final Self-evaluation: Due in class Thursday, May 2

Final self evaluation guidelines:

Use the following questions as a guideline in writing your self-evaluation essay. Please address all of the points listed below. You may include additional information that you feel is pertinent. Be sure to write your self-evaluation in essay form. There is no length requirement – just be complete!

1. Define yourself as a mover/dancer.
2. How has your technique improved through your work this semester? What areas of technique do you feel that you have mastered and how can you tell?
3. Do you feel that you have grown as a performer of dance? Describe.
4. In what ways has viewing live dance performance increased your understanding of modern dance?
5. Why is dance a relevant area of study for you? Why/how could it be relevant to studies outside of the fine arts?
6. Based on all your experience with modern dance (this class and any outside experiences you have had) how would you define the place or contribution of modern dance in/to education? (benefits accrued by the student; analytical, physical, problem solving, communication, self expression or self realization... other ways?...)
7. Finally, based on your work in this class, give yourself two percentage grades between 60% - 100%. One in each of the following areas:
 - Overall class participation
 - Modern dance technique

Important dates to remember:

Last day to drop without a “W”	Tues., Jan. 30
Martin Luther King Day holiday	Mon., Jan. 21
Faculty @ 5: Elledanceworks	Wed., Feb. 6, 5:30pm
WL Begins	Tues., Feb. 5
WL ends	Mon., Feb. 18
Spring Break	3/10 – 3/16
Spring Dance Show	4/25-4/27 University Theater, Free
Last day of classes	Sat., May 4
Reading days	Mon., May 6
Final Exam	Tues., May 7, 11 am – 1:45pm

Note: above information should be checked against the UTD website for accuracy!

Field Trip Policies

Students are responsible for obtaining their own tickets and providing their own transportation to and from dance concerts and any other events they choose to attend.

University Policies

Please review important university policies at the following address: <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.

