

***Course Syllabus***

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***Course Information***

DANC 2332 001    *Beginning Modern Dance*                      *Spring 2013*  
*Tuesday/Thursday 2:30-3:45pm*

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***Professor Contact Information***

*Monica (Micki) Saba*

*Phone: 972-883-2083                      Email: [msaba@utdallas.edu](mailto:msaba@utdallas.edu)                      Office: JO 5.502*  
*Office Hours:    Tuesday 11:30am-12:30pm, Wednesday 8:45-9:45am, and by*  
*appointment*

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

*none*

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***Course Description***

*In this class, students will study modern dance technique at a beginning level. Modern dance will be taught through the practice of technique, supplemented with attendance at performances and viewing of videos.*

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***Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes***

*Students will be able to both execute physically and describe orally the basic movement vocabulary of beginning modern dance.*

*Students will be able to analyze live performances from specific criteria given to them in class.*

*Students will compare and recognize variables within the art form after exposure to various styles and techniques of modern through classroom participation, video viewing, and live performance attendance.*

*Students should value the art form, discipline, and dedication needed to excel in dance by participating in the structure of the technique, recognizing its demands of the physical body, and the experience of the execution of a complete movement phrase.*

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***Required Textbooks and Materials***

*none*

***Suggested Course Materials***

*None*

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***Assignments & Academic Calendar******Topics and due dates for Individual Class Meetings***

<i>1/15</i>	<i>Review syllabus</i>
<i>2/28</i>	<i>Video</i>
<i>3/21</i>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Performance Analysis or program due</i>
<i>3/26</i>	<i>Review of warm up &amp; across the floor</i>

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3/28 Test on warm up & across the floor

4/10 Video

4/30 Skills & Vocabulary review / 2<sup>nd</sup> Performance Analysis due

5/2 Skills & Vocabulary Quiz

Unless otherwise stated above all other scheduled class meetings will be technique class

### **Grading Policy**

#### **Grade Value**

40% Class participation

20% Attendance

20% Performance attendance and written analysis

20% Skills and vocabulary

### **Grading for Critiques**

Papers on average will be no more than two typewritten pages. Late papers may be accepted. Three points will be deducted for each class period it is late. All assignments and participation grades begin with a grade of 95%. Points are either deducted or added depending on the quality of the work.

### **Grade Scale**

A+ 98-100    B+ 88-89    C+ 78-79    D+ 68-69    F 59 & below

A 93-97    B 83-87    C 73-77    D 63-67

A- 90-92    B- 80-82    C- 70-72    D- 60-62

A+ will only be awarded for regular class requirements. Extra credit assignments do not count towards an A+.

### **Course & Instructor Policies**

#### **Attendance**

Attendance is mandatory. Two absences are allowed; any thereafter result in a 3 point deduction starting at 100 for each class missed. Please be on time, arriving after the role has been called is considered late. A ½ point will be deducted in fifteen minutes increments from the scheduled class start time until the student arrives. It is the student's responsibility to remind the instructor of their attendance if they arrive after the roll has been called. Failure to do so could result in an absence recorded and applied for that day. Students may not physically participate if they arrive more than 15 minutes late which may affect their participation grade. Excused absences may be made up, please speak to the instructor for various options. A student will be allowed to make up 4 excused absences. Absences considered excused are those due to illness (student may be required to have a doctor's note), religious holidays, immediate family death, and official school organized activities. Written documentation that includes the day and time of the makeup class and the makeup instructor's signature must be turned in to receive proper credit. All classes must be made up before the last two weeks of the semester.

### ***Participation***

*Participation* is graded on a student's participation in the class, learning material given, effort, preparedness for class (including proper attire), and individual personal growth. Since one cannot participate if absent, each absence will result in a loss of participation points in addition to attendance points. Each class has a value of 3 points awarded daily by attending class and fulfilling the preceding requirements. Attendance is mandatory to receive points for that day. Points may be deducted if any of these requirements are unfulfilled. If for any reason the student must observe rather than physically participate they will receive partial credit for this portion of the grade. To receive full credit for observation, a one page paper is required documenting what was observed.

### ***Performance Analysis***

Attendance for two live dance productions is required along with a written analysis for one and submission of a ticket and program for the other. All performances must be dance concerts approved by the instructor. Analysis or the ticket/program will be due on March 21 and April 30. The analysis must include detailed descriptions of no more than 2 dance pieces from the program attended. If the first or last piece of the program is not chosen for analysis, a brief summary of those pieces should also be included. Both the opening and closing works must be included as either a summary or complete analysis. 3 points will be deducted for the omission of each.

When writing the critique include these points:

1. Did it tell a story, show a particular emotion, or have a particular theme? After each one of these questions then ask why and explain.
2. What was the music? List the title and composer. Did the choreography go with the music? How?
3. Did you like it? What made you like or dislike it?
4. What was the movement like? What did the dancers do through movement to help you come to conclusions from the previous questions?
5. How did the sets, costuming, and lighting affect the piece?
6. Give the title and choreographer of the piece selected.
7. List the title and company (if appropriate) for the performance.

Write the critique assuming the instructor did not see the dance and would understand what it was about and what it looked like from the analysis. Up to 5 points may be deducted for the omission of each point mentioned above.

***An approved list of performances for critique will be posted on the inside door of JO 1.216***

### ***Skill and Vocabulary:***

Students will be expected to learn set warm up exercises, basic jazz movements, and have acquired an understanding of the dance vocabulary often used in class. Verbal, physical, and/or written test will be given throughout the semester. This grade also includes daily application of movement and quizzes.

***Extra Credit***

*Extra credit may be received by attending other dance performances. 10 points will be awarded with a program submission for each performance attended. The credit will be added to the final total of points accrued for the course at the end of the semester, not a specific category.*

***General Class Etiquette and Attire***

*Minimum jewelry*

*Hair away from face*

*No chewing gum*

*Closed liquid containers (water only)*

*No sitting down during class*

*No talking while dancing or during demonstrations of exercise*

*You are required to wear dance or workout clothes. Loose fitting street clothes are not appropriate. Acceptable attire would be tights, leotards, bike shorts, crop tops, sweat pants, sweat shorts, T-shirts, leggings, and sweat shirts.*

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

***Field Trip Policies***

*There are no scheduled group field trips for this class. All dance concerts attended by the student are attended on their own time. Concerts attended are chosen by the student.*

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

***Additional Dates to Remember***

*Martin Luther King Day*

*Monday, January 21*

*Spring Break*

*Mar. 10-March 16*

*UTD Dance Concert*

*April 25, 26, 27*

*Last Day of classes*

*May 4*

For information on university policies regarding student conduct and discipline, Academic Integrity, Email Use, Withdrawal from Class, Student Grievance Procedures, Incomplete Grade Policy, Disability Services, Religious Holy Days, and Off-Campus Instruction and Course Activities go to:

<http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>