



Dance Practicum IV Central College

DANC 1112 Dance Practicum I

CRN 31842 Fall 2017

Central Campus – Theater One, Studio Q |4-7 pm M/W

4 lab hour course / 64 hours per semester / 12 weeks

Instructor: Maggie Lasher

Instructor Contact Information: 713-718-6585 megan.lasher@hccs.edu

Office location and hours:

Location- Theater One, Studio Q, rm. 104

Hours- by appointment and before and after class

Please feel free to contact me concerning any problems that you are experiencing in this course. You do not need to wait until you have received a poor grade before asking my assistance. Your performance in my class is very important to me.

Course Description

This course offers students the opportunity to engage in rehearsal and performance of student dance works in the making under the direction of faculty.

Purpose

To give students the opportunity to experience the process of being in a pre-professional dance company. Students will gain first hand knowledge of the process of producing dance works from inception to performance. In the fall semester, students will particularly focus on generating their own original choreography and experience working with each other as choreographers and dancers.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. DEMONSTRATE PROFESSIONAL ETIQUETTE FROM THE REHEARSAL PROCESS TO THE CULMINATING PERFORMANCE.
2. APPLY CORRECTIONS AND CRITIQUES TO IMPROVE OVERALL PERFORMANCE.
3. EVALUATE AND EXECUTE ARTISTIC INTEGRITY OF CHOREOGRAPHY.
4. LEARN AND PERFORM CHOREOGRAPHY FROM SEVERAL SOURCES.

Required Work

The required work for this class is seemingly simple. All it takes is dedication and commitment. This class is all about participation and therefore you are expected to come to class every time and be committed to the process of creating dance works. In addition to being engaged and in class, students will also be expected to help with the production elements involved in dance performance.

On the Edge- The class will culminate with a performance at the Heinen Theater on Thursday, November 30 and Friday, December 1 at 7:30. See detailed schedule below.

Grading

Effort and Participation 80%
Performance 20%

Grading Criteria

Students will be assessed in regards to the dedication they show toward the choreography and rehearsal process. This will be evaluated by the students attendance at rehearsals, their ability to get to rehearsal on time, their ability to use all rehearsal time productively, and their attitude toward the rehearsal and performance process. Dancers and choreographers will be given the opportunity to assess one another at the end of the semester, and this assessment will count toward their final effort and participation grade.

Calendar

<i>Monday, September 25-</i>	meet the company, go over syllabus
<i>Wednesday, November 22-</i>	no class due to Thanksgiving
<i>Monday, November 27-</i>	Run all pieces in order in the studio.
<i>Tuesday, November 28-</i>	6-10 Tech
<i>Wednesday, November 39-</i>	4-6 run all pieces on stage 6-6:30 dinner break 6:30-10 Tech and dress rehearsal
<i>Thursday, November 30-</i>	6:00 Call time 7:30 show
<i>Friday, December 1-</i>	6:00 Call time 7:30 Show

Additional performance opportunities may come up during the semester. These will be handled on a case-by-case basis and you will be given ample notice of any additional performances.

Attendance

Students are expected to be in the studio by 4:00 pm. Class will begin promptly at 4:05.

Students will receive ten points for each rehearsal they are in on time. The points will drop to eight if a student is ten minutes late, and then drop by one point per ten minutes after that.

On time= 10 points
10 minutes late= 8 points
20 minutes late= 7 points
30 minutes late= 6 points
etc.

Attendance is crucial to this course. We will learn a lot of choreography each class meeting and there is no way to make this up. Due to this, each student gets one absence. Once you go over this absence your commitment to the company will be in question. Students with multiple absences and/or tardies may be asked to leave the company.

Again, being in a performance company takes commitment. You cannot simply decide you do not feel like going to class on a particular day. If you are feeling a little under the weather or you have a minor injury you are expected to come to class. You do not have to dance in these instances, but you still need to be present to learn the choreography and take notes. This may seem harsh, but it is the reality of being in a performance company. You are a part of the whole and everyone needs to be present in order to create quality dance works. If you were in a true professional company you would be asked to leave if you repeatedly missed or were late to rehearsals.

Performances require a different attendance policy. Performing takes a very serious commitment. It is imperative that you are at every performance and technical rehearsal regardless of the venue. When you miss a performance it affects the entire group and your absence may mean that the group is unable to perform. This means that sometimes you are called upon to perform when you are sick, injured, or struggling with a variety of issues. Therefore, there is a zero tolerance policy for missing performances and crucial technical rehearsals, like dress. Except in extremely extenuating circumstances (as described below), if you miss a performance your grade will automatically be lowered by two letters, you may be dropped from the ensemble, or you may fail the course.

Extenuating circumstances are:

- A death in the immediate family.
- An extremely serious injury or illness. Examples of extremely serious are: extreme blood loss, broken bones, loss of a limb, fever over 102, or loss of consciousness.

This may seem harsh, but commitment to a performance group requires a very high level of dedication. Again, your absence from a performance can easily cause the entire performance to be canceled. This leads to a lost performance opportunity for the entire group and reflects very poorly on the ensemble and HCC.

Finally, if you live with your family, you need to get them on board with the policies of the company. It is imperative that they also understand the importance of your attendance at rehearsals and performances. If they schedule activities that take you out of rehearsal they need to know that has serious repercussions on your grade and it would be best for them to schedule around your rehearsals and performances.

After performances you are not allowed to leave until your costume is hung up, any clean-up needs have been addressed, and the director has excused you. Warn your family and friends that you cannot leave immediately after a performance and if they want you to leave with them they will have to wait until you are excused.

Five extra credit points will be given for perfect attendance.

Special Statement:

Any student who faces challenges securing their food or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Dean of Students for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so.

A Word about Cell Phones:

Once class has begun all technological devices will be silenced and put away out of sight. If you are caught using any sort of technical device during class the instructor reserves the right to confiscate said equipment until class is over. Repeated cell phone use in class will be noted.

EGLS₃ -- Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System;

At Houston Community College, professors believe that thoughtful student feedback is necessary to improve teaching and learning. During a designated time, you will be asked to answer a short online survey of research-based questions related to instruction. The anonymous results of the survey will be made available to your professors and division chairs for continual improvement of instruction. Look for the survey as part of the Houston Community College Student System online near the end of the term.

HCC Policy Statement - ADA

Services to Students with Disabilities

Students who require reasonable accommodations for disabilities are encouraged to report to Dr. Becky Hauri at 713-718-7910 to make necessary arrangements. Faculty is only authorized to provide accommodations by the Disability Support Service Office

HCC strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please meet with a campus Abilities Counselor as soon as possible in order to establish reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor(s) and Ability Services. It is the policy and practice of HCC to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. For more information, please go to <http://www.hccs.edu/district/students/disability-services/>

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. A& 1681 ET Seq.

Houston Community College is committed to cultivating an environment free from inappropriate conduct of a sexual or gender-based nature including sex discrimination, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and sexual violence. Sex discrimination includes all forms of sexual and gender-based misconduct and violates an individual's fundamental rights and personal dignity. Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex-including pregnancy and parental status-in educational programs and activities. If you require an accommodation due to pregnancy please contact an Abilities Services Counselor. The Director of EEO/Compliance is designated as the Title IX Coordinator and Section 504 Coordinator. All inquiries concerning HCC policies, compliance with applicable laws, statutes, and regulations (such as Title VI,

Title IX, and Section 504), and complaints may be directed to: David Cross, Director EEO/Compliance, Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity, 3100 Main, (713) 718-8271 Institutional.Equity@hccs.edu

Campus Carry:

At HCC the safety of our students, staff, and faculty is our first priority. As of August 1, 2017, Houston Community College is subject to the Campus Carry Law (SB11 2015). For more information, visit the HCC Campus Carry web page at <http://www.hccs.edu/district/departments/police/campus-carry/>.

HCC Policy Statement: Academic Honesty

A student who is academically dishonest is, by definition, not showing that the coursework has been learned, and that student is claiming an advantage not available to other students. The instructor is responsible for measuring each student's individual achievements and also for ensuring that all students compete on a level playing field. Thus, in our system, the instructor has teaching, grading, and enforcement roles. You are expected to be familiar with the University's Policy on Academic Honesty, found in the catalog. What that means is: If you are charged with an offense, pleading ignorance of the rules will not help you. Students are responsible for conducting themselves with honor and integrity in fulfilling course requirements. Penalties and/or disciplinary proceedings may be initiated by College System officials against a student accused of scholastic dishonesty. "Scholastic dishonesty": includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion.

Cheating on a test includes:

- Copying from another students' test paper;
- Using materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- Collaborating with another student during a test without authorization;
- Knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of a test that has not been administered;
- Bribing another person to obtain a test that is to be administered.

Plagiarism means the appropriation of another's work and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work in one's own written work offered for credit.

Collusion mean the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work offered for credit. Possible punishments for academic dishonesty may include a grade of 0 or F in the particular assignment, failure in the course, and/or recommendation for probation or dismissal from the College System. (See the Student Handbook)

HCC Course Withdrawal Policy

If you feel that you cannot complete this course, you will need to withdraw from the course prior to the final date of withdrawal. Before, you withdraw from your course; please take the time to meet with the instructor to discuss why you feel it is necessary to do so. The instructor may be able to provide you with suggestions that would enable you to complete the course. Your success is very important. Beginning in fall 2007, the Texas Legislature passed a law limiting first time entering freshmen to no more than **SIX** total course withdrawals **throughout** their educational career in obtaining a certificate and/or degree.

To help students avoid having to drop/withdraw from any class, HCC has instituted an Early Alert process by which your professor *may* "alert" you and HCC counselors that you might fail a class because of excessive absences and/or poor academic performance. It is your responsibility to visit with your

professor or a counselor to learn about what, if any, HCC interventions might be available to assist you – online tutoring, child care, financial aid, job placement, etc. – to stay in class and improve your academic performance.

If you plan on withdrawing from your class, you **MUST** contact a HCC counselor or your professor prior to withdrawing (dropping) the class for approval and this must be done **PRIOR** to the withdrawal deadline to receive a “W” on your transcript. **Final withdrawal deadlines vary each semester and/or depending on class length, please visit the online registration calendars, HCC schedule of classes and catalog, any HCC Registration Office, or any HCC counselor to determine class withdrawal deadlines. ***Remember to allow a 24-hour response time when communicating via email and/or telephone with a professor and/or counselor. Do not submit a request to discuss withdrawal options less than a day before the deadline.*** If you do not withdraw before the deadline, you will receive the grade that you are making in the class as your final grade.

Repeat Course Fee

The State of Texas encourages students to complete college without having to repeat failed classes. To increase student success, students who repeat the same course more than twice, are required to pay extra tuition. The purpose of this extra tuition fee is to encourage students to pass their courses and to graduate. Effective fall 2006, HCC will charge a higher tuition rate to students registering the third or subsequent time for a course. If you are considering course withdrawal because you are not earning passing grades, confer with your instructor/counselor as early as possible about your study habits, reading and writing homework, test taking skills, attendance, course participation, and opportunities for tutoring or other assistance that might be available.

Classroom Behavior

As your instructor and as a student in this class, it is our shared responsibility to develop and maintain a positive learning environment for everyone. Your instructor takes this responsibility very seriously and will inform members of the class if their behavior makes it difficult for him/her to carry out this task. As a fellow learner, you are asked to respect the learning needs of your classmates and assist your instructor achieve this critical goal.

Instructor Requirements

As your Instructor, it is my responsibility to:

- Provide the grading scale and detailed grading formula explaining how student grades are to be derived
- Facilitate an effective learning environment through class activities, discussions, and lectures
- Description of any special projects or assignments
- Inform students of policies such as attendance, withdrawal, tardiness and make up
- Provide the course outline and class calendar which will include a description of any special projects or assignments
- Arrange to meet with individual students before and after class as required

To be successful in this class, it is the student's responsibility to:

- Attend class and participate in class discussions and activities
- Complete the required assignments
- Ask for help when there is a question or problem
- Keep copies of all paperwork, including this syllabus, handouts and all assignments

Contract:

I, _____ understand that I am responsible for being at all rehearsals and performances. I know that I can only miss two rehearsals before my commitment to the company comes into question. I also understand that I must arrive at rehearsals, techs, and performances on time.

I, _____ realize that some days it will be difficult to come to rehearsal, and sometimes I just won't feel like being there, but I will do it for the sake of the company and the opportunity to perform.

I, _____ understand the syllabus for DANC 1112 and commit to the process of creating and performing dances.

I, _____ understand that if I live with my family they need to know the seriousness of the commitment I have made to the Central Dance Ensemble. This means they understand that I may have to miss family outings and events if they conflict with rehearsals and performances.

I, _____ understand that if I have attendance, tardy, or attitude issues I can be removed from individual dances, have my grade significantly lowered, and/or be asked to leave the ensemble by either dropping if it is before the withdrawl date or taking an F in the course.

student signature

date