



**Dance Appreciation
Central College**

DANC 2303 DANCE APPRECIATION

CRN 51377 Fall 2011

Central Campus – FAC 207

T/Th 11:00 am-12:30 pm

Credit: 3 (3 lecture) / 48 hours per semester/ 16 weeks

Instructor: Maggie Lasher, M.F.A.

Email: megan.lasher@hccs.edu

Office Location and Hours

Theater One Rm 104 (Inside Studio Q)

Phone: 713-718- 6585

Office hours by appointment, but generally you can meet with me after class each day.

Course Description

Introduction to dance designed for the general student. The course explores what is dance, who makes it, and why it is made. In this course students will learn about viewing and appreciating dance in various contexts. Students will learn how to critically evaluate dance works and will be given the tools to analyze, evaluate, and discuss dances from numerous periods throughout history. Particular emphasis will be given to dance forms from Europe and America, but students will also explore the connection between dance and a variety of cultures throughout the world.

Core Curriculum Course.

Course Overview

Through selected readings, critical viewing of dance videos, written assignments and in-class lectures and discussion, students will become familiar with appreciating dance as art, entertainment, cultural indicator, and/or social activity.

Course Goal

Introduce students to dance as an art form, entertainment, ritual, and social activity.

Instructional Materials

Required Text: *Appreciating Dance*, by Harriet R. Lihs, 4th Ed.

Prerequisites

Must be placed into GUST 0342 (or higher) in reading and ENGL 0310/ 0349 (or higher) in writing.

Student Learning Outcomes

The student will be able to:

1. Introduce and clearly define the elements of dance.
2. Define and illustrate dance as it relates to various cultures.
3. Create an appreciation for dance as an art form.
4. Use dance and other art forms such as music, arts, and sculpture to create an understanding of various cultures.

Learning objectives

Students will:

1. Understand the elements of dance.
2. Examine the historical development of theatrical dance forms.
3. Develop an appreciation for dance as an art form.
4. Be able to describe and articulate both orally & in writing a basic knowledge & understanding of dance forms and genres.
5. Critically evaluate dance without succumbing to personal biases.

SCANS or Core Curriculum Statement and Other Standards

This course addresses the following core intellectual competencies: reading, writing, listening, speaking, critical thinking, and computer literacy.

Credit: 3 (3 lecture)

Instructional Methods

As an instructor, I want my students to be successful. I feel that it is my responsibility to provide you with knowledge concerning the field of education, modeling good teaching strategies, and organizing and monitoring the field experience that allows you to connect the information that you learn in this course to the real world of dance.

As a student wanting to learn about the field of dance, it is your responsibility to read the course materials, submit assignments on the due dates, study for the exams, participate in classroom activities, attend class, and enjoy yourself while experiencing the real world of dance.

The majority of this class is discussion; therefore it is imperative that you participate in all learning activities. Your instruction may also include handouts, videos, and viewing and critiquing live performances.

Student Assignments

Assignments have been developed that will enhance your learning. To better understand a topic, you will be given assignments on key information that you will need for your success in this course. In addition to class attendance and participation, students will be required to successfully complete the following:

Readings-A few readings will be assigned from the textbook and outside sources. After each reading students will take a simple quiz or complete a project to ensure they are staying current with the material.

Outside Performance- Students are required to attend one approved professional dance concert and submit a written critique following the guidelines handed out in class. Performance options will be discussed in class, and you are free to ask the instructor about other performances you may be interested in attending.

Video Texts- Excerpts from a wide variety of videos will be shown in class. Many discussions and/or assignments will be based on these videos.

Written Assignments & Projects - Throughout the semester students will submit a variety of written assignments and projects. Assignments will include creative and critical response essays and projects pertaining to readings, discussions, and videos.

Exams- Three exams will be given over the course of the semester. Exams will consist of short answer, fill in the blank, and multiple-choice questions. Missed exams cannot be made up. If you miss an exam it is up to you to complete an extra credit assignment explained below.

Grading:

Discussions, Participation, and Reading Quizzes- 40%

Written Assignments, Exams, and Projects- 50%

Outside performance- 10%

Late Work

Written work will not be accepted after two class meetings past the due date. There will be a 10% deduction for each day it is late. Missed exams cannot be made up.

Extra Credit

You have two ways to receive extra credit for this course. You may only do two extra credit options in the course of the semester.

1. Attend and participate in a class at a professional studio and write a response to your experience.
2. View an additional approved professional dance performance and write a Concert Critique.

CALENDAR

September	Dance as Art, Dance in Pre-History to Ballet
October	First exam, finish Ballet to Modern Dance, Post-Modern dance project
November	Second exam, Jazz, Tap, and Swing to Hip-Hop and Social Dance
December	Third exam, Contemporary Dance

Program Attendance Policy

This class involves substantial participation and discussion. Students also spend class time watching dances and viewing dance images and receiving specially designed lectures on particular dance forms. These discussions, lectures, and viewings cannot be made up. Due to this, your participation grade is partially comprised of your attendance. Once you miss more than four classes your participation grade will be compromised and lowered.

Students are also expected to come to class on time. If a student is more than five minutes tardy on four occasions, those tardies count as an absence. In other words, four tardies equals one absence.

If a student encounters an emergency involving substantial absences they must talk to the instructor either before or during the prolonged absence. The instructor reserves the right to evaluate these situations on a case by case basis and may or may not be able to work out an alternative to attending class. If a student approaches the instructor after a prolonged absence, no absences can be made up.

Five extra credit points will be given for perfect attendance.

HCC Attendance Policy

It is important that you come to class! Attending class regularly is the best way to succeed in this class. Research has shown that the single most important factor in student success is attendance. Simply put, going to class greatly increases your ability to succeed. You are expected to attend all lecture and labs regularly. You are responsible for materials covered during your absences. Class attendance is checked daily. Although it is your responsibility to drop a course for nonattendance, the instructor has the authority to drop you for excessive absences.

If you are not attending class, you are not learning the information. As the information that is discussed in class is important for your career, **students may be dropped from a course after accumulating absences in excess of 12.5% hours of instruction. The six hours of class time would include any total classes missed or for excessive tardiness or leaving class early**

You may decide NOT to come to class for whatever reason. As an adult making the decision not to attend, you do not have to notify the instructor prior to missing a class. However, if this happens too many times, you may suddenly find that you have “lost” the class. Poor attendance records tend to correlate with poor grades. If you miss any class, including the first week, you are responsible for all material missed. It is a good idea to find a friend or a buddy in class who would be willing to share class notes or discussion or be able to hand in paper if you unavoidably miss a class.

A Word about Cell Phones & MP3 Players:

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 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