Course Outline

Course Numbers
DAN116 & DAN117

Course Title
Studio Dance Technique I & II

Credits
3

Hours:
lecture/Lab/Other
6 Studio

Co- or Pre-requisite
Must successfully complete DAN116 before entering DAN117

Implementation
sem/year
Fall 2017

Catalog description:
A sequence of courses required of all students in the dance program, provides an intensive approach to skill development, discipline, and knowledge for mastery of the three concert dance styles: ballet, jazz, and modern. Daily technique classes cater to specific needs and abilities. Related issues of career planning, personal health, and ensemble work are also addressed.

Is course New, Revised, or Modified? Modified

Required texts/other materials: None

Revision date: Spring 2019

Course coordinator: Jody P. Gazenbeek-Person

Information resources: Students are encouraged to pursue other learning resources listed below, attend live dance performances, and engage with the optional reading suggestions on the course syllabus.

Other learning resources: Our library and the county system continues to grow when it comes to the collection of relevant books, videos, recordings, and electronic databases to supplement the students learning and research projects in the Dance Program. Our library and the county system contain some well-known works of recognized quality, including: What is Dance?: Readings in Theory and Criticism by Roger Copeland, The Dance Anthology by Cobbett Steinberg, The Thinking Body by Mabel Todd, Terpsichore in Sneakers: Post-Modern Dance by Sally Banes, The Private World of Ballet by John Gruen and many video recordings of full length classical ballets, some modern dance, and documentaries concerning dance history.

This course outline was developed in collaboration with Janell Byrne and based on The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago’s Technique Syllabus.
Student Learning Outcomes/Course Goals:

The student will be able to:

1. obtain a more specific understanding of modern, ballet and jazz dance technique, by refining existing technique, expanding movement vocabulary, and executing longer movement phrases.
2. produce cleaner lines, appropriate kinetic dynamics, broader performance capabilities, and greater strength and endurance.
3. adapts to the external world through producing a relationship to the space and people surrounding them whilst moving.
4. comprehend and produce smaller, more detailed, changes in movement.
5. conforms their use of space so that they can suspend movements longer.
6. develop greater clarity and adaptability.
7. developing the skills necessary to concentrate on artistry in DAN118 & 119

Course-specific General Education Knowledge Goals and Core Skills.

General Education Knowledge Goals

Goal 1. Communication. Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

Goal 3. Science. Students will use the scientific method of inquiry, through the acquisition of scientific knowledge.

Goal 6. Humanities. Students will analyze works in the fields of art, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language.

MCCC Core Skills

Goal A. Written and Oral Communication in English. Students will communicate effectively in speech and writing, and demonstrate proficiency in reading.

Goal B. Critical Thinking and Problem-solving. Students will use critical thinking and problem solving skills in analyzing information.

Goal F. Collaboration and Cooperation. Students will develop the interpersonal skills required for effective performance in group situations.

Proposed Units of Study in Detail:

Unit I

[Movement Combination—longer movement sequence with mixed meter and syncopation with changes in level]

**Learning Objectives**

The student will be able to...

- pick up sequence and all details quickly (after being shown two or three times). (Course Competencies 1, 2, 4, 6, & 7; Gen Ed Goals 1 & 6; Core Skill A & B.)
- demonstrate at least one or two pathways to and from the floor. (Course Competencies 1, 2, 3, 4 6 & 7; Gen Ed Goals 1 & 6; Core Skill A & B.)
- demonstrate phrasing with dynamic shifts using knowledge of weight, momentum, and the body’s relationship to gravity. (Course Competencies 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 & 7; Gen Ed Goals 1, 3, & 6; Core Skill A & B.)
- perform with internal commitment and external awareness. (Course Competencies 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7; Gen Ed Goals 1 & 6; Core Skill A, B & F.)

Unit II

[Floor work/Barre work, and Center work—with changes of direction and level and musical complexities]
**Learning Objectives**

The student will be able to...

- demonstrate rhythmic clarity. (Course Competencies 1, 2, 4, 6, & 7; Gen Ed Goals 1 & 6; Core Skill A & B.)
- coordinate movement with ease and smoothly link transitions. (Course Competencies 1, 2, 4, 6, & 7; Gen Ed Goals 1 & 6; Core Skill A & B.)
- maintain dynamic alignment and articulate smaller details while moving. (Course Competencies 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5; Gen Ed Goals 1 & 6; Core Skill A & B.)
- expand through and within personal kinesphere. (Course Competencies 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7; Gen Ed Goals 1, 3, & 6; Core Skill A, B & F.)
- move in space with awareness of self and others. (Course Competencies 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7; Gen Ed Goals 1 & 6; Core Skill A, B & F.)

**Unit III**

[Adagio—sculptural adagio that moves through spatial forms that are challenging to range and balance]

**Learning Objectives**

The student will be able to...

- demonstrate clarity of spatial intent (Course Competencies 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7; Gen Ed Goals 1 & 6; Core Skill A & B.)
- maintain dynamic alignment while articulating extremities (Course Competencies 1, 2, 4, 6, & 7; Gen Ed Goals 1 & 6; Core Skill A & B.)
- maintain breath support and sustained flow of movement (Course Competencies 1, 2, 4, 6, & 7; Gen Ed Goals 1 & 6; Core Skill A & B.)

**Unit IV**

[Across the Floor—leap pattern with arm patterns or direction changes]

**Learning Objectives**

The student will be able to...

- demonstrate connectivity of movement (Course Competencies 1, 2, 4, 6, & 7; Gen Ed Goals 1 & 6; Core Skill A & B.)
- achieve height in the leap while maintaining dynamic alignment and joint articulation, and land efficiently (Course Competencies 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, & 7; Gen Ed Goals 1 & 6; Core Skill A & B.)
- demonstrate rhythmic accuracy. (Course Competencies 1, 2, 4, 6, & 7; Gen Ed Goals 1 & 6; Core Skill A & B.)

Special Note: some dance sequences are altered slightly to create more challenging content and exercises for DAN117 Students.

**Evaluation of student learning:**

1. Periodic evaluation of students' progress in technique exercises and modern repertory.
2. Terminology quizzes.
3. Mid-Term and Final evaluation of the students' individual technical performance. (Satisfactory performance of given final piece of modern repertory.)

**Academic Integrity Statement:** Students are expected to comply with the college-wide requirements for academic integrity. Mercer County Community College is committed to Academic Integrity—the honest, fair, and continuing pursuit of knowledge, free from fraud or deception. This implies that students are expected to be responsible for their own work. Presenting another individual's work as one's own and receiving excessive help from another individual will qualify as a violation of Academic Integrity. The entire policy on Academic Integrity is located in the Student Handbook and is found on the college website [http://www.mccc.edu/admissions_policies_integrity.shtml](http://www.mccc.edu/admissions_policies_integrity.shtml).

**Theatre and Dance Program Audition Policies:** Mercer students must maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 to be eligible to audition for Theatre and Dance Program productions. Students in good academic standing who receive roles but do not maintain a 2.5 GPA during the production will be ineligible to audition the following semester. Students who are unsure about their cumulative GPA should consult their online transcripts. (To access your transcript, go...
to https://mcccwebp.mccc.edu/FCCSC/navigate/student.jsp and log into the “Student Access” section of the site using your student ID and PIN number. If you forgot your PIN, bring your student ID to the Admissions Office to obtain it.)

- Students in their first semester at Mercer are eligible for casting but should be aware that they will not be able to audition for second-semester shows unless they earn a 2.5 or better GPA in their first semester.

**Theatre and Dance Programs Student Progress Policy:** Throughout the semester, instructors in the Academic Theatre and Dance Programs meet to discuss student progress. Students who are determined to be at academic risk will be asked to meet with Theatre and Dance Program instructors to discuss resources and strategies for improving academic performance. (The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act – FERPA – permits disclosure of academic records to “other school officials, including teachers within the educational institutional or local educational agency, who have been determined by such agency or institution to have legitimate educational interests” in the student [34 CFR 99.31].)