Instructor: Sarah Sanchez  
Course Time & Location: T/TR9:30-10:45; HPE 201  
Office: A-102  
Office Hours: MW11-12:30pm, F11-1pm  
Office Phone: (936) 468-8493  
Credits: 2  
Department Phone: (936) 468-3503  
Email: Sanchezs12@sfasu.edu

Prerequisites: None

I. Course Description:
Modern I is a physical class in which the students will learn the basic fundamentals of Modern technique. This course is geared toward dancers with little or no knowledge of Modern dance.

II. Intended Learning Outcomes/Goals/Objectives:
These goals support and reflect the College of Education’s Vision, Mission, and Core Values in that they equip those candidates seeking “to achieve professional excellence” with the knowledge, skills, and dispositions that “prepare competent, successful, caring, and enthusiastic professionals dedicated to responsible service, leadership, and continued professional and intellectual development”. This course supports the Dance Program Mission Statement related to achieving a high level of creative potential.

Program Learning Outcomes:
1. The student will be able to identify and execute intermediate/advanced level ballet, modern, and jazz dance techniques. (Active)
2. The student will be able to identify and apply production values necessary for concert dance, including lighting, sound, costuming, and publicity. (Active)
3. The student will be able to identify, distinguish and apply the variety of choreographic devices, structures, and forms used in contemporary concert dance. (Active)
4. The student will be able to identify concepts of dance kinesiology to performance and analysis of dance movement. (Active)
5. The student will be able to identify variations in rhythmic patterns and elements of music such as accents, beats, phrasing, as applied to dance movement. (Active)

Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
1. Recognize and exhibit dance class etiquette such as spatial awareness, active listening, personal responsibility, commitment to the practice, and respect for the larger community of dance.
2. The student will be able to identify and articulate basic Modern dance vocabulary and techniques.
3. The student will be able to execute basic Modern dance movement in coordination with music.
4. The student will be able to critically analyze and write about dance using established
methods of dance criticism.
5. To gain an appreciation for dance as an art form.

III. Course Assignments, Activities, Instructional Strategies, and use of Technology:
The student will be required to participate in a complete movement sequence as follows, warm up conditioning, center floor, across the floor, and final dance combinations. The student will be given activities that include partner work to better understand the dancer body, fundamentals, vocabulary, and principles of Modern dance such as isolations, footwork, slides, squares, walks, turns, jumps, leaps and battements in which the student will learn through repetition, and activities that incorporate the knowledge of meter and time for musicality purposes. The student is not required, but encouraged, to use technology in the attempt to learn Modern but to use technology to gain a better understanding and appreciation toward dance as an art form. As partial fulfillment of their final grade, the student will attend the Danceworks Concert on April 19th, 20th, or 21st. *This is mandatory, not optional, so make arrangements with employers, evening classes, exams, and University activities well in advance.

IV. Evaluation and Assessments (Grading):
Participation:
Dance is an art form that must be practiced daily for mastery. Students are expected to fully participate in each class. It is recommended that any student who is ill should attempt to attend class unless they are contagious or confined to a bed. Any student who opts to observe and not participate will receive partial credit for that class. Class observation gives students a good learning opportunity to listen to explanations and corrections the instructor has given out. Lack of participation for any sustained period of time due to illness or injury may result in the dropping of the course entirely. Daily participation means committing to the class and is worth a considerable amount of the student’s final grade.

Quizzes:
Students will be given Modern vocabulary, movement sequences, historical videos and articles on specific days; all of which will be provided on D2L. Students will be tested by a short 3-4 question quiz at the beginning of class on the next class day.

Skills Tests:
Periodically throughout the semester, the student is required to perform skills tests. These tests usually consist of short combinations that the class has learned during the semester. Skills tests may be videotaped and the students will perform in small groups. The students will be graded on factors which include alignment, technique, musicality, memory, precision, performance, and energy. If a skills test is missed, the student CANNOT make it up!

Midterm:
The midterm will be conducted in a way that resembles a skills test. The
midterm exam will consist of materials and dance mechanics that the student has learned up to the mid semester point. This exam will be performed in small groups on Tuesday, May 1st from 9:30-10:45am or Thursday, May 3rd from 9:30-10:45am. Students will be graded over the same factors as a skills test. If the midterm is missed, the student cannot make it up, unless the absence was previously excused.

**Critique Paper:**
The student will write a 2 page paper over the Repertory Dance Company Concert: January 25th-26th or Danceworks Concert: April 19th-21st as partial fulfillment of their final grade. Paper will be in MLA format, 12 point font, Times New Roman, double-spaced, and title page as first page. Title page specifics and paper guidelines will be provided on D2L. Paper will be due by Wednesday May 2nd at midnight on D2L dropbox.

**Final:**
Attendance and participation in the Informal Performance on May 2nd from 4-6pm is required and will be counted as the student’s final exam grade. Students will perform one piece of set choreography all together executing skills and steps learned in the class. Family and friends are invited to attend this free performance. All dance technique classes and levels are required to perform in this show. Students must request off from work and outside academic classes ahead of time. Failure to attend will result in an automatic zero for the Final exam grade.

**Make-Up Policy:**
Exams and skills tests will not be accepted late and cannot be made up. If the student is in good standing with the instructor, absences can be made up by other assignments at the instructor’s discretion.

**Grading Percentages:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daily Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skills Tests</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance Critique</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Performance</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading Scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100-90</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89-80</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79-70</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69-60</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59 or lower</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Classroom Rules of Conduct:**
1. Please be on time. It is considered disrespectful to walk into a dance class late. If the student is tardy, he/she will need to sit out and not be able to participate in the class. An absence will be counted for every three sit-outs.
2. Please no cell phones in the dance studio while class is in session. Cell phones are to be left in the lobby and on silent.
3. Please no food or drink in any of the dance studios. Please help keep the dance space clean and bug free! Bottled water is acceptable, sweatproof bottle or any bottle with a towel for the bottom.
4. Be respectful of others. This is a place of learning and once you step into the studio, you are all on the same level. Be positive with yourself and
with others. This should be a safe place for you to grow as a dancer and to feel comfortable with yourself.

V. Tentative Course Calendar:

**Week 1**
- 1/16: Introduction/Syllabus
- 1/18: Assignment #1, Learn warm up, plies, TBCs, center floor combo A

**Week 2**
- 1/23: No class - Repertory Dance Concert Production, Quiz #1 on D2L
- 1/25: Review warm up, plies, TBCs, center floor combo A

**Week 3**
- 1/30: Learn tendu, degage, prances, add on to combo A
- 2/1: Review all material, Learn across the floor sequences

**Week 4**
- 2/6: Review all material for Skills Test 1
- 2/8: Skills Test 1

**Week 5**
- 2/13: Skills Test 1 Evaluations
- 2/15: Learn new bounces, plies, center floor combo B, Assignment #2

**Week 6**
- 2/20: Quiz #2, Review new material add on tendu, fondu, prances
- 2/22: Review, add to combo B

**Week 7**
- 2/27: Review all material, add on across the floor sequences
- 3/1: Review all material for Midterm

**Week 8**
- 3/6: Midterm
- 3/8: Midterm Evaluations

**Week 9**
- SPRING BREAK 3/12-3/16: No Classes

**Week 10**
- 3/20: Learn new warm up, plies, tendus, Review TBCs
- 3/22: Review, learn fondu, prances, combo C

**Week 11**
- 3/26: Review, learn across the floor, add on to combo C
- 3/29: EASTER HOLIDAY - No class

**Week 12**
- 4/3: Review all material with combo C
- 4/5: Review all material for Skills Test #2

**Week 13**
- 4/10: Skills Test #2
- 4/12: Skills Test #2 Evaluations

**Week 14**
- 4/17: No class - Danceworks Production day - Assignment #3 on D2L
- 4/19: Quiz #3, Review Material for Juries, learn informal dance

**Week 15**
V. REQUIRED READING
No textbook is required. All material will be available on D2L.

Required Attire:
Women: Tops-Leotards only; any color or pattern, Bottoms- biker shorts, or leggings; any color or pattern. Shoes-no shoes, toe-paws or socks. Students will be dancing barefoot. Hair must be pulled back into a secure bun or ponytail with no bangs in the eyes.
Men: Tops-Leotards or Form fitting athletic compression shirt; any color or pattern, Bottoms- Jazz pants, leggings or compression shorts; any color or pattern, in addition to a dance belt.

No baggy clothing! Lines need to be seen, tight, form-fitting clothing is necessary! Warm-ups are allowed for the beginning of class. Once plies are complete, please remove the warm ups. Failure to adhere to dress code will be deducted from the day’s participation grade. All students must be in attire by Thursday, February 1st.

Attire for Skills Tests, Midterm, and Juries: All black tops and bottoms for both males and females.

VII. Course Evaluations:
“Near the conclusion of each semester, students in the College of Education electronically evaluate courses taken within the COE. Evaluation data is used for a variety of important purposes including: 1. Course and program improvement, planning, and accreditation; 2. Instruction evaluation purposes’ and 3. Making decisions on faculty tenure, promotion, pay, and retention. As you evaluate this course, please be thoughtful, thorough, and accurate in completing the evaluation. Please know that the COE faculty is committed to excellence in teaching and continued improvement. Therefore, your response is critical!”

In the College of Education, the course evaluation process has been simplified and is completed electronically through MySFA. Although the instructor will be able to view the names of students who complete the survey, all ratings and comments are confidential and anonymous, and will not be available to the instructor until after final grades are posted.

VIII. Student Ethics and Other Policy Information:
Attendance
Each student is allowed to miss 2 individual classes for any reason, i.e. sick, tired, skipping, sleeping, traveling. Each additional absence, after the initial 2, will drop the student’s final grade by 1 full letter grade. For example: 3 absences = B, 4 absences = C, 5 absences = D. Any student who has 6 absences or more will result in an automatic failing grade and will not pass the class. An absence will be excused if the student notifies the instructor when late and when the student presents a doctor’s note the next
class day that he/she is ok to return to class. **Doctor’s notes will not be accepted at the end of the week, month, or semester if the student has already returned to the class and forgot to bring the doctor’s note.** Points will be deducted for students who leave class prior to dismissal. **For every 3 tardies, the student will receive 1 absence!**

**Attendance will be strictly enforced.** It is the responsibility of the student to keep track of their number of absences. The student may ask the instructor on the amount of absences accrued, but please do this at the end of the class or during office hours.

Classroom Rules of Conduct:

1. Please be on time. It is considered disrespectful to walk into a dance class late. If the student is tardy, he/she will need to sit out and not be able to participate in the class. An absence will be counted for every three sit-outs.
2. Please no cell phones in the dance studio while class is in session. Cell phones are to be left in the lobby and on silent.
3. Please no food or drink in any of the dance studios. Please help keep the dance space clean and bug free! Bottled water is acceptable, sweatproof bottle or any bottle with a towel for the bottom.
4. Be respectful of others. This is a place of learning and once you step into the studio, you are all on the same level. Be positive with yourself and with others. This should be a safe place for you to grow as a dancer and to feel comfortable with yourself.