Stephen F. Austin State University

Department of Kinesiology and Health Science/Dance Program

CRN 22207, DAN 480L-1 Choreographic Project

Spring 2018

Instructor: Heather Samuelson  Course Time and Location: MW 4-5:15, HPE 201
Office: 211  Office Hours: MW 1-2, TR 8-10
Office Phone: 936 468-1614  Credits: 3
Department Phone: 936 468-2283  Email: Samuelsoh@sfasu.edu

Prerequisites: 6 hours of dance and the approval from the instructor.

Co-requisite: DAN360-Danceworks and regular attendance in a level II or higher dance technique course.

I. Course Description:

The student will research a conceptual topic for dance choreography. Upon gathering research, the student will develop substantial choreography, inspired by the research, in a dance genre that is complementary to the examination of the chosen topic and present the choreographic work in a full concert setting.

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. The complete listing of the standards associated with the PLOs, SLOs, assignments, and assessments are located on the PCOE website.

Program Learning Outcomes:

1. Dance Technique The student will be able to execute intermediate/advanced level ballet, modern dance and jazz dance techniques. (Active)

2. Dance Production The student will be able to Identify and apply production values necessary for concert dance, including lighting, sound, costuming, and
3. Choreography 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. Dance Kinesiology The student will be able to apply concepts of dance kinesiology to performance and analysis of dance movement. (Active)

5. Rhythmic Analysis The student will be able to identify variations in rhythmic patterns and elements of music such as accents, beats, and phrasing as applied to dance movement. (Active)

6. Dance History The student will identify and discuss seminal works in the development of Western theatrical dance. (Active)

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. To gain a broader knowledge and experience in choreographic design. (PLO 2,3,5,6).
2. To develop the ability to critique and analyze a movement composition. (PLO 1,6)
3. To develop individuality in manipulating movement as related to phrasing, abstracting, editing and generating compositional ideas. (PLO 1,3,5).
4. To develop the ability to set movement phrases on more than one dancer and enhance skill in the rehearsal and performance process. (PLO 1,4,5).
5. To make informed decisions related to lighting, sound editing, costuming, set design and publicity. (PLO 2).
6. To provide an opportunity to present original choreography in a concert setting. (PLO 1).

For additional information on meaningful and measurable learning outcomes see the assessment resource page http://www.sfasu.edu/assessment/index.asp.

III. Course Assignments, Activities, Instructional Strategies, and use of Technology:

This course will require the student to research an evocative and conceptual topic as a means of inspiration for choreography. This project is designed to provide the student with the opportunity to develop a substantial and an original piece of choreography under the supervision and guidance of the dance faculty. The student is required to journal their choreographic process and will be given a series of projects throughout the choreographic process to better the development and
generation of movement. The student's work will be mentored in all stages of the choreographic and production process. The student will be required to have consistent, active participation in technique class as well as coordination of rehearsal. In addition, the student will be fully involved in the production of lighting, costuming, publicity, etc., for the Danceworks concert. The student is not required but encouraged to use technology as a means of reference for structure, design and inspiration towards dance choreography. Any dance that has deliberately copied or plagiarized from a work found on the internet will result in an automatic failing grade and removal from the concert.

IV. Evaluation and Assessments (Grading):

This course is graded on a Letter Scale system (A, B, C, D, F). As required of the dance program and University policy, the student must make a “C” or higher to pass the course. The project must reflect artistic integrity, professional maturity and successful mentoring process. Failure to meet any of the deadlines or goals will constitute failure in the course.

V. Tentative Course Calendar:

November 29, 2017, Wednesday 4-6:30pm, Audition: Will be held in the dance studio. The choreographers are responsible for conducting the audition (warm-up, across the floor and a combo) and publicity for the event. A list of dancers chosen and contact information must be submitted to dance faculty. Showings will occur frequently; be prepared to perform dance at each meeting.

January 17, 2018, Wednesday 4-6:30pm, Class: Go back over syllabus for any additional information and prepare students for first showing. Turn in research. Begin asking for sponsors and donations.

1st Showing (January 22): Choreographers Only in class on Monday- Introduce some research over the chosen topic and present 1 minute of choreography that relates to the chosen topic via movement or video. Wednesday, faculty and Repertory dancers will tech at Turner Auditorium ALL DAY.

2nd Showing (January 31): Choreographers and Dancers- Present manipulated choreography with dancers, paying attention to form, level and facings. Choreography is extended to 1 ½ minutes. Turn in a list of donors/sponsors you approached.

3rd Showing (February 7): Choreographers and Dancers- Present 2 minutes of choreography with dancers, paying attention to spatial design and elements of force and time. Start thinking of music ideas. Turn in additional research.

4th Showing (February 14): Choreographers and Dancers- Present extended or cleaned choreography. Continue working spatial design and elements with force and time. Bring music ideas to instructor for approval and have choreography ready to be performed to music at the next showing. Start thinking about costume ideas. You
should not have your dancers purchase costumes other than possible shoes or a nude leotard.

5th Showing (February 21): Choreographers and Dancers- Present 2 ½ to 3 ½ minutes of choreography experimenting with music ideas. Have dancers run pieces in prospective costumes/color pallets.

6th Showing (February 28): Choreographers and Dancers- Present a cleaned dance, up to 3 ½ minutes, with music. Give instructor a recording of music. Discuss theme of concert and begin creating a show order. Show order must be turned in by the end of the week. Turn in remaining research. Hardy Meredith in for publicity photo shoot at 5:30pm. Light trees to be set up on Tuesday February 27.

March 5, Monday Class: Get photo(s) to Graphics shop for poster design. Have Kasi Dickerson write a press release. Begin writing senior bio’s. Begin thinking of lighting ideas. **Dances have a limit of 4 light cues.**

7th Showing (March 7): Choreographers and Dancers- Present 4 minutes of choreography with lighting ideas turned in to Heather and Haley. **Dances have a limit of 4 light cues.**

March 10-18 Spring Break and ACDA Conference at Lamar.

March 19, Monday Class: Take poster design to printing services for printing. Turn in senior bio’s to Heather and Haley.

8th Showing (March 21): Choreographers and Dancers- Re-present/review 4 minutes of choreography. **Costumes are complete.** Hang posters by the end of the week around Nacogdoches, campus, surrounding towns, FB, Twitter, Snapchat, etc.

9th Showing (March 28): Present complete dance of 5 minutes or more. Costumes, lighting, and music should be complete and ready on disc.

March 28-April 1 Easter Break

10th Showing (April 4): Present cleaned choreography in costume. Dancer bio’s and senior program information should be submitted to Haley.

11th Showing (April 11): Present dances in show order and in costume with crew present.

**Tentative Danceworks Schedule:** April 16-21, 2018

4/16   Set up light trees 4pm, First Act Light Tech. **Dances have a limit of 4 light cues.**
4/17  Second Act Light tech. Call at 4pm, begin immediately. **Dances have a limit of 4 light cues.**

4/18  Dress Rehearsal with 2 runs: call 4pm, warm up 4:30-5:30pm, crew sweep 5:45pm, 1st run 6pm, 2nd run 8pm. Possible Photo shoot with Hardy Meredith.

4/19  Opening night: Crew call 4:30pm to mop, Dancer call 5pm, warm up 5:15-6:16pm, Show 7pm.

4/20  Show #2: Call 5pm, warm up 5:15-6:16pm, show 7pm.

4/21  Final show #3: Call 1pm, warm up 1:15-2:15pm, show 3pm

**STRIKE AND FLIP/MOP MARLEY**

**Attendance:**

Each absence, after 2, will drop the student’s final grade by 1 full letter grade, assuming each student begins the semester with an A. 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 via email immediately, and presents a doctor’s note the very next class period that he/she is approved 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 class and forgot to bring the doctor’s note. The same consideration will be given for funerals and University sponsored events. Points will be deducted for students who leave class prior to dismissal. **If the student is tardy (more than 10 minutes late), they will be counted absent! 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.
VI. Readings (Required and recommended—including texts, websites, articles, etc.):  


FEM Statement:

In this course you must purchase and activate the LiveText add-on, Field Experience Module (FEM), PRIOR to your first day of field experience/clinical teaching. Failure to purchase and activate the account and/or submit the required assignment(s) within the FEM system may result in course failure. FEM must be purchased from www.livetext.com for a fee of $18.00.

LiveText Statement:

This course uses the LiveText data management system to collect critical assessments for students who are Perkins College of Education majors (undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral) or majors in other colleges seeking educator certification through the Perkins College of Education. Students who do not have an existing LiveText account will receive an access code via the SFA email system within the first week of class. You will be required to register your LiveText account, and you will be notified how to do this via email. If you forward your SFA e-mail to another account and do not receive an e-mail concerning LiveText registration, please be sure to check your junk mail folder and your spam filter for these e-mails.
If you have questions about obtaining or registering your LiveText account, call ext. 1267 or e-mail SFALiveText@sfasu.edu. Once LiveText is activated, if you have technical questions, call ext. 7050 or e-mail livetext@sfasu.edu. Failure to activate the account and/or submit the required assignment(s) within the LiveText system may result in course failure.

(With the new roll out of mySFA and the email process, titan mail is changing to ____@jacks.sfasu.edu.)

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: Found at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies

Class Attendance and Excused Absence: Policy 6.7

Regular, punctual attendance, documented participation, and, if indicated in the syllabus, submission of completed assignments are expected at all classes, laboratories, and other activities for which the student is registered. Based on university policy, failure of students to adhere to these requirements shall influence the course grade, financial assistance, and/or enrollment status. The instructor shall maintain an accurate record of each student’s attendance and participation as well as note this information in required reports, including the first 12 day attendance report and in determining final grades. Students may be excused from attendance for reasons such as health, family emergencies, or student participation in approved university-sponsored events. However,
students are responsible for notifying their instructors in advance, when possible, for excusable absences.

**Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: Policy 6.1 and 6.6**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/)

**Student Academic Dishonesty: Policy 4.1**

Abiding by university policy on academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:
- using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any class assignment or exam;
- falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assignment; and/or;
- helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism.

Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were one’s own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:
- submitting an assignment as one's own work when it is at least partly the work of another person;
- submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source; and/or,
- incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper or presentation without giving the author credit.

**Penalties for Academic Dishonesty**

Penalties may include, but are not limited to reprimand, no credit for the assignment or exam, re-submission of the work, make-up exam, failure of the course, or expulsion from the university

**Student Appeals**
A student who wishes to appeal decisions related to academic dishonesty should follow procedures outlined in Academic Appeals by Students (6.3).

**Withheld Grades: Policy 5.5**

At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic unit head, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F, except as allowed through policy [i.e., Active Military Service (6.14)]. If students register for the same course in future semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Student Code of Conduct: Policy 10.4**

Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare: Early Alert Program at SFA. Information regarding the iCare program is found at [https://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp](https://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp) or call the office at 936-468-2703.

**Additional Information:**

To complete Certification/Licensing Requirements in Texas related to public education and other professional settings, you will be required to:

1. Undergo criminal background checks for field or clinical experiences on public school campuses; the public school campuses are responsible for the criminal background check; YOU are responsible for completing the information form requesting the criminal background check. If you have a history of criminal activity, you may not be allowed to complete field or clinical experiences on public school campuses. At that point, you may want to reconsider your major while at SFASU.

2. Provide one of the following primary ID documents: passport, drivers license, state or providence ID cards, a national ID card, or military ID card to take the TExES exams (additional information available at
YOU must provide legal documentation to be allowed to take these mandated examinations that are related to certification/licensing requirements in Texas. If you do not have legal documentation, you may want to reconsider your major while at SFASU.

3. Successfully complete state mandated a fingerprint background check. If you have a history of criminal activity, you may want to reconsider your major while at SFASU.

For further information concerning this matter, contact Katie Snyder 936-468-1740 or snyderke1@sfasu.edu.

IX. Other Relevant Course Information:

Classroom Etiquette

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 should first ask the instructor for permission to join class. If the warm-up is missed, the student may stay and observe the rest of the class.
2. Please no cell phones in the dance studio while class is in session. Cell phones can be very distracting and annoying.
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. Please pick up after yourself and throw away any trash you might bring into the dance space. ABSOLUTELY NO GUM!
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.