Instructor: Sarah Sanchez  
Office: A-102  
Office Phone: (936) 468-8493  
Course Time & Location: MWF 9-9:50am;HPE 201  
Office Hours: TR 11-1pm  
Department Phone: (936) 468-3503  
Credits: 2  
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. This class has a $10.00 course fee.

**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. The student will be able to 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 articulate & demonstrate the fundamentals of proper Modern dance terminology, concepts and movement styles.
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 the art of dance.

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’s body, fundamentals, vocabulary, and principles of Modern dance such as weight shift, overcurve, undercurve, contraction, release, and body connectivity floor patterns 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 either the Repertory Dance Company Concert on Feb 14th at 7pm, 15th at 7pm, 16th at 3pm OR Danceworks Concert on April 11th, 12th and 13th at 7pm. *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. All students taking a dance technique class are required to perform in the Informal Dance Concert at the end of the semester showing their classmates a routine they have mastered. Failure to attend will drastically affect the student’s participation grade.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Percentages:</th>
<th>Grading Scale:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation: 25%</td>
<td>100-90 = A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critique Paper: 10%</td>
<td>89-80 = B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skills Tests: 30%</td>
<td>79-70 = C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Skills Test: 15%</td>
<td>69-60 = D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final: 20%</td>
<td>59 or lower = F</td>
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Daily Participation Grading:
For each class, the student has the opportunity to earn points by being on time, wearing the proper attire, showing a positive attitude, and giving
100% effort. Students will lose points for being late, or leaving early, now wearing proper dance attire, slacking off, having a bad attitude, or being rude or disrespectful. As stated before, a student who observes class will only earn partial points. No points can be earned if the student is absent. Students have the opportunity to earn 10 points to their final grade by writing a 2-page paper over a Modern dance choreographer, and creating a 4-minute power point presentation to the class. Extra Credit presentation day will be Wednesday May 8th. Papers and powerpoints will be submitted by 8am through D2L dropbox on May 8th.

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, energy, musicality, and memory. The Modern Dance Jury will be included as a skills test. If a skills test is missed, the student CANNOT make it up!

Critique Paper:
Students are required to attend one live performance presented by the Dance program. Two opportunities are provided in the 2019 Spring semester. Students will write a 2 page paper analyzing one-three pieces of work. Paper will be submitted through D2L by May 13th at midnight. More details will be given closer to the show dates. Show dates are as follows: “Everything & Nothing….” Repertory Dance Company Concert on February 14th & 15th at 7pm and 16th at 3pm located at Cole Concert Hall; Danceworks Concert on April 11th, 12th and 13th at 7pm located in HPE Dance Studio 201.

Midterm Skills Test:
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. A rubric will be provided. The midterm will be videotaped.

Final:
Attendance and participation in the Informal Performance on May 8th 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.

V. Tentative Course Calendar:
Week 1
1/23 Introduction/Syllabus
1/25 Alignment lecture/Learn warm up, plies & bounces

**Week 2**

1/28 Lecture: Contraction & Release/Review warm up, plies & bounces/ Learn TBCs combination
1/30 Lecture: Foot articulation/Review TBCs/Learn tendu & degage, prances, Begin combo A
2/1 Lecture: Carriage & Initiation with Core and Scapula/ Review all material, Finish Combo A

**Week 3**

2/4 Review material, Solidify Combo A
2/6 Review all material for Skills Test 1
2/8 Skills Test 1

**Week 4**

2/11 Skills Test 1 Evaluations
2/13 Lecture: Weight, Stability, Mobility/Learn new warm up, plies & bounces
2/15 Lecture: Tension/Review warm up, plies & bounces/ Learn tendu degage & fondu/Learn leg swings
2/14, 2/15, 2/16 CRITIQUE PAPER OPPORTUNITY #1: Repertory Dance Company Concert

**Week 5**

2/18 Review tendu, degages, fondu, leg swings/ Learn Across the floor leg swings
2/20 Lecture: Overcurves & Undercurves/Review Material/Learn Overcurve & Undercurve Across the floor/Learn Combo B
2/22 Lecture: Breath/Review Overcurve & Undercurve/Review Center & Across the floor/Finish Combo B for Skills Test 2

**Week 6**

2/25 Review for Skills Test 2
2/27 Skills Test 2
3/1 Skills Test Evaluations

**Week 7**

3/4 Lecture: Laban Effort Qualities/Review Combo A
3/6 Combine Combo A & B for Midterm Skills Test
3/8 No class- American College Dance Association Festival-Assignment on D2L titled “March 8th Assignment”

**Week 8**

3/11 No class- American College Dance Association Festival
3/13 Review Combo A & B for Midterm Skills Test-Assignment on D2L titled “March 11th Assignment”
3/15 Midterm Skills Test
Week 9
3/18-3/22 No Classes- Spring Break

Week 10
3/25 Midterm Evaluations/Grade & Attendance Checks
3/27 Lecture: Completion & Extension/Learn new warm up, Plies & bounces, TBCs
3/29 Review/ Learn Tendu, degage, fondu, leg swing, begin Combo C

Week 11
4/1 Lecture: Fluidity/ Review/ Learn turns sequence, finish Combo C
4/3 Lecture: Groundedness/Relationship to floor/Review material/Learn Across the floor Floorwork sequence
4/5 Review all material for Skills Test 3

Week 12
4/8 Skills Test 3
4/10 Skills Test Evaluation
4/12 Begin Combo 1 Jury Sequence/Begin Choreography for Informal Concert
4/11, 4/12, 4/13 CRITIQUE PAPER OPPORTUNITY #2: Attend Danceworks Concert

Week 13
4/15 Review Combo 1/Teach Combo 2 Jury Sequence/ Continue Choreography for Informal Concert
4/17 Review Combos 1 & 2/Teach Combo 3/Finish Choreography
4/19 No class- Easter Break

Week 14
4/22 Review Combos 1,2,3/Teach Combo 4/ Review Choreography
4/24 Review Combos 1,2,3,4/Solidify Choreography
4/26 Run through all Combos/Run though Choreography

Week 15
4/29 Run through Jury/Choreography changes/Grade & Attendance Checks
5/1 Run through Jury and Informal
5/3 “Dress Rehearsal” For Juries & Informal

Week 16
5/6 Juries-Same classroom time and classroom-Only black on black dance attire.
5/8 Extra credit presentation day /Extra Credit paper due by 8am
INFORMAL CONCERT 4-6pm
All Critique papers due by midnight
5/10- No class

*Tentative Schedule. All dates are subject to change
VI. Required Reading:
No textbook is required. All material will be available via D2L or hardcopy.
Recommended Reading:
Introduction to Modern Dance Techniques by Joshua Legg

Required Attire:
Women: Leotards in any color or pattern with biker compression shorts or leggings in any color or pattern.
Men: Leotards or form-fitting athletic compression shirts in any color or pattern with leggings or compression shorts in any color or pattern. Athletic shorts may be worn over leggings. All dancers: Hair must be secured in a ponytail, braid, or bun. Bangs longer than eyelevel must be pinned back. No shoes are necessary for this class; all movement will be done barefoot. Layers of clothing may be worn for the warm up and plie portion of class; once plies are done, dancers must remove layers. Failure to adhere to dress code will be deducted from the day’s participation grade.

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 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.

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, 936-468-3004/468-1004 (TDD) 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/disability services/.

Academic Integrity:
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

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;
- 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;
- incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper or presentation without giving the author credit.
Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/ploicies/academic_integrity.asp.

**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 Semester 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. 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 policy 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 http://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp or call the office at 936-468-2703.