Stephen F. Austin State University
School of Theatre and Dance, Dance Program

CRN 18895, DANC 1210 Samuelson, Heather

Fall 2023

Instructor: Heather Samuelson Course Time and Location: MW 10-10:50
Office: GFA 304 Office Hours: MTW 8-9am, Th 8-10am
Office Phone: 936 468-1614 Credits: 2
Department Phone: 936 468-4003 Email: Samuelsoh@sfasu.edu

Prerequisites:

There is no prerequisite for this class.

I. Course Description:

Analysis, demonstration, and practice of beginning techniques of Tap dance.

II. Intended Learning Outcomes/Goals/Objectives:

These goals support and reflect the Dance Program’s Vision, Mission, and Core Values in that they equip those candidates seeking “to achieve professional excellence” with the knowledge, skills, and disposition 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. 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 publicity. (Active)

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. Recognize and exhibit dance class etiquette such as spatial awareness, active listening, personal responsibility, commitment to the practice and to learn the basic fundamentals of Tap dance technique and history while gaining respect for the larger community of dance (PLO 1).
2. Exhibit understanding of biomechanics related to Tap dance technique such as alignment, coordination, femoral rotation, flexibility, and strength (PLO 1, 3).
3. Demonstrate understanding of Tap terminology and the associated movements (PLO 1).
4. Effectively apply artistic choices such as musicality, focus, and use of energy to performed movement (PLO 5).
5. Analyze personal progress within the legacy of Tap.

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

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

The student will be required to participate in a complete Tap Warm-up consisting of calisthenics and strengthening exercises. Upon learning Tap dance technique, the student will be asked to present learned material in the center of the floor and movement that travels across the floor. The student will be given activities that include partner work to better understand the dancer body, phrases of movement in which the student will learn rhythmic movement through repetition, and activities that incorporate the knowledge of meter and time for musicality purposes. The student will, on occasion, be asked to research historical tap information and be given handouts that describe in depth the history of any technique presented in class, so that they may have a better understanding of the underlying technique and how it relates to the dancer body. The student is not required, but encouraged, to use technology in the attempt to learn Tap dance.
technique but to use technology to gain a better understanding and appreciation toward Tap as an art form.

Injury/Accident Statement:

This course contains physical activity which may consist of but not limited to running, jumping, lifting, throwing, leaping, striking, etc. Participation in these activities comes with inherent risks of injury. Possible injuries include, but are not limited to heat stroke, strains, sprains, scrapes, bruises, and fractures. By registering and participating in this course, students are aware of the possible injuries that may occur and acknowledge that they participate at their own risk. The university is not responsible for any medical costs associated with any injury students may sustain; therefore, students are strongly recommended to procure personal health and accident insurance to cover any medical costs. Students are encouraged to notify the instructor of any relevant prior medical history regarding injuries, surgeries, medications, or other considerations which may affect or impair participation in this course. If necessary, students will provide, upon request, a physician’s statement clearing them to participate in this course.

Procedures to be Followed for Injury or Accident of a SFA Student:

1. Administer appropriate first aid.
2. For a major medical emergency, a phone call should be placed to the University Police Department (UPD) (911). UPD will report to the scene of a medical emergency, assist with first aid, and contact an ambulance service.
3. Students may choose to report directly to the Student Health Services for minor first aid needs or routine medical services.
4. If assistance is needed in transporting the injured student, call the UPD non-emergency phone number at 936-468-2608.
5. The instructor should complete an accident report which can be obtained from the department office.

IV. Evaluation and Assessments (Grading):

Participation:

Active and committed participation throughout each class is expected. **Students are expected to practice combinations between class sessions. This equates to 2 hours per week outside of class per credit hour.** Each student’s active participation, including both effort and improvement will be assessed based on their individual levels. Dancers with less experience will not be compared with those who have more experience.

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, injury or University sponsored events may result in needing to drop the course entirely.** Daily participation means committing to the class and is worth a considerable amount of the student’s final grade.

### Grading Percentages:  
**Grading Scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>100-90 = A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>89-80 = B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skills Tests</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>79-70 = C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>69-60 = D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>59 or lower = F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Daily Participation Grading:

For each class, the student has the opportunity to earn a total of 10 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. **Points cannot be earned if the student is absent.**

### 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 will be electronically recorded and the students will perform in small groups. The students will be graded on factors that include alignment, technique, stability, mobility, musicality, memory, coordination, and style. If a skills test is missed, the student CANNOT make it up!

### Midterm and Final Exam:

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. The final exam will be composed of all elements that have been learned during the semester. These two exams will be performed in small groups and will be electronically recorded. If the midterm or final is missed the student CANNOT make it up!
**Concert:** Attend an approved Professional Dance Concert and write a 400-word critique. Critiques are due one week after you see the performance. Be sure to include a picture of the program and ticket stub within the file you submit on D2L. **Rubric will be given online.** **Critiques will be submitted through D2L in either Word or PDF format ONLY.**

**Make-Up Policy:**

Written assignments will be accepted late, however, 1 letter grade will be deducted for each day the assignment is late. If the student is in good standing with the course, the instructor may allow absences to be made up by other assignments, or attending another technique class of the same level or higher that the student is NOT currently enrolled in with the instructor’s permission. Proof of the make-up class will be submitted within 2 days of taking the approved class.

**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: Assuming that the student currently holds an “A” in the course, 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 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 number of absences accrued, but please do this at the end of class.
V. Tentative Course Calendar:

**Week 1-2**

8/28  Introduction to course. Syllabus.

- First assignment: Define Tap Dance.

8/30  Tap Definition Due

8/30-9/6 Begin learning a traditional tap warm-up and the basic fundamental steps of tap. Work on coordination, clarity, rhythm and speed. Learn the Shim Sham Shimmy.

**Week 3-4**

9/11-13 Continue working the basic fundamental steps of tap and the Shim Sham Shimmy.

9/18  Review for skills test

9/20  Skills Test over the Shim Sham Shimmy.

9/20  Research assignment on the “Class Act” tap style.
Week 5-6

9/25-10/4  Begin working traveling footwork across the floor; focusing on different facings, accents, and slides.

9/27    Research assignment over “Class Act” tap is due.

Week 7-8

10/9-11    Review for skills test.

10/16    Traveling footwork midterm.

10/18    Begin working different kinds of turns and some more advanced turns (ex: 5 point turn) and time steps: time steps that travel and time steps that rotate.

Week 9

10/23    Continue working on turns, traveling turns, and advanced turns and time steps: time steps that travel and time steps that rotate.

10/25    Receive instruction on group project and research assignment over “Flash Act” tap.

Week 10

10/30-11/1    Continue working on group assignment and research project.

Week 11-12

11/6    Present Group Assignment and turn in research project over “Flash Act” tap.

11/6-13    Begin learning the final combo, 42nd Street, for exam purposes.

11/9-11    DANCEWORKS CONCERT

Week 13

11/13    Work on the final combo for exam purposes.

11/15    No class. Dance Workshop in big gym.

11/18-26    THANKSGIVING BREAK!!!!!!!

Week 14

11/27-30    Continue working on final combo and dance technique juries.
11/29 Present final combo in class for a grade.
11/29 Present combination in the Informal Concert.
11/30 Auditions for Spring Danceworks 4pm

Week 15
12/4-8 Dead Week
12/8 Big Dip Ring Ceremony

Week 16
12/11-15 Finals Week
12/16 Commencement

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE CAN BE FOUND AT: https://www.sfasu.edu/registrar/final-exams-grades/final-exam-schedule

**Tentative Danceworks Schedule (May be subject to change): November 6-11, 2023**

11/6 4pm Light Tech. **Dances have a limit of 4-5 light cues and 20 minutes to set lights.**
11/7 Dry Tech for Crew: call 5:30pm, crew sweep 5:45pm, Run show 7:30pm, crew mops floor after run.
11/8 Dress Rehearsal: Dancer call 5:30pm, warm up 5:45-6:45pm, Show 7:30pm.
11/9 Opening night: Crew call 4:30pm, Dancer call 5:30pm, warm up 5:45-6:45pm, show 7:30pm. Crew mop floor after concert.
11/10 Dancer call 5:30pm, warm up 5:45-6:45pm, show 7:30pm.
11/11 Closing Show: Call 12pm, warm up 12:15-1:15pm, show 2pm

**STRIKE**

**Classroom Etiquette**

1. Be ON TIME to class. 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. NO TEXTING & Silence all cell phones.
3. Always come prepared to work both mentally and physically.
4. Do not give corrections to other students unless they ask for your help or if you are asked to provide observations by the instructor.
5. Do not speak while instruction or correction by the instructor is occurring.
6. 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.

Dance Studio Rules

1. No street shoes. All street shoes must be removed before walking on the dance floor.
2. No gum chewing, eating or drinking. Water with secured lid is permitted. Please pick up after yourself and throw away any trash you might bring into the dance space.
3. No wet umbrellas, etc. Please shake off & store any wet items before entering the studio.
4. All cell phones must be silenced in the dance studio.

VI. Recommended Reading:

- Beginning Tap Dance (Lewis, Lisa) Human Kinetics, 2013
  ISBN-10: 1-4504-1198-3 (print)

Required Attire:

Women: Black Leotard for skills tests, colored leotards and jazz pants/leggings for everyday wear. Men: White T-Shirt for skills tests, regular t-shirts and jazz pants for everyday wear.

No baggy clothing! Lines need to be seen, tight, form-fitting clothing is necessary!

Hair should be pulled up and away from the face. This is best for the dancer’s safety and it also helps in the mastery of dance technique. Please do not wear dangling jewelry and there should be absolutely NO GUM IN CLASS!

VII. Course Evaluations:

Near the conclusion of each semester, students will electronically evaluate courses taken within the MECFA, through MySFA. 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 MECFA faculty is committed to excellence in teaching and continued improvement. Therefore, your response is critical!”

VIII. Student Ethics and Other Policy Information: Found at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/, https://www.sfasu.edu/docs/policies/10.4.pdf (Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity)

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. Whether absences are excused or unexcused, a student is still responsible for all course content and assignments. Students with accepted excuses may be permitted to make up work for up to three weeks of absences during a semester or one week of a summer term, depending on the nature of the missed work. Make-up work must be completed as soon as possible after returning from an absence.

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/

Student Academic Dishonesty: Policy 4.1

Abiding by university policy on academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members must promote the components of academic integrity in their instruction, and course syllabi are required to provide information about penalties for cheating and plagiarism, as well as the appeal process.

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 by the deadline set by the instructor of record, not to exceed 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., Military Service Activation (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.

If a student has been found guilty of academic dishonesty, a grade of “WP” or “WH” may be changed to “WF” at the discretion of the faculty member. In the case of a grade change to “WF”, the course will not count towards the six course drop limit since the student is incurring an academic penalty.

Student Code of Conduct: Policy 10.4
Interference or disruption of students, faculty, administration, staff, the educational mission, or routine operations of the university is prohibited. Such activity includes, but is not limited to, behavior in a classroom or instructional program that interferes with the instructor or presenter’s ability to conduct the class or program, or the ability of others to profit from the class or program. To remain in the vicinity of activity that is disrupting normal university functions when requested to leave by a university official is prohibited. Bystanders, if their presence incites or adds to the disruption, as well as more active participants in the disruptive activity, may be in violation of this policy as well. Engaging in physical violence of any nature against any person. This includes
fighting; assaulting; battering; using a knife, gun, or other weapon; or acting in a manner that threatens or endangers the physical health or safety of any person or causes a reasonable apprehension of such harm.

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 Early Alert Program at SFA.

SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
SFASU Counseling Services
www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices
3rd Floor Rusk Building
936-468-2401

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
Human Services Room 202
936-468-1041

Crisis Resources:
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

Additional Information:

Code of Ethics for the Texas Educator:

The Texas educator shall comply with standard practices and ethical conduct toward students, professional colleagues, school officials, parents, and members of the community and shall safeguard academic freedom. The Texas educator, in maintaining the dignity of the profession, shall respect and obey the law, demonstrate personal integrity, and exemplify honesty and good moral character. The Texas educator, in exemplifying ethical relations with colleagues, shall extend just and equitable treatment to all members of the profession. The Texas educator, in accepting a position of public trust, shall measure success by the progress of each student toward realization of his or her potential as an effective citizen. The Texas educator, in fulfilling
responsibilities in the community, shall cooperate with parents and others to improve the public schools of the community. This chapter shall apply to educators and candidates for certification.


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

1. Candidates must undergo a criminal history background check prior to clinical teaching and prior to employment as an educator. The public school campuses are responsible for completing the criminal background check. A person who is enrolled or planning to enroll in a State Board for Educator Certification-approved educator preparation program or planning to take a certification examination may request a preliminary criminal history evaluation letter regarding the person's potential ineligibility for certification due to a conviction or deferred adjudication for a felony or misdemeanor offense.

A Preliminary Criminal History Evaluation is a non-mandatory, non-binding evaluation of an individual’s self-reported criminal history. In addition, the agency obtains your name-based Texas criminal history information. The service is provided to the requestor for a non-refundable fee. The requestor will receive an evaluation letter by email from agency staff advising of potential ineligibility for educator certification. You are eligible to request a Preliminary Criminal History Evaluation if:

- You enrolled or planning to enroll in an educator preparation program or
- You are planning to take a certification exam for initial educator certification, and
- You have reason to believe that you may be ineligible for educator certification due to a conviction or deferred adjudication for a felony or misdemeanor offense.

You are not eligible for a preliminary evaluation of your criminal history if you do not have a conviction or deferred adjudication for a felony or misdemeanor offense.

In addition, you must complete the fingerprinting process when you apply for certification. Participation in the evaluation does not preclude you from submitting to a national criminal history review at the time you apply for your educator certification. Your criminal history will be reviewed and you may be subject to an investigation based on that criminal history, including any information you failed to submit for evaluation. Additional information can be found at https://tea.texas.gov/Texas_Educators/Investigations/Preliminary_Criminal_History_Evaluation-FAQs/.

2. Provide one of the following primary ID documents: passport, driver’s license, state or providence ID cards, a national ID card, or military ID card to take the TExES exams (additional information available at http://www.tx.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN_Tests.html. 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.
IX. Other Relevant Course Information:

Dance Program Cleaning List for the Studio, Alcove, and Conditioning Room

ALL CLEANING SUPPLIES ARE LOCATED IN THE DANCE STUDIO SOUND CLOSET WHERE THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE AT ALL TIMES. IF SUPPLIES ARE LOW OR EMPTY, PLEASE INFORM THE FRONT OFFICE; THIS INCLUDES THE HAND SANITIZER STATIONS.

Cleaning protocols should be performed before/after each class and rehearsal.

1. To create a clean flow of traffic, please enter the studio through the main door and exit the studio through the back door; located at the back of the studio near the chalk board.

2. Do not loiter in the hallways, alcove, dance studio, or faculty offices. If you do not need to be in the building, please return to your dorm/apartment or enjoy the beautiful outdoor spaces on campus. If you have a half hour break, you will need to leave the building and then return 5 minutes before class or rehearsal.

3. Disinfecting wipes will be used to clean the ballet barres. 2-4 dancers, wearing gloves, need to clean the barres before/after each class and rehearsal regardless if they were used or not.

4. Disinfecting spray or wipes will be used to clean ALL door handles, inside and out, and light switches. 2 dancers, wearing gloves, are needed.

5. Locker handles and the interior of the lockers MUST be sprayed with disinfectant spray after every use.

6. 2 dancers will sweep the dance studio floor using the push brooms in the sound closet. The debris will be thrown away in the dance studio trash can NOT the trash can in the sound closet.

7. All hard surfaces in the sound closet are to be wiped down with disinfectant wipes and the cubby holes are to be sprayed with the disinfectant spray. 2-4 dancers, wearing gloves, will clean this space.
8. The sound box will need to be wiped down with a disinfectant wipe, inside and out. The sound box is not available to students after hours. You must provide your own speaker for your rehearsals.

9. Equipment in the conditioning room is only to be wiped down with the vinegar solution located in the spray bottle on the sink. Any other chemicals can damage the equipment.

10. The last class or rehearsal in the space is responsible for throwing away the trash. 1-2 dancers are need to remove the trash from the studio/alcove/conditioning room and throw it away in the dumpster. The dumpster is located outside of the HPE in the front corner of the faculty parking lot.