

FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE AT JACKSONVILLE

COLLEGE CREDIT COURSE OUTLINE

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| COURSE NUMBER: | DAA 1610 |
| COURSE TITLE: | Dance Composition I and Improvisation |
| PREREQUISITES: | None |
| COREQUISITES: | None |
| CREDIT HOURS: | 3 |
| CONTACT HOURS: | 3 |
| CONTACT HOURS BREAKDOWN: | |
| Lecture/ discussion: | 3 |
| Laboratory: | |
| Other: | |
| FACULTY WORKLOAD POINTS: | 3 |
| STANDARDIZED CLASS SIZE ALLOCATION: | 20 |
| COURSE DESCRIPTION: | |
| <p>An introductory study into the fundamentals of dance choreography. Included in the course is the study of improvisation, an important tool in the craft of creating dances.</p> | |
| SUGGESTED TEXT: | HANDOUTS |
| IMPLEMENTATION DATE: | Fall Term, 2001 |
| REVIEW OR MODIFICATION DATE: | Fall Term, 2002 (20031) |

| COURSE TOPICS | CONTACT HOURS <u>PER TOPIC</u> |
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| <p>I. Orientation</p> <p>A. Syllabus and course requirements</p> <p>B. Class dress code/ dance etiquette</p> <p>C. Lecture/ Discussion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. History of modern dance choreographers 2. Elements of improvisation and its use in craft of dance composition | 5 |
| <p>II. Exercises for exploring Dance Composition and Improvisation</p> <p>A. Elements of Improvisation and Composition, exercises include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Icebreakers, weight sharing, creativity, structured/objectives, leading and following, etc. 2. Space, time, flow, weight, levels, phrases, etc. <p>B. Solo, duet, or group work</p> <p>C. Journal/ documentation of creative insights and Choreographic material</p> <p>D. Performance Showings/ audition to showcase work</p> | 15 |
| <p>III. Historical research of modern dance choreographers and analysis of style, technique, and choreographic approach, projects, video detailed observation and critique. Journal work of creative process, and discussion.</p> <p>A. Students will be given a series of composition exercises to explore compositional structure. These exercises are designed to sharpen their critical facilities and perceptions. Numerous assignments will be given to students to study design forms (ABA, Fugue, Sonata, Canon, Counterpoint, Retrograde), focus, symmetry, etc.</p> <p>B. Demonstrations will be recorded on video in order for students to evaluate their choreographic work as well as enable the instructor to make more detailed observations and to give more articulate feedback.</p> <p>C. Students will be required to keep a journal notating all class activities, movement studies, critiques, observations, and assignments. It will help them identify problems, create solutions, fuel their creative imaginations, and provide material from which to create dances.</p> <p>D. Students will be required to view dance choreographers and write critical evaluation of dance style, theme, and explain the elements of choreography observed.</p> <p>E. Students will be required to complete some the following: improvisation study, personal movement style study, trio or group study, opposite style dance, music/text study, etc.</p> | 25 |

STUDENT COMPETENCIES AND OUTCOMES:

1. Students will learn the basic tools of the choreographic craft
2. Students will develop the ability to discuss and evaluate how different movement choices affect choreographic intent
3. Students will learn how to create new movement vocabulary through improvisation
4. Students will experiment, analyze, and evaluate movement for its theme, content, and choreographic approach
5. Students will develop the ability to find creative solutions to challenges
6. Students will practice the exercise of forgoing easy choices and reaching for more complex solutions
7. Students will develop greater appreciation and understanding of the creative process in the art of dance and life
8. Students will learn trust, communication, and cooperation by working with classmates