Fundamentals of Modern Dance
Tu, Th 9:30 – 10:45am
PAC 1610 (Dance Theater)

Class Description
Introduction to modern dance with emphasis on the development of fundamental movement skills.

Course Overview
The aim of this course is to provide an opportunity for students to experience the fundamentals of contemporary modern dance practices and principles. The course will primarily draw from the physical, historical and cultural development of modern dance as it is currently practiced in the United States, including the influences of: Release Movement Skills, Horton Technique, African Traditional Dances of the Diaspora, Social Funk Styles and Dunham Technique. Students will also be provided with guided opportunities to explore performance and choreographic experiences that build skills in improvisation and collaboration.

Student Learning Goals: Based on individual student goals determined by self and instructor-based assessment, Participants in this course will learn to:
- Maintain dynamic alignment while standing and in motion
- Increase and apply strength, stamina, flexibility and range of joint motion
- Grasp and retain the sequence of exercises (warm-up) and combinations (choreography)
- Identify and describe movement using relevant vocabulary, descriptive language and anatomical terminology
- Witness and critique dance performance.
- Explore and perform diverse movement aesthetic.
- Engage discomfort with a sense of inquiry and personal responsibility.

Course Expectations and Rubric
40% Attendance and Participation

Attendance and Participation
Participation Grades Distributed: 9/24, 10/22, 11/19, 12/16

Dance is a physical practice that requires an engaged mind and active physical participation for progress, therefore your consistent attendance for ALL of class is critical to your success. If you are excessively absent (more than 3 classes) your grade will begin to reflect this in your lack of participation. You may choose to make up no more than three absences to re-gain participation points.

Active participation in this course is defined as:
1. Being present in mind, body and spirit for every class (see Class Etiquette and Dress Code below)
2. Being attentive to the instructor throughout demonstrations and corrections
3. Applying and retaining feedback given to yourself and to others
4. Thoughtful, well-crafted and timely written assignments
5. Enthusiastic contribution to an open, safe and joyous environment

Class Etiquette
Arrive on time, in proper dress and remove shoes before entering the studio.
Cell phones must be on SILENT and out of sight.
No food, drink, gum. Water in re-closable bottles is allowed and encouraged.
Treat yourself, other students, the instructor and the space with respect.
If you are unable to dance or have any injuries, please inform the instructor before class begins.
Email etiquette includes: listing the class name or number in the subject line, addressing the instructor by name and also signing your name. Please allow 24 hours for a response to any assignment questions.

Dress Code
What to wear: Bare feet, Tank tops, T-shirts, Well secured Hair, Leotards, Yoga pants, leggings, tights, Sweat pants, Long shorts
What not to wear: Shoes, Jeans, Hats, Jewelry, Hair hanging in face, Socks

Tardy Policy: If you are late to class by 10 minutes or more you will not be allowed to physically participate in the class. This is for your own personal safety as the first 15 minutes is crucial to preparing your body to dance without injury for the rest of the class. You will be permitted to observe the class for partial participation credit for the day.

Injury: If you are injured during class, stop dancing immediately and bring it to the attention of the instructor. If you have an injury or other medical reason that prevents you from physically participating in class, you may observe class and complete an in-class observation assignment. Only two observations per semester will be allowed. Please submit observation notes at the end of class for full participation credit. See instructor if you’ve sustained a long-term injury, as an incomplete or withdrawal may be needed.

Tactile Work: This class may involve tactile hands on work between instructor and/or student and student to student as a part of the learning process. If you are not comfortable with this type of “hands on” training, please speak with your instructor privately.

Video: Students will be filmed for all assessments and occasionally for participation grading. Video will be uploaded to a private class Youtube account.

30% Self-Evaluation/Movement Assessment
Self-Evaluation (150 Points) DUE: October 3, November 7, December 12
Self-Evaluation guidelines will be available on Canvas within the first two weeks of class. These evaluations are designed to help you assess your own growth and development throughout the semester. You are expected to complete the form with honesty and thoughtfulness.

Mid-Term Movement Assessment (150 Points) October 24
The mid-term assessment will consist of warm-up material and set-movement phrases designed to assess your progress in the course objectives. A detailed rubric will be provided two weeks prior to the assessment.

20% Final Project Performances December 10, December 12
The final project will consist of set-movement phrases designed to assess your completion of the course objectives. Students will also be required to incorporate class material into small group pieces, which will be created and performed during class.

10% Performance Critique DUE: No later than December 5
You are required to attend one live dance performance, either at CSPAC*, The Kennedy Center, Dance Place, or the American Dance Institute during the semester and submit a critical response paper describing what you saw and your personal response to it. A detailed rubric will available on Canvas within the first two weeks of class. Critiques are due within TWO WEEKS FOLLOWING THE PERFORMANCE, in class.
DANC 148 Course Syllabus

School of Theatre, Dance and Performance Studies, UMD

Fall 2013

*CSPAC Student Tickets: Limited free tickets are available to UMD students starting the Monday of the performance week at 11:00am at CSPAC box office. $10.00 discount tickets are available with student ID. http://claricesmithcenter.umd.edu/

Grading

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<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40% Attendance and Active participation</td>
<td>400</td>
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<tr>
<td>30% Self-Evaluation/Movement Assessment</td>
<td>300</td>
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<td>20% Final Project</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>10% Performance Critique</td>
<td>100</td>
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A+  970 - 1000
A   960 - 930
A-  900 - 920
B+  870 - 890
B   830 - 860
B-  800 - 820
C+  770 - 790
C   730 - 760
C-  700 - 720
D+  670 - 690
D   630 - 660
D-  600 - 620
F   0 - 590

A+, A, A- denotes excellent mastery of the subject and outstanding scholarship.
B+, B, B- denotes good mastery of the subject and good scholarship.
C+, C, C- denotes acceptable mastery of the subject and usual achievement expected.
D+, D, D- denotes borderline understanding of the subject, marginal performance, and does not represent satisfactory progress toward a degree.
F denotes failure to understand the subject and unsatisfactory performance.

Students are required to earn a grade of at least C-in their major and have a minimum 2.0 Cumulative GPA in their major in order to graduate.

http://www.testudo.umd.edu/plusminusimplementation.html

LOGGING INTO Canvas:
2. Click on Login on the far left side of the page
3. Type in your ID in the box labeled Username
4. Enter your Directory password in the Password box
5. In the top of the page, under the heading “Courses & Groups,” there should be a link for this course. Click on that link
6. Important announcements will appear on Canvas, so be sure to check it daily.

Class Calendar

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<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>9/3 First Day of Class</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9/24 Participation Grade Distributed</td>
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<tr>
<td>October *</td>
<td>10/3 Self-Evaluation Due</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10/22 Participation Grade Distributed</td>
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<td>10/24 Midterm</td>
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<td>November</td>
<td>11/7 Self-Evaluation Due</td>
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<td>11/19 Participation grade Distributed</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11/28 Thanksgiving - NO Class</td>
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<td>December</td>
<td>12/5 Last Day to submit Performance Critique</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12/12 Last Day of Class Group Project Performances</td>
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<td>12/16 Participation Grade Distributed</td>
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*1-2 Guest Teachers throughout October

Self-Evaluation Due

Performance Venues:

Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center
http://www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu/2010/c/performances/2012-2013season
DANC 148 Course Syllabus

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
http://www.kennedy-center.org/calendar/?fuseaction=searchGenre&genre=DAN

Dance Place
http://www.danceplace.org/performancesMain.aspx

American Dance Institute
http://www.americandance.org/

A note about Academic Integrity: The University has a Code of Academic Integrity, available on the web at www.inform.umd.edu/Campus Into/Departments/jpo/code_acinteg.html. We assume that students are familiar with the principles of the Code, which prohibits cheating on exams, plagiarizing papers, submitting the same paper for credit in two courses without authorization, buying papers, submitting fraudulent documents, and forging signatures. Students who have questions or concerns about these issues should contact the instructors or view the website for additional information.

University Policies

STATEMENT ON CIVILITY: The College of Arts and Humanities is expected to be a diverse, open and tolerant arena within which all ideas, whether popular or not, may be freely discussed without rancor. The instructors of this course are committed to creating an open and accepting environment in which diversity, unique perspectives, and others’ worldviews are respected. Demeaning, intimidating or threatening behavior is unacceptable and contrary to our basic values. As citizens of the University, we take the lead in producing, and take pride in sustaining, an environment that is characterized by tolerance, respect and civility. This is the hallmark of a college that welcomes and values diverse perspectives, intellectual pluralism and the free and open exchange of ideas.

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION: The University of Maryland, College Park, affirms its commitments to a policy of eliminating discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, personal appearance, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, or on the basis of the exercise of rights secured by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. This Code is established to prevent or eradicate such discrimination in accordance with due process within the Campus community. In doing so, the Campus recognizes that it must strive actively and creatively to build a community in which opportunity is equalized. To read the entire policy, see appendix A in the undergraduate catalogue. For more information: www.president.umd.edu/policies/vi100b.html

ACCOMMODATING INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE DISABILITIES: The University is committed to making reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities that have been documented by Disability Support Services (0106 Shoemaker Building, 301-314-7682). A disability should be verified and discussed with Disability Support Services and the student should provide an “Accommodation Letter” to the professor or TA. If you wish to discuss academic accommodations for this class, please contact the professor or TA no later than the end of the schedule adjustment period. For more information: http://www.counseling.umd.edu/DSS/

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY: University of Maryland is committed to maintaining a working and learning environment in which students, faculty, and staff can develop intellectually, professionally, personally, and socially, free of intimidation, fear, coercion, and reprisal. The campus prohibits sexual harassment which is a violation of law and university policy. Individuals who engage in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action. The university has procedures in place to report sexual harassment and correct it when it occurs. Students who have questions may call the campus compliance officer (301- 405-2839), or the legal office (301-405-4945). To read the entire policy see appendix B
HONOR CODE: The university has a nationally recognized honor code, proposed and administered by the student honor council and approved by the university senate. The University of Maryland honor pledge reads: "I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this assignment/examination." Unless you are specifically advised to the contrary, the Pledge statement should be handwritten and signed on the front cover of all exams, papers, projects, or other academic assignments submitted for evaluation in this course. Students who fail to write and sign the Pledge will be asked to confer with the instructor. Please recognize that all students are subject to the requirements of the University's Code of Academic Integrity whether or not they write and sign the Honor Pledge. To read the entire policy see appendix F in the undergraduate catalog http://www.orientation.umd.edu/VirtualFolder/academicintegrity.pdf

ATTENDANCE POLICY of the School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies: Regular attendance and in-class participation are integral components of all dance and theatre classes and seminars. Although instructors are responsible for informing each class of the nature of in-class participation and the effect of absences on the evaluation of a student’s work, the School’s general attendance policy on excused absences is consistent with the University’s policy, which allows students to be excused for the following causes: 1. Illness of the student* or illness of a dependent as defined by the Board of Regents policy on family medical leave 2. Religious observance 3. Participation in University activities at the request of University authorities 4. Compelling circumstances beyond the student’s control

*In May 2011, the University Senate and President passed a new policy for granting excused absences, which can be found at http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/v100g.html. A student may provide a self-signed note when missing a single lecture, recitation, or laboratory, with the understanding that providing false information is prohibited under Code of Student Conduct. Self-signed notes are not accepted during “Major Scheduled Grading Events.” Specific questions concerning the TDPS policy on non-consecutive medical absences should be addressed with the Head of the Cluster. A student may provide a self-signed note when missing a single lecture, recitation, or laboratory per semester. Students claiming an excused absence must apply in writing and furnish documentary evidence for their assertion that the absence resulted from one of these causes. (Undergraduate Catalog, pages 36 & 37 or go to: http://www.testudo.umd.edu/soc/atedasse.html) Whenever possible, instructors will make a reasonable effort to re-schedule in-class presentations for students with an authorized excused absence. Students should check the specific requirements of their courses carefully, however, as such re-scheduling is not always possible.

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE POLICY: University of Maryland policies and procedures concerning academic assignments on dates of religious observances provides that students should not be penalized because of observances of their religious beliefs; students shall be given an opportunity, whenever feasible, to make up within a reasonable time any academic assignment that is missed because of individual participation in religious observances. Students are responsible for obtaining material missed during their absences. Furthermore, students have the responsibility to inform the instructor of any intended absences for religious observances in advance. The student should provide written notification to the professor, by hand (not through email or mailbox delivery) within the first two weeks of the semester. The notification must identify holiday(s) and date(s). http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/iii510a.html