Dance Technique

Fall Semester 2023

Tuesday/Thursday

Instructor’s Name: Jamie McCord Trial

Phone Number: 678-416-7621

Email: Jamie.trial@reinhardt.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday (by appointment only)

**Course Description:**

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| Focus on progressions and technique while honing dance performance skills and vocabulary across ballet, jazz, tap, and contemporary styles. Course concludes with a Dance Concert to represent growth that has occurred throughout the semester. |

Course Objectives:

1. To gain an understanding of proper placement and alignment while learning basic ballet terminology and executing these steps correctly.
2. To experience the repetition and conditioning of the body through the practice of technique and performance while emphasizing health and wellbeing.
3. To provide a foundation of ballet, jazz, contemporary and tap knowledge that will allow students to translate and dissect a range of individual steps and movement combinations.
4. To challenge students to give their best effort to reach their fullest potential during the course.
5. To gain an understanding of the relevance of dance to a Musical Theatre career.

During this course, skill will be evaluated to determine readiness to move into the next dance technique level. BFA MT majors must complete 8 dance courses to graduate. All students are welcome to register for dance technique class, but must defer to Professor Trial’s judgement for level placement.

**Schedule**

August 15, 17, 22, 24, 29, 31 Jazz Technique

September 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21 Ballet

Sept 26, 28, Oct 3, 5, 10, 12 Tap Technique (Classes will still begin with 20 minute technical warm up for the whole body)

October 17, 19, 24, 26, 31, Nov 2 Contemporary Technique

Nov 7, 9 Jazz

November 14, 16 Tap

November 21Final choreography workday

FINAL DUE DATE

Course Text(optional):

*Technical Manual and Dictionary of Classical Ballet (Third Revised Edition)*By: Gail Grant

Course Materials:

1. **ATTIRE** – dancers should wear dance attire that allows the instructor to view the lines of their body. If clothes too baggy or ill-fitting are worn, the instructor cannot correct placement, see bent knees, or misaligned hips, etc. All black attire is preferred every day and required when working on group choreography. Tights are preferred for ballet days, but leggings are an acceptable substitute.
2. **HAIR** – should be fully pulled back and secured away from their face so the dancer’s neckline is clearly visible and their vision is not obstructed.
3. **SHOES** – Split-sole ballet shoes (leather or canvas material) Jazz shoes (black or nude) and tap shoes (any style) are required for the course.

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| Classroom Policies:    -No food, gum, or vaping is permitted in the Studio. A bottle of water is necessary, and a towel is recommended.  -All cell phones should be kept in a bag or with the student’s belongings and placed on “silent” for the entire class. Put apple watched on do-not disturb as well. These tend to cause a lot of distraction and take away from your experience and learning in class.  Attendance Policy:  Active participation is essential to success in this course. Only **THREE ABSENCES** during the semester will be permitted. There is no distinction between excused and unexcused absences. After 3 absences, your grade will drop half a letter grade for each absence.  For each class missed due to illness or injury, students will be required to write a 3-page paper discussing dance topics. This includes a student who wishes to “sit out” due to injury. It is impossible to gain the skill of dance by sitting, so students will be encouraged to move as much as possible and modify movement safely through most injuries.    Final: Student will submit a small section of choreography and a brief 2-page reflection at the end of the semester. Details to be announced.  Grading Policy:    **Final grades will be calculated according to the following rubric:**    Attendance                                                          50%  Participation & Preparation                              40%  Final                                                   10%      Participation & Preparation: This grade is subjective and at the sole discretion of the instructor.  Each student begins the semester with a Participation & Preparation score of 100 based on the assumption that you’re coming to class to participate.    A prepared and participating student:  • Is dressed appropriately before class begins.  • Is in the space, free of “stuff” and outside distractions before class begins.  • Is an active participant in all class discussions, practices, and performances.  • Is supportive and kind to their classmates.  • Is willing to fail.  • Always has an attitude of “yes!” |
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**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

I will seek to maintain a high standard of honesty and truthfulness for myself and for the college.  I will neither give nor receive any unauthorized aid in my academic work nor will I permit such action by any member of this community.  I will respect the persons and property of the community, and I will not condone discourteous or dishonest treatment of these by my peers.

**PLEASE NOTE**

This syllabus is subject to change in response to the needs of the class as it develops over the semester.  Students will be informed of any changes that might affect the grading policy, or the nature of individual assignments.

Changes in the syllabus and/or calendar/schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

DISABILITIES

Please speak with the instructor if you have a documented physical or learning disability requiring academic accommodation. Students with disabilities should  be registered with the Office of Student Support Services  and must present legitimate documentation to demonstrate  that an accommodation is appropriate.