

COURSE OUTLINE

**Dance 130
Choreography**

I. Catalog Statement

Dance 130 provides the students with basic skills and knowledge of the choreographic principles. Through discussion and practical experience, the students develop a basic understanding of dance as a performing art form.

Total Lecture Units: 1.0

Total Laboratory Units: 0.5

Total Course Units: 1.5

Total Lecture Hours: 16.0

Total Laboratory Hours: 24.0

Total Faculty Contact Hours: 40.0

Prerequisite: Dance 101 or 110 or 115 or 120 or 124 or equivalent.

II. Course Entry Expectations

Skill Level Ranges: Reading 5; Writing 5; Listening-Speaking 5; Math 1.

Prior to enrolling in the course, the student should be able to:

1. identify and define basic elements of dance;
2. demonstrate and explain correct body alignment, joint, and muscle action;
3. present a basic movement pattern;
4. discuss the fundamental aspects of dance and their relationship to the body as an instrument of expression.

III. Course Exit Standards

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

1. identify and define choreographic principles, form, and structure;
2. demonstrate and explain the choreographic process;
3. present an original choreographic work;
4. analyze a dance performance in terms of motivation, use of space, time, force, music selection, and technical performance.

IV. Course Content

Total Faculty Contact Hours=40 hours

- A. Introduction Lecture: 4 hours
1. Vocabulary
 2. Performance aspect
 3. Dance techniques
- B. The Body as an Instrument of Expression Lecture: 2 hours –Laboratory: 4 hours
1. Moving in and through space - axial and locomotion
 2. Descending in space - falls
 3. Elevation in space - leaps
 4. Relationship involving contact
- C. Choreographic Application of Dynamic and Force Aspects Lecture: 2 hours –Laboratory: 4 hours
1. Force patterns
 2. Energy expenditure
 3. Time
 4. Rhythm (even and uneven)
 5. Meter and Accents
 6. Quality of movement
 7. Speed
 8. Swinging and sustained movement
 9. Sustained and percussive movement
 10. Pulsating, explosive, and collapsed movements
- D. Time aspect Lecture: 2 hours – Laboratory: 4 hours
1. Meter and Accent
 2. Rhythm
 3. Phrasing
- E. Choreographic Principles and Process Lecture: 2 hours – Laboratory: 4 hours
1. Repetition
 2. Contrast
 3. Transition and climax
 4. Narrative and abstract
 5. Theme and Variation (AB, ABA etc.)
 6. Rondo
 7. Canon
 8. Structured improvisation
 9. Chance
 10. Mirroring
 11. Motivation
- F. Choreographic use of Spatial Concepts Lecture: 2 hours – Laboratory: 4 hours
1. Personal space

2. Negative space
3. Contrasting and complimentary shapes
4. Direction
5. Focus
6. Levels
7. Pathways
8. Floor design
9. Air design

G. Choreographic use of Ideational Sources
and Sensory Stimuli

Lecture: 2 hours - Laboratory: 4 hours

1. Words
2. Sounds
3. Objects
4. Situations

VI. Methods of Instruction

The following instructional methodologies may be used in the course:

1. classroom and lecture demonstration;
2. choreographic composition practice;
3. interpretation and practical application of choreographic principles and process;
4. video and multimedia presentations;
5. in-class critiques, done individually and in groups;
6. field trips (dance concerts);
7. online research of dance compositions.

VII. Out of Class Assignments

The following out of class assignments may be used in this course:

1. attendance at the GCC dance departments performances;
2. on-line research of the genre;
3. written evaluation of the performance attendance.

VIII. Methods of Evaluation

The following methods of evaluation may be used in this course:

1. written choreography proposal (includes the choreographic principles);
2. choreographic studies (demonstration and explanation of choreographic process);
3. class participation in critiques, analysis, and evaluation of dance performance;
4. analytical essay (analyzing of on line or live dance performance);
5. midterm examination;
6. final examination (presentation of final choreography).

IX. Textbooks

Burrows, Jonathan. *A Choreographers Handbook*. New York: Routledge, 2010.
12th Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN-10: 041555530-2

X. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

1. Identify and define basic elements of dance;
2. demonstrate and explain correct body alignment, joint, and muscle action;
3. present a basic movement pattern;
4. discuss the fundamental aspects of dance and their relationship to the body as an instrument of expression.