

COURSE SYLLABUS

Francesca Jandasek

Spring 2016

Beginning Modern

M/W from 1:00-2:40pm

Instructor: Francesca Jandasek, MFA Phone: (562) 985-4747

Office Location: DC-F108

Office Hours: Tuesday from 2:15 - 3:15 pm and by appointment

Email: Francesca.Jandasek@student.csulb.edu (preferred method of contact)

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Basic skills and techniques of modern.

Not open for credit to dance majors. May be repeated to a maximum of 4 units in different semesters. (4 hours studio)

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND CONTENT

Beginning Modern is the development of modern dance technique at the beginner level. This course provides the dancer an opportunity to improve upon technical and performance skills in a logical progression. Students will receive an introduction and awareness of parallel positions, spinal articulation, gravity, momentum, quality of movement, space and rhythm as a foundation for multiple modern dance techniques. Through investigating the concepts of modern technique (Limon, Cunningham, Graham and Horton), movement systems (Laban/Bartenieff Movement System (LBMS) and Gyrokinesis) and contemporary techniques (release and floor work), students will focus on alignment, clarity of form, quality of movement, level changes, suspension and release and traveling through space. Daily practice will focus on consistent and correct use of the core, developing upper body strength, investigating weight of the limbs, exploring momentum, alignment in parallel and turned-out positions, spinal curves, spirals, tilts and flat backs, and developing spacial awareness. Students will also work on developing artistry through exploring dynamic range in phrase work, use of breath, musicality, full range and quality of movement.

A typical class includes but is not limited to a warm-up, conditioning and flexibility work, locomotor movement, rhythmic footwork, jumps, leaps and turns, and choreography which will be worked on over several class periods. Additional course activities include a written/practical test of modern dance terminology/technique, work designed to assist the student in self-evaluation, and viewing live dance performances and providing critical analysis. The primary emphasis of this course will be placed on the physical work involved in the performance of American modern dance by each student dancing with full energy, technique, projection and spirit in each and every class.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Students will build their alignment, strength, coordination, flexibility, balance, control, and sense of rhythm and timing through physical work in class to the necessary level for beginner level work.
2. Students will learn and refine skills prescribed for the beginner modern level by the department.
3. Students will improve their performance abilities through active participation in performance evaluations and through classroom discussion and self-analysis.
4. Students will develop a critical eye and supportive heart while analyzing and evaluating their own work and the work of others.
5. Students will develop their ability to critically analyze live performance in writing.

REQUIRED TEXTS / MATERIALS

There is no required texts for this course. Instead of purchasing a textbook, you must attend an approved live dance performance (and purchase a ticket for this event) and have appropriate dance shoes and attire.

OPTIONAL TEXT

1. *Dance Imagery for Technique and Performance* (Franklin, Eric)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Participation

Full participation is required in all classes. Modern dance classes provide kinesthetic awareness of modern dance movement as well as technical skill acquisition and practice. Technique improves by attending and actively participating in class. Students enrolled in this course are expected to participate fully throughout the entirety of each class period. Students should be on time and prepared for each class. Being attentive, applying instructor feedback, keeping an open mind, and maintaining a positive attitude will help the student earn the highest marks for participation. Because dance is physically demanding, each student is responsible for notifying dance instructors if/when a physical condition or previous injury prohibits full participation in a dance activity class. Dance students are expected to maintain good health and conditioning by eating properly, sleeping as much as possible, cross-training as appropriate and allowing some time for care of mind, spirit and body.

Tardiness/Leaving Early: Tardiness and Leaving Early will affect the student's participation grade.

Students who arrive after roll has been taken will be marked "tardy". In order to prevent injury to the student, students entering class after 10 minutes of warm-up will not be allowed to participate in class. At this time, the student can either leave class and receive an absence or observe class and lose the participation point for the day (see Daily Assessment below). **It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor of late arrival at the end of class. If students does not do so, the instructor cannot guarantee their attendance mark will be changed.** Students that leave early for class will be marked as a "leave early". Three leave early's will count as one absence. Instructor reserves the right to make exceptions as necessary.

Attendance: According to the Department Absence Policy, you may miss two classes during the semester for any reason without penalty. You may also have one additional excused absence only for reasons of illness or injury, and only when documentation is provided. In cases of illness or injury needing more time for recovery beyond the permitted absences, the instructor will discuss options for continuing or dropping the course with you. Any additional absences will result in your final course grade being lowered one full letter grade for each additional absence. This policy is specific to the Dance Department, and in compliance with the University policy on absences. According to University policy, there are extenuating circumstances that define excused absences in cases such as athletic team events, loss of a family member, religious holidays, etc. If the student feels that she/he will miss a class that falls into this category, the student should immediately meet with the instructor to arrange completion of missed assignments, prior to that absence. Students can review university absence policy in the CSULB catalog. **IT IS THE DEPARTMENT POLICY THAT YOU MAY NOT DROP THIS CLASS AFTER THE 9TH WEEK OF THE SEMESTER WITHOUT MEETING WITH THE CHAIR, PROFESSOR ANDY VACA.** Students are discouraged from dropping the course for anything other than a serious documented reason after Week 2.

http://web.csulb.edu/divisions/aa/catalog/current/academic_information/class_attendance.html

Observations: Three observations will count as one absence unless the student presents a written notice from a physician before the beginning of the class stating s/he may not participate in any physical activity. If you need to provide more than one teacher a copy of the note, please make copies in advance. Students who observe all or part of a class must also submit the online Observation Form in the Observation Dropbox. Questions are provided on this form. This form is due online on BeachBoard by the next class meeting and if not submitted or does not meet the above criteria, the observation will receive a 0. Even with a complete submission, students can only receive partial participation credit.

Dress Code

Dress codes are established as a professional standard of practice and represent a sense of respect for the instructor and the art form of dance. Please be responsible about your attire as required.

Class attire must allow you to move freely while still being form fitting, and may include form fitting T-shirt, tank top or leotard with form fitting pants, capris, or shorts. Form fitting layers and warm-ups may be worn. **NO baggy sweats, jogging shorts, sweatshirts or clothing allowed!** Attire should be clean, free from holes and demeaning or discriminatory slogans. Permitted footwear includes socks or bare feet. Hair must be well groomed, secure and drawn away from face and neck. Appropriate undergarments must be worn (dance belts for men and bra support for women). Please remove all large or dangling jewelry or anything that impedes freedom of movement or might endanger yourself or others.

Street Shoes should not be worn inside the studio. Students are required to bring their own towels, knee pads and any other equipment/supplies that are deemed necessary for full participation.

Each dance student is required to have a first aid kit, as specified in the Student Handbook. Kits can be purchased through the Dance Clinic.

Discount Dance Supply (www.discountdance.com) has a wide variety of dancewear and they ship quickly. Students may also be able to find proper attire at local dancewear stores.

Technique Class Etiquette:

1. DO NOT CHEW GUM or eat any other food while dancing. This is a safety hazard! No food or drink (other than water) is allowed in the studio at any time.
2. Come to class fully prepared (specified attire, hair properly secured, etc.) to begin warm-up. Warm-up and “centering” is encouraged before class.
3. If you must arrive late for an unexpected reason, instructor permission to participate in class should be obtained. If you are more than 10 minutes late, please sit at the front of the classroom and take notes. You are considered late if attendance has been taken.
4. Please do not leave a class in session (unless it is an absolute emergency or your instructor has granted advance consent) until the instructor has dismissed you. If class inadvertently runs over time, you may slip out quietly to meet an immediate commitment.
5. No Talking in Class Please! Questions should be addressed to the instructor. If the instructor is coaching an individual student between an exercise, watch and listen; it is part of the educational process. Be courteous to the instructor and other students by not talking or dancing at an inappropriate time. The student should only practice what is being worked on at the time.
6. Good grooming and personal hygiene is expected. STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO BRING A TOWEL TO EVERY CLASS THAT CAN BE USED TO WIPE THE FLOOR OF PERSPIRATION.
7. Please do not lean on the barres, against the mirrors, or sit down during class without the permission of the instructor.
8. No cell phones visible inside the studio at any time before or during class. There should be no visible or audible presence of cellphones, computers, etc. for the duration of class. Repeated violations will result in loss of participation points and potential removal from class.
9. Please be supportive of all students/professors/guest teachers in class. Treat everyone with respect and dignity. If you are not supportive, respectful, or appear to have a negative attitude in class you will be asked to leave class for that day. If the behavior continues you will be asked to drop the course and the department chair will be notified.
10. This class has a small amount of homework, the majority of your homework is to review and practice material presented in class at home.
11. Please note that physical, hands-on corrections will be necessary to supplement verbal corrections. If you have any concerns regarding this policy please let the instructor know as soon as possible.
12. Non-dance majors may not sign out studio space for any reason. The instructor will provide outside-of-class time for dance rehearsal prior to testing if needed.

ASSIGNMENTS

Daily Assessment (30% of grade)

The major allocation of your grade is based on the daily assessment. This includes all of the stated elements above in a cumulative whole.

Students may earn 3 points per class for the following:

Participation (1 point)

Following Dress Code (1 point)

Following Technique Class Etiquette (1 point)

If you are absent, you will not be able to earn that day’s daily assessment points.

If you are tardy, you will not be able to earn that day’s participation point. However, observing and filling out online observation form will enable to you to earn that day’s other two daily assessment points.

Reflection Journal Entries (10% of grade)

A typed 300 - 500 word reflection journal entry is to be turned in on the Fridays of Week 1, Week 5, Week 11 and Week 15. The purpose of these Reflection Journal Entries is for the student to have an open dialogue with instructor. Feel free to write about anything related to the course such as what you would like to achieve during the course of the semester, corrections, feelings that you have discovered, improvements, observations from the online class videos, viewings of

additional dance videos and performances, etc... I will utilize your feedback to make improvements in the course and help you reach your desired goals. All journal entries must be turned in via the BeachBoard website.

Deadlines for Reflection Journal Entries:

Week 1: Friday

Week 5: Friday

Week 11: Friday

Week 15: Friday

Vocabulary Quizzes (5% of grade)

Students will be tested on their knowledge and understanding of modern dance terminology as well as selected general dance terms. A vocabulary review sheet will be provided on Beachboard by instructor.

Dance Concert Attendance and Performance Response (10% of grade)

You are required to see a live dance performance this semester. You may see any performance listed on the approved performances listed on BeachBoard to complete this requirement. Other performances may be used to complete this requirement with prior approval from the instructor only. Some performances may be free or cost as little as \$5. Please look at the schedule and plan accordingly.

Performance Response Form – After watching the performance, please complete the Dance Performance Response Form found on BeachBoard in the Dropbox and then attach your completed copy. Submit the completed form through BeachBoard no later than 5 school days after the performance. **LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!** **No assignments will be accepted after Week 15.** Assignments must be submitted in Microsoft Word compatible format (doc or docx) or pdf.

Turn in your program and/or ticket stub AFTER you complete the Performance Response Form – You will need the information in your program to complete the written response. Please put your name on both the program and ticket stub. You will not receive credit for your written response until I receive your program and/or ticket stub. Failure to turn in a program and ticket stub will result in a 0 on the assignment. Exceptions may be made for non-ticketed events at the instructor's discretion. (You may also scan your program/ticket stub and submit as an attachment on BeachBoard)

Mastery of Class Skills/Skills Test (15% of Grade - 3 at 5% of Grade each)

Students will be graded on mastery of class skills, techniques and exercises learned in this course. There will be 3 skills tests over the course of the semester, each worth 5% of the course grade.

Week 4: Wednesday

Week 10: Wednesday

Week 13: Wednesday

Midterm Combinations/Movement Exam (15% of Grade)

Final Technical Combinations/Movement Exam (15% of Grade)

Students will be tested on 2 movement/technical combinations throughout the semester, each worth 15% of the course grade. Combinations will be taught during class time and may require some outside preparation. Students will be responsible for learning material on their own if absent. Combinations will be graded based upon knowledge of movement material, correct technique and rhythm/musicality. **Movement exams cannot be made up in the event of absence. Extraordinary circumstances will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.** Please see Semester-At-A-Glance for more details.

Your midterm and final combinations will be posted online or in Dropbox for you to review your progress. Please use this resource as a learning tool to reflect on what you would like to accomplish for the rest of your time in class and please include your thoughts in your reflection journal entries. For the final, you will be expected to write about the viewing of your final movement exam in your reflection journal entries.

Extra credit opportunity:

Extra Credit Dance Performance Response – you may receive up to 10 extra credit points by attending an additional performance and submitting a response online as well as ticket stub and copy of program stapled together to instructor at the class meeting immediately following their submission of Performance Response Form. This response must also be

submitted no later than 5 school days after the performance. LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED! No assignments will be accepted after Week 15. Note: Extra credit does not excuse an absence nor does it take away an absence at the end of the semester.

GRADING BREAKDOWN

Daily Assessment	30%
Reflection Journal Entries	10%
Vocabulary Quizes	5%
Dance Concert Attendance and Performance Response	10%
Mastery of Class Skills/Skills Test	15% - (5% each)
Midterm Combinations/Movement Exam	15%
Final Combinations/Movement Exam	15%

GRADING SCALE

A (90% - 100%) - Exceptional Work

Course requirements are consistently completed with excellence. Student sets excellent and consistent example in following all class etiquette. Student takes exemplary actions which express continuous and careful consideration for instructors and peers. Student dynamically challenges the level at which one functions with ease and familiarity.

B (80% - 89%) - Good work

Course requirements are consistently completed well. Student sets good consistent example in following all class etiquette. Student takes above average actions which express continuous and careful consideration for instructors and peers. Student actively challenges the level at which one functions with ease and familiarity.

C (70% - 79%) - Average Work

Course requirements are completed at a base level. Student is demonstrating class etiquette at a base level. Student takes moderate actions which express continuous and careful consideration for instructors and peers. Student occasionally challenges the level at which one functions with ease and familiarity.

D (65% - 69%) - Poor Work

Student is inconsistent in meeting course requirements and class etiquette, and is not demonstrating investment to make substantial improvement.

F (0% - 64%) - Unsatisfactory Work

No credit.

Semester-at-a-Glance / Important Dates and Assignments

Week 1	Friday	Reflection Journal Entry Due
Week 4	Wednesday	Skills Test
Week 5	Friday	Reflection Journal Entry Due
Week 7	Wednesday	Vocabulary Quiz
Week 8	Wednesday	Midterm Movement Exam
Week 10	Wednesday	Skills Test
Week 11	Friday	Reflection Journal Entry Due
Week 13	Wednesday	Skills Test
Week 14	Wednesday	Vocabulary Quiz
Week 15	Wednesday	Final Movement Exam
	Friday	Reflection Journal Entry Due

FINAL EXAM hours	Wednesday, Finals week - Office Hours	12:30 - 2:30 pm
<i>Class may not meet formally, but you will have the opportunity to sign up for an appointment during this time for a final check-in.</i>		

BeachBoard Access / EMAIL

BeachBoard will be used to distribute course materials, provide access to grades, access attendance, and facilitate communication. Additionally, this syllabus and all other course documents for the course will be posted on BeachBoard. It is your responsibility to access BeachBoard on a regular basis. Announcements and messages to the class will come by email and will be posted on BeachBoard. **You are required to have a campus email account.** If you do not check your CSULB email regularly, but use another account, please set your CSULB account so that it will forward email to your preferred address. For technical assistance with e-mail, please visit:
http://web.csulb.edu/divisions/aa/academic_technology/thd/account/

To access this course on Beachboard, go to <https://bbcsulb.desire2learn.com/>. Log in with your CSULB Campus ID and BeachID Password. Once logged into BeachBoard, you will see this course listed in the My Courses widget on the right; click on the title to enter the course.

For technical assistance or to report a problem with BeachBoard, please contact BeachBoard Services, CSULB Library Lower Level, Room 012, (562) 985-4745 or contact the Technology Help Desk using their online form:
http://web.csulb.edu/divisions/aa/academic_technology/thd/.

Please do not use BeachBoard to communicate with other students about material unrelated to this course.

For students needing access to a computer, please visit the Horn Center and University Library. Open Access Computing Facilities: <http://web.csulb.edu/library/guide/computing.html>

Please, always keep a copy of your work and always sign your emails.

SPECIAL NEEDS / DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

Students with disabilities who need reasonable modifications, special assistance, or accommodations should immediately direct their request to the course instructor - failure to notify the instructor in the first week of class limits the types of accommodations that are possible. If a student with a disability feels that modifications, special assistance, or accommodations offered are inappropriate or insufficient, they should see assistance from the Director of the CSULB Disabled Student Services at Brotman Hall, Room 270.

<http://web.csulb.edu/divisions/students/dss/>
email: dss@csulb.edu
phone: (562) 985-5401

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

Incidents of cheating and plagiarism will be taken seriously by the Department of Dance. In accordance with the University Policy, consequences for cheating and plagiarism may include receiving a zero (0) for the specific demonstration of competence, a failing final grade for the entire course, or referral to the Office of Judicial Affairs for possible probation, suspension, or expulsion (see the CSULB Undergraduate and Graduate Catalog for more information). In fairness to all students and the grading process, please refrain from plagiarism or cheating. For full University policies, please see:

http://web.csulb.edu/divisions/aa/catalog/current/academic_information/cheating_plagiarism.html

ADD/DROP INFORMATION

It is the responsibility of the student to confirm that he/she is enrolled in courses. This can be done by referencing your MyCSULB account for confirmation. Students should be completely enrolled in each course by the end of the 2nd week of the semester.

For dates and deadlines on Add/Drop information, please see:

<http://web.csulb.edu/depts/enrollment/dates/registration.html>

MyCSULB registration available to add or drop the class: Week 2 - Monday, 10:00 PM

Deadline to File for CR/NC or Audit grade options without fee: Week 4 - Monday
Last day to drop without academic penalty: Week 2 - Monday, 10:00 PM

Auditing: Please note that no audits are allowed. Students may enroll in the class for Credit/No Credit, which means that it is the responsibility of the student to earn a C grade or above for Credit. Placement in class will be determined by the faculty during screening placement. If the student is not screened to this level, it is the student's responsibility to drop the class in the appropriate time.

It is the student's responsibility to keep track of these dates.

W (Withdrawal) indicates that the student was permitted to drop a course after the second week of instruction with the approval of the instructor and appropriate campus official. It carries no connotation of quality of student performance and is not used in calculating grade point average.

Students are held responsible for completion of every course in which they register or for withdrawing during the first two weeks of a regular semester of classes from courses that they do not intend to complete. Application for withdrawal from CSULB or from a class must be officially filed by the student with Enrollment services whether the student has ever attended the class or not; otherwise, the student will receive a grade of "WU" (unauthorized withdrawal) in the course.

Note on Instructor Withdrawal: Instructor reserves the right to withdraw a student who has never attended a class, if done before the end of the second week of classes. Because instructors are not required to do this, students should not rely on them and should officially withdraw from classes themselves to avoid assignment of "WU" in the course.

For more information on CSULB withdrawal policy, please see:
<https://web.csulb.edu/colleges/chhs/departments/criminal-justice/Withdrawals.htm>

CHANGES TO SYLLABUS

Syllabus is subject to change in the event of emergencies or unforeseen circumstances at instructor's discretion. Any modifications will be discussed in class and posted on BeachBoard.