Southeast Missouri State University

Department: Department of Theatre & Dance  Course No.: DA 487
Title of Course: Jazz Dance V  New

I. Catalog Description:
Level V jazz dance technique training for majors, minors, and other senior level dancers. (2)

II. Prerequisite:
DA 486, or consent of the instructor.

III. Course Objectives:
1. To increase repertoire advanced jazz dance technique, incorporating the Simonson Jazz Dance Technique.
2. To develop body alignment and maintenance using an internal sense of placement through the mind/body connection of understanding anatomy and kinesiology.
3. To increase sense of rhythmic syncopation, spatial awareness, and muscle strength and flexibility.
4. To increase technical awareness, of both the internal and external core placement and balance/control needed to perform advanced adagio and combination exercises.
5. To continue focusing on muscle flexibility and strength, rhythmic coordination and spatial awareness, thus enhancing the student’s comprehension of jazz dance.
6. To emphasize the mind/body and vocalization connection which allows the student to experience freedom and flexibility in the muscles.
7. To develop an understanding of the internal process of body alignment resulting in effective motion initiated from the muscles and core.
8. To develop a professional awareness of technique, style, and performance as demonstrated through the Simonson jazz technique warm-up and advanced combinations.

IV. Expectations of Students:
1. To attend class regularly with few or no absences.
2. To maintain evidence of learning and improvement by participating fully in all exercises, discussions and in-class combinations.
3. To remain open and respectful of new and conflicting ideas.
4. To set personal goals and problem solve throughout the class.
5. To maintain evidence of improvement and learning through increased muscle flexibility and strength.
6. To achieve a high level of progress and proficiency by understanding anatomical alignment and efficiency of movement.
7. To comprehend and orally understand vocabulary of jazz dance and Simonson technique.
8. To respect the institution of in-class etiquette, the course material, the instructor and your fellow students.
V. **Course Content**
1. **Weeks 1&2:** Break down of the 10 minute Simonson Warm-up. Begin to learn the comprehensive Simonson class requirements.
2. **Weeks 3&4:** Continued work on warm-up, extending the exercises in length and complicity. Introduce locomotion.
3. **Weeks 4 -8:** Comprehensive work on anatomically understanding the warm-up complexities and work on various dance styles and combinations.
4. **Week 8:** Student mid-term Self Assessment and Evaluations due.
5. **Weeks 9 – 15:** Continued cognitive work on developing the warm-up. Begin to work on a final exam choreography dance.
6. **Week 16:** Review and perform the final exam choreography dance.

VI. **Textbooks and other required materials**
1. There is no required text for this course.
2. All students are required to wear dance/sports wear i.e.: Leotard, tights, unitards, bike shorts, tight sweat pants, sports bras, and for the men t-shirts and dance belts.
3. All students with long hair must have it securely pulled back off their faces.
4. Soft soled jazz shoes are recommended for the second half of class. The warm up is performed in bare feet or socks.
5. All cover ups/warm ups must be form fitting.
6. No writing on any clothing
7. **No jewelry allowed** with the exception of: earrings that are post types and rings that are smooth without edgy surfaces that could become dangerous while dancing. **No watches or necklaces allowed.** Place them in your bag before class.

VII. **Basis for Student Evaluation**
1. Participation (Quality of) 65%
2. Progress/Proficiency 10%
3. Professional Development & Final Written Examination 15%
4. Written Analysis (8-week & 16-week) 10%