Southeast Missouri State University

Department: Department of Theatre & Dance  
Course No.: DA 495

Title of Course: Dance Ensemble  
New

I. Catalog Descriptions and Credit Hours of Course:
Lab dance class designed to enable the student to learn and perform choreography equivalent to a professional dance company. (1 Credit Hour)

II. Prerequisite(s):
Audition and Consent of Instructor.

III. Purposes or Objectives of the Course:
The student will demonstrate the following skills:
- Comprehending the movement vocabulary and characterizations/performance qualities of a variety of dance styles, such as ballet, jazz, modern, tap and contemporary, etc.
- Correctly execute choreography with a high level of proficiency
- Develop rehearsal and performance skills in preparation for future professional work
- Gain knowledge and respect for the professional company-style work process

IV. Expectations of Students:
- Attend class regularly with few or no absences.
- Develop and maintain evidence of improvement / learning while maintaining and expressing a positive attitude, respect for the institution/traditions of taking class, the course material, fellow students, instructors and guest choreographers.
- Build continuity within the choreography through:
  - Motivation
  - Progress / Proficiency
  - Related Vocabulary
- Learn new styles of choreography and taking creative process risks in a safe environment.
- Develop and maintain consistent classroom participation.
- Participate in all rehearsals, technical theatre sessions and performances including:
  - Extra rehearsals and master classes for guest choreographers
  - Dance and Musical Theatre Days
  - Collegiate and Community Festivals
  - Any other necessary activities: photo shoots, costume sessions, listening to orchestral rehearsals, etc.
- To enroll in at least one dance technique class.
- To maintain a professional level of physical fitness.
V. Course Outline:
- Weeks 1 – 12: students are required to attend all rehearsals Monday through Thursday 3:30-6:30 PM and Friday 2:30 – 4:30 PM
- Weeks 13 – 16: students are required to attend all technical rehearsals, performances and accompanying call times.
- Weeks 1 – 16: With sufficient notice students must be prepared to add additional rehearsals for guest choreographers and master classes.

VI. Textbook(s) and/or Other Required Materials or Equipment:
There are no required texts for this class.
Recommended reading:
- Dance Magazine online at dancemagazine.com
- Dance Spirit online at dancespirit.com
- Dance Teacher online at danceteacher.com

Dress Code:
- All students must provide their own jazz and ballet shoes
- Leotards and tights
- Leggings or sweatpants
- Bras and sports bras must be worn
- No shorts except biker or tights/shorts
- No jewelry allowed unless needed for medical purposes. Jewelry can be extremely dangerous when partnering or swinging arms and legs around.
- No cell phones set to ring tones. Silent or vibrate only.
- Rehearsal attire is subject to the choreographer’s requests and the various and changing needs of the rehearsal process. The basic attire should consist of conforming garments designed for physical movement.

VII. Basis for Student Evaluation:

70% Participation, progress and proficiency and attendance in rehearsals learning choreography for all productions and Conducting personal actions in a professional manner representing Southeast Dance Ensemble, within and outside the dance studio/school.

25% Professional development: measures refinement, professional understanding of the various elements of craft in preparation for performance and performance in all productions.

5% Written analysis of in-class journal creating insightful and thoughtful writings analyzing concepts regarding your perceived assessment, the process of learning the material and your performance.