GROSSMONT COLLEGE

Official Course Outline

DANCE 082A - SOCIAL AND BALLROOM DANCE I

1. Course Number Course Title Semester Units Semester Hours

DANCE 082A Social and Ballroom 1.5 1 hour lecture: 16-18 hours

Dance I 2 hours lab: 32-36 hours

32-36 outside-of-class hours for lecture

80-90 total hours

Course Prerequisites

None.

Corequisite

None.

Recommended Preparation

None.

1. Catalog Description

An introductory course which focuses on the fundamentals of partner dance and basic steps in a variety of ballroom dance genres. Emphasis is placed on partnering technique, frame, style, and variations for selected genres. This course is designed for dance and theatre majors as well as students who wish to explore historical dance. Students will be required to attend one live dance concert produced by the dance department, and one department sponsored master class.

1. Course Objectives

The student will:

* 1. Discuss the historical, theoretical, and cultural significance of social dance.
  2. Identify, define, and perform standard beginning level ballroom dance positions and arm placement.
  3. Demonstrate proper etiquette and courtesies to partner and group in relationship to the dances performed.
  4. Demonstrate proficiency in leading or following in basic variations with a focus on proper connection to partner and compression through tension.
  5. Demonstrate rhythmically accurate steps for basic level variations in selected genres.
  6. Identify appropriate music for each dance genre.
  7. Compare and contrast the differences between ballroom dance genres through a written analysis.
  8. Examine similarities and differences of ballroom dance to concert dance through video and live performance.

1. Instructional Facilities

Dance room or large facility including but not limited to a gym, aerobics room, or ballroom and occasional use of video camera, VCR and video monitor.

1. Special Materials Required of Student

Non-scuff shoes required, ballroom shoes recommended.

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1. Course Content
   1. Lectures on the historical and political significance of social dance and how it relates to other dance forms.
   2. Lectures on social dance as a movement form, including discussions about movement vocabulary, technique, style, and interpretation.
   3. Basic body and arm positions and foot patterns.
   4. Fundamentals of partnering, i.e., leading, following, improvisation.
   5. Movement combinations which emphasize rhythmic accuracy, as well as techniques and vocabulary introduced in class.
2. Method of Instruction
   1. Individual and group lecture/discussion.
   2. Application of dance vocabulary, theory and techniques through movement demonstration.
   3. Video for presentation and/or evaluative purposes.
3. Methods of Evaluating Student Performance
   1. Consistent participation in class.
   2. Movement exams.
   3. Written examinations, including a final, focusing on vocabulary, theories, historical and/or cultural issues related to social dance.
   4. Written critical analysis of a live dance performance.
   5. Written evaluation of Ballroom related event.
   6. Practical movement evaluation for each unit.
4. Outside Class Assignments
   1. Attendance at a dance department sponsored master class.
   2. Attendance at a department produced dance concert for the purpose of critical analysis.
   3. Attend an outside social dance event.
5. Texts
   1. Required Text(s):

Maletis, Joelle Rabow. It’s Just a Social, Swing and Latin Thing: A Guide to Social Dance. Dubuque, IA: Kendall/Hunt Publishing, 2002.

* 1. Supplementary texts and workbooks:
     + 1. Malnig, Julie. Ballroom, Boogie, Shimmy Sham, Shake: A Social Dance Reader. University of Illinois Press, 2009.
       2. Nikishkin, Dimitry. Practical Guide to Latin American Dance (vol. 1). Create Space Independent Publishing Platform, 2012.

Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:

* 1. Gain a working knowledge of partnering skills inherent in ballroom dance vocabulary and will define and demonstrate said skills in either leading or following with a focus on proper connection to partner and compression through tension.
  2. Gain a working knowledge of dance steps in selected ballroom dance genres and will define and demonstrate said skills with a focus on coordinating footwork with music.
  3. Develop their knowledge of body posture specific to selected ballroom dance genres and will demonstrate their understanding by performing movement sequences focusing on body alignment and movement quality.

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Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes (continued)

* 1. Develop aesthetic values as they relate to dance and, based upon these values, will be able to think critically about and analyze dance as an art form
  2. Define basic ballroom dance terminology and identify ballroom genres appropriate for selected music.

Date approved by the Governing Board: May 21, 2013