



**SYLLABUS: Senior Studio
DNC 4377-01
Fall 2017
Meeting Time: MWF 11:00-11:50
Performing Arts Center, Room #250**

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Andy Noble, Instructor; Dionne Noble, Facilitator
PAC, Office 150D
Office Hours: By Appointment, see schedule on office door
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Mail Box Location: Dance Program Main Office

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The challenges that face a professional choreographer are numerous. This choreography class addresses many of these challenges and provides students with some of the necessary skills required to create and produce dance. A large emphasis of this course is placed on work-shopping ideas and taking creative risks. Students will then create a choreographic work with a clear intent that they are capable of articulating and defending. The culminating efforts of this class will result in a fully produced dance concert where by each student will present a choreographic work.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this course, students will:

- Experience the audition process from the choreographer's point of view.
- Create a proposal that outlines a clear choreographic intention.
- Assess their work through a written evaluation and modification report.
- Explore various methods of movement invention.
- Gain production experience.
- Examine various strategies for problem solving.
- Direct and Manage dancers through the creative process.
- Articulate and defend creative concepts.
- Produce a finished work.

COURSE POLICIES:

- **ATTENDANCE POLICY** - Due to the participatory nature of the course, attendance is mandatory. Attendance will be taken each and every class period. Each absence in excess of **Three** will lower the student's course grade by 5 percentage points. No make-up classes will be allowed. Absences for official university functions may be excused provided that the student requests this accommodation before the absences occurs and presents official documentation. Professional opportunities will be assessed at half an absence. All other absences count toward the total of two.

Tardies or early exits may be counted as absences. If the student does come to class late, it is their responsibility to check in with the instructor to assure that their presence is properly recorded.

In cases of minor injury or illness, students must communicate with the instructor regarding make-up work. If the condition interferes with the student's ability to participate for an extended period he or she will be advised to drop the course.

Casting Policy – Students who make grades lower than B in dance technique classes or an F in any dance major courses will be ineligible for casting in the Dance Spectrum Concert the following semester.

- **ETIQUETTE** – Please turn off or mute your cell phone. No gum, food, or drink allowed in classroom. Water bottles are the lone exception to the rule.
- **CLASSROOM DRESS** – Since this is a movement class, suitable dance attire that allows a freedom of movement is required.

GRADING/EVALUATION:

Outlined below are the questions I will be asking you throughout this course that will define your grade:

- **INVESTMENT** – Did you fully commit to the assignment and take feedback constructively?
- **MOVEMENT INVENTION** – Is the movement material original and unique, or generic and obvious?
- **FORM** – Does the dance have a clear beginning, middle and end that is well constructed and serves the piece?
- **RISK TAKING** – Are you stepping outside of your creative comfort zone and trying something new.
- **INTENTION** – Does the dance express a clear idea or emotion? Is the work grounded in a specific exploration?

- **COMMUNICATION** - Can you articulate and defend your choreographic choices?

This course is based on the following 100-point accumulation system:		Grading Scale	
1. Choreographic Proposal	10 pts	100-93	A
2. Evaluation/Modification Report	10 pts	84-92	B
3. Daily Participation	10 pts	73-83	C
4. Three Choreographic Showings	15 pts	60-72	D
5. Production Assignment	25 pts	<60	F
6. Choreographic Final	25 pts		

ACADEMIC HONESTY

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The university and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Cellular telephones and pagers must be turned off before class begins. Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

VISITOR(S) TO THE CLASSROOM

Advance approval is required by the instructor. Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted in the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If a visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITY ACT

It is the policy of the university that no otherwise qualified disabled student shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from participation in, or denied benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program or activity. Disabled students may request help with academically related problems stemming from

individual disabilities by contacting their instructor, school/department chair, or by contacting the university Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students/ Director of Counseling Center (located in Lee Drain Annex; phone 936-294-3512; TDD 936-294-3786; e-mail disability@shsu.edu; web www.shsu.edu/disability).

A student with a disability is encouraged to register with the university Counseling Center, as well as contacting their instructor about assistance needs. Accommodation cannot be made until the student has initiated the request with the Counseling Center. Every semester that the student desires accommodations, it is the student's responsibility to complete a Classroom Accommodation Request Form at the Counseling Center and follow the stated procedure in notifying faculty. Accommodations for disabled students are decided upon documentation and need on a case-by-case basis by the Counseling Center. All requests are handled with confidentiality according to university procedures.

RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that the university excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University Policy 861001 provides procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first 15 days of the semester or the first 7 days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will respond to the student in writing notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

SYLLABUS CHANGE POLICY:

This syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advanced notice.