

Elijah Alhadji Gibson
Room 254
Phone Ext. 1496
Elijah@shsu.edu

Sam Houston State University
DANC 3334 Modern III
M/T/W/TH/F 2:40-4:00
Credits: 3

Fall 2017
Office Hours
By Appointment Only
Room 150 G

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will explore contemporary modern vocabulary and technique, focusing on the expressive use of the rounding and arching of the spine, joint mobility, throwing, flinging, swinging, casting, and off-balance movements. There will also be a focus on the lengthening of the limbs supporting increased flexibility and range in motion. In addition, all aspects of tempo, movement range, rhythmical patterns, and dynamic accents are explored. Through these processes, students will become well-placed dancers capable of a broad range of expression and demonstrating impressive skills.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, students will:

- 1) Demonstrate increased strength, balance, flexibility, and speed.
- 2) Continue the use of deep plie, aggressive locomotion, and quick directional changes.
- 3) Become familiarized with the 6 patterns of connectivity and be able to implement them and recognized them within phrases.
- 4) Have developed an understanding and appreciation for the benefits that are acquired from floor work.
- 5) Have increased versatility, adaptability, and rapidity of learning and accurate movement reproduction in preparation for application to the student's future professional work.
- 6) Be able to utilize appropriate variations of dynamic qualities and musical phrasing/timing, which mark the more mature performing artist.

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 six class periods 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 well in advance and presents official documentation. Professional opportunities (at the professors discretion) will be assessed at half an absence. All other absences count toward the total of six.

TARDINESS

Students will not be allowed to be tardy to class. No student will be allowed in the studio once class has begun. Please be aware that failure to be in class on

time will result in an absence. Dancers who are unable to participate physically are expected to observe class and take notes (handwritten). In such cases the student must request the accommodation before class begins and present observation notes to the instructor at the conclusion of class or do other observation-related assignments as assigned by the instructor. Observations count only 50% toward attendance; therefore, two observations add up to one absence.

DANCE MAJORS MEETINGS

Dance majors meetings take place on the first Wednesday of each month at 1:00 pm in the dance theater. Students in Dance Majors technique classes (DANC 1333, 2333, 3333, 4333, 1334, 2334, 3334, 4334, 3335, and 4335) must attend Dance Majors Meetings. Absence from Dance Majors Meetings counts as one of the 6 absences allowed for the course.

CASTING POLICY

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

DRESS CODE/CLASS ETIQUETTE

Acceptable attire:

-YOU ARE TO WEAR DANCE CLOTHES!...NO bulky oversized sweats/pants. NO baggy tops or T-shirts. Your hair does not need to be in a bun, however it does need to be out of your face, off your neck, and contained so that it is not moving so much to where it is distracting to the eye. We will begin class in bare feet and possibly transition into socks later at some point during the class. (unless specified otherwise).

*If you are not dressed properly, you WILL NOT participate in class.

There will be minimal downtime during the class and you are expected to be fully present the entire time. Once the class begins, unless it is a dire circumstance, you are not allowed to leave the room. Make sure all bathroom needs are taken care of prior to the start of class and to bring your water bottles in the classroom with you. If you leave the room at anytime during the duration of the class you will take an observation grade for the day.

EVALUATIVE CRITERIA

Each individual student is evaluated in terms of how completely that student fulfills his/her potential in relation to the instructor's expectations for that individual and for the level of the class as a whole. The student's attitude, willingness to work, and assimilation of corrections will help determine the grade, as will punctuality and studio courtesy. Grades will reflect the student's perceived level of professional discipline throughout the semester and progress toward the instructor's individualized goals for artistry and training. Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated and will

severely affect grading.

The course grade is based on:

- 15% Daily Participation
 - Showing up on-time and ready to work and is an active participant in class.
- 20% Concert Attendance
 - You are required to attend the Gallery Dance Festival performance. The dates of the concert are Friday, October 17 - Saturday, October 18 at 8pm.
- 25% Midterm
 - Your midterm will be an exam of the information covered over the first half of the semester by way of one or more combinations unless stated otherwise.
- 40% Final Examination
 - Your final will be a comprehensive exam of the information covered throughout the semester by way of one or more combinations unless stated otherwise. The breakdown of the grading will be determined closer to the date of the final.

*** ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED TO RECEIVE A PASSING GRADE IN THE CLASS!**

*If you have any questions or problems completing any of the assignments, contact me.

I have received, read, and understand the nature of and requirements for:
DANC 3334 Modern III

Name

Date