



SYLLABUS: Professional Issues in Dance
DNC 5389
Fall 2017
Meeting Time: MWF 10:00 – 10:50 AM
Performing Arts Center, Room #170

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Office: PAC 150C
Office Hours: MW 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM, T 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to prepare graduate students for professional success in the field of dance both within and beyond academia. Many of the skills learned in this course can be utilized for job applications/interviews, grant writing, auditions, conference presentations, and other professional opportunities. Through the course students will gain the necessary organizational and leadership skills to be competitive in the market place. The course work will culminate in a portfolio that represents the student's unique offerings to the dance arena including a CV, a professional website, and a dvd resume of choreography and/or performance samples.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this course, students will:

- Create a curriculum vitae
- Write a letter of application for a desired job
- Examine a variety of job search resources
- Practice interview processes
- Create a DVD resume of work
- Design a professional website
- Gain grant writing skills and experience

COURSE POLICIES:

- **DEPARTMENT 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** class periods will lower the student's

course grade by **5 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 absence occurs and presents official documentation. Professional opportunities will be assessed at half an absence. All other absences count toward the total of three.

There is a strict no tardy policy. Tardy students will not be allowed into class and will receive an absence for the day.

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

- **CLASSROOM DRESS** – When selecting attire to wear for class, please consider these two things: Can I move in this freely? Does this attire show my alignment and the use of my muscles and bones as clearly as possible? The more I can see of your body, the better I can help you grow as a dancer. Tights and leotard, form fitting pants and tank top, bike shorts and form-fitting top are all options.
- **ETIQUETTE** – Please turn off or mute your cell phone.

GRADING SCALE:

100-93	A
92-83	B
84-75	C
74-60	D
<60	F

ASSIGNMENTS/RESPONSIBILITIES:

Details regarding the individual assignments will be shared during the course of the semester. The assignments will be worth the following points:

1. Curriculum Vitae	10 pt
2. Grant Writing Assignment	20 pts
3. Professional Website	20 pts
4. Letter of Application	10 pts
5. Video Reels	10 pts
6. Artist Statement	10 pts
7. Portfolio of Work	10 pts
8. Class Discussion/ Participation	10 pts
Total	100 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 936-294-1720).

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.