

COURSE # DANC 141R

Introduction to Modern Dance Technique and Theory

*2018-2019*

**Instructor**

**Instructor:**

**Phone:**

**Email:**

**Office Hours:**

**Course**

## Course Description

***This is a Concurrent Enrollment Course, offering both high school credit through \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ High School and college credit through Utah Valley University. Credit from this course is transferable to all colleges and universities. Contact the receiving institution for how the credits will be applied.***

**Catalog Description**

For students desiring to increase their physical skills in dance technique and performance technique. Introduces principles and concepts that govern human movement. Emphasizes development of strength, flexibility, coordination, core support, and movement expressiveness. Includes aspects of composition, improvisation, and performance as they relate to technique. Develops foundational skills in modern dance technique. Prepares students for more intensive study. Does not fulfill a dance major requirement. May be repeated for a total of 6 credits toward graduation.

**Course Prerequisites**

This class is available to all high school students in good academic standing. High school prerequisites apply.

## Course Objectives or Learning Outcomes

* To acquire a basic working knowledge and understanding of movement vocabulary often used in Modern Dance classes.
* To increase strength, endurance, flexibility and coordination through active participation.
* To develop an enhanced somatic awareness by identifying and demonstrating the functional principles of movement, including the uses of core support and breath to integrate movement patterns, initiation of movement, articulation of spine and connection of head-and-tail, and efficiency of body alignment.
* To utilize somatic awareness as a tool to explore elements of energy, time and space through creative processes (i.e. demonstrated movement sequences and guided improvisation and composition) that encourage individual expression and progression.
* To enhance the understanding of the practical/technical course materials in the context of gaining a perspective on the historical evolution of Modern Dance.
* To communicate an appreciation for dance as an art form through active participation, discussions, video-viewing, live performance critique, and final synthesis paper.

Upon successful completion, students should be able to:

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| **1 -** | Demonstrate a body level knowledge of basic concepts of dance technique. This includes: Support of the body from the deep musculature, Body awareness and connectivity, Dynamic alignment, Weight shift from the lowest point on the pelvis, Breath to support dynamic flow, Articulation of the distal edges of the body in relationship to core, Grounding of the upper and lower body through imagery and bony landmark identification. |
| **2 -** | Manifest a willingness to engage in exploration of the unknown in order to expand their movement vocabularies and movement skill. |
| **3 -** | Participate in class each day with full presence and commitment. |
| **4 -** | Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the elements of dance--body, effort, shape, and space. |
| **5 -** | Identify prime movers and major themes in the history of contemporary dance. |
| **6 -** | Increase their strength, flexibility, coordination, balance, kinesthetic awareness, rhythmic accuracy, and dance performance skills. |
| **7 -** | Participate in the feedback process by observing, describing, analyzing, and writing about their own movement (as seen on videotape) and the movement of classmates. |
| **8 -** | Demonstrate an appreciation for the diversity and variety of human movement expressiveness. |

**Required Text and Materials**

Cheney, Gay. Basic Concepts in Modern Dance: A Creative Approach. 3rd ed. Hightstown, New Jersey: Princeton Book Company, Publishers, 1989

## Attire

* Bare feet are required.
* Leotard/dance pants or equivalent are required. Clothing which obscures body lines is not permitted (I cannot help you if I cannot see you).
* Hair should be out of the face and secured.
* No bare midriffs are allowed in any UVSC dance classes.
* No dangling jewelry.
* Please leave your street clothing and shoes in the locker room to keep the dance floor uncluttered.
* No gum, food or drink is allowed in studios.

**Department Policies**

**Assessment**

***20 % Attendance*** (policy stated above)

***10% Participation***—concentration, contribution to class discussion, consistent constructive energy, willingness to apply and retain corrections, proper dance attire (policy stated above).

***10% Progress in Relation to Self***—enthusiasm, effort, and risk-taking.

***20% Ability to Demonstrate Basic Modern Dance Technique***—use of body’s center, proper breathing, head-and-tail connection, efficient alignment, strength, endurance, flexibility, coordination, and ability to pick up movement combination.

***10% Ability to Demonstrate Basic Movement Concepts***—use of dynamics, time and space and performance quality.

***10% Live Performance Critique***

The student will attend and write a modern dance concert critique. Guidelines for Writing Dance Concert Critique will be distributed to you.

***10% Final Synthesis Paper***

The student will write a 3-4-page (typed, double spaced, and 12pt. font) paper to synthesize kinesthetically, spiritually and/or intellectually what you experienced, learned, and/or discovered and what technical or artistic improvement you made throughout the class. In this synthesis paper, you may also connect your learning of the practical/technical course materials with your understanding of the historical evolution of Modern Dance.

***10% Movement Final*** (date to be announced)

The student will participate in a practical final examination. Criteria for Final Exam will be distributed to you at a later time of the semester.

* Regular and fully invested participation is of utmost importance in order for the student to achieve his/her potential in the class. Promptness is expected. When you enter the studio, begin your own preparations for class by doing what you know your body needs to prepare for vigorous activity. Be out on the floor ready to begin when roll is taken. Three absences are permitted, beyond that each subsequent absence will result in a 3-point deduction from your final grade. Seven absences will require withdrawing from class.
* There are no observation days. If you are in class, you should be dancing. Make up exams will only be allowed if prior arrangements have been made.

**Grading Scale**

A = 100-93 B - = 82-80 D+ = 69-67

A - = 92-90 C+ = 79-77 D = 66-63

B+ = 89-87 C = 76-73 D - = 62-60

B = 86-83 C - = 72-70 F = 59-0

**Grades and Credit**

Your grade for this class will become part of your permanent college transcript and will affect your GPA. A low grade in this course can affect college acceptance and scholarship eligibility.

Grades are determined by instructors, based upon measures determined by the instructor and department and may include: evaluation of responses, written exercises and examinations, performance exercises and examinations, classroom/laboratory contributions, mastery of pertinent skills, etc. The letter grade “A” is an exceptional grade indicating superior achievement; “B” is a grade indicating commendable mastery; “C” indicates satisfactory mastery and is considered an average grade; “D” indicates substandard progress and insufficient evidence of ability to succeed in sequential courses; “E” (failing) indicates inadequate mastery of pertinent skills or repeated absences from class; “UW” indicates unofficial withdrawal from class.

**University Policies**

**Academic Integrity**

Utah Valley University expects all students to maintain integrity and high standards of individual honesty in academic work, to obey the law, and to show respect for others. Students of this class are expected to support an environment of academic integrity, have the right to such an environment, and should avoid all aspects of academic dishonesty. Examples of academic dishonesty include plagiarizing, faking of data, sharing information during an exam, discussing an exam with another student who has not taken the exam, consulting reference material during an exam, submitting a written assignment which was authored by someone other than you, and/or cheating in any form.

In keeping with UVU policy, evidence of academic dishonesty may result in a failing grade in the course and disciplinary review by the college.  Any student caught cheating will receive, at minimum, zero points on that particular assignment for the first offense.  A second offense can result in failing the course and will entail being reported to Student Advising.  Academic dishonesty includes, in part, using materials obtained from another student, published literature, and the Internet without proper acknowledgment of the source.   Additional information on this topic is published in the student handbook and is available on the UVU website.

### **Student Code of Conduct**

All UVU students are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner acceptable at an institution of higher learning. All students are expected to **obey the law**, to **perform contracted obligations**, to **maintain absolute integrity and high standards** of individual honesty in academic work, and to observe a **high standard of conduct for the academic environment**.

The Student Rights and Responsibilities Code, or Code of Conduct, outlines for students what they can expect from the University and what the University expects of them.

Students should review their Rights and Responsibilities. The Code of Conduct also outlines the process for academic appeals, and appeals related to misconduct and sanctions. It can be found at <http://www.uvu.edu/studentconduct/students/>

**Student Responsibilities**

You are expected to take an active role in the learning process by meeting course requirements as specified in written syllabi. Faculty members have the right to establish classroom standards of behavior and attendance requirements. You are expected to meet these requirements and make contact with faculty members when unable to do so.

**Withdrawal Policy**

If you do not wish to take this course or find that you are unable to continue, you should officially withdraw by the deadline stated in the current semester UVU Student Timetable.

You can officially withdraw from a course by dropping it through the online registration system or the campus One Stop desk (BA 106) by the listed date. If you officially withdraw from a course by the "Last Day to Drop and Not Show on Transcript," the course will not appear on your academic transcripts. If you officially withdraw from a course by the "Last Day to Withdraw," a "W" will appear on your transcripts. Although your GPA will not be affected — a "W" will indicate that you chose to withdraw. If you fail to complete the course and do not drop it before the "Last Day to Withdraw," a "UW" or "E" (a failing grade) will appear on your transcripts.

Withdrawing from a course may impact your financial aid status. For more information, see: UVU Financial Aid.

**Cheating and Plagiarism Policy Procedures**

This document was taken from the Utah Valley University Policy 541, The Student Rights and Responsibilities Code

5.4.4 Each student is expected to maintain academic ethics and honesty in all its forms, including, but not limited to, cheating and plagiarism as defined hereafter:

1) Cheating is the act of using or attempting to use or providing others with unauthorized information, materials, or study aids in academic work. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, passing examination answers to or taking examinations for someone else, or preparing or copying another's academic work.

2) Plagiarism is the act of appropriating another person's or group's ideas or work (written, computerized, artistic, etc.) or portions thereof and passing them off as the product of one's own work in any academic exercise or activity.

3) Fabrication is the use of invented information or the falsification of research or other findings. Examples include but are not limited to:

a) Citation of information not taken from the source indicated. This may include the incorrect documentation of secondary source materials.

b) Listing sources in a bibliography not used in the academic exercise.

c) Submission in a paper, thesis, lab report, or other academic exercise of falsified, invented, or fictitious data or evidence, or deliberate and knowing concealment or distortion of the true nature, origin, or function of such data or evidence.

d) Submitting as your own any academic exercise (written work, printing, sculpture, etc.) prepared totally or in part by another.

### **Students with Disabilities**

**Students who need accommodations because of a disability** may contact the UVU Office of Accessibility Services (OAS), located on the Orem Campus in LC 312. To schedule an appointment or to speak with a counselor, call the OAS office at 801-863-8747. Deaf/Hard of Hearing individuals, email [nicole.hemmingsen@uvu.edu](https://owa.uvu.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=r3xUa4y2bkalWljgIj1VXM3KzYlusNIIESMqIpkF5USfG-H3cUMstYl8DNScKc_quB49PvOQ-l0.&URL=mailto%3anicole.hemmingsen%40uvu.edu) or text 385-208-2677.

**Religious Accommodations**

At the beginning of each semester, you shall promptly review the course syllabus and class schedule and notify faculty to request an accommodation for sincerely held religious beliefs and practices using the *Religious Accommodation Request Form*.

**Dangerous Behavior**

The faculty member has the right to demand and secure the immediate removal of any person from the classroom whenever the faculty member determines, to the best of his or her knowledge or belief, that the person's actions are threatening or dangerous to students or themselves. If the faculty member cannot resolve a disruptive situation, the faculty member may request that the disruptive person(s) leave the classroom. If the disruptive person(s) will not leave voluntarily, the faculty member may call University Police for assistance. The incident shall be reported to the Dean of Students and to the Director of Judicial Affairs in accordance with Policy 541 *Student Rights and Responsibilities Code*.

**Discriminatory, Exclusionary, or Disruptive Behavior**

Faculty members observing discriminatory, exclusionary, or disruptive behavior follow procedures described in UVU Policy 541 *Student Rights and Responsibilities Code.* 5.6

**Attendance**

Attendance in this class is not mandatory due to the different learning preferences with each student. However, class will be held according to the schedule on the top of this syllabus. Chapters will be covered in class as listed in the semester schedule below. Class will consist of chapter reviews, discussion and group activities.

**Policies/References**

1. Policy 541: Student Rights and Responsibilities Code <https://www.uvu.edu/catalog/current/policies-requirements/student-rights-and-responsibilities.html>
2. Policy 601: Classroom Instruction and Management. <https://policy.uvu.edu/getDisplayFile/5750ed2697e4c89872d95664>
3. Policy 635: Faculty Rights and Professional Responsibilities. <https://policy.uvu.edu/getDisplayFile/563a40bc65db23201153c27d>

**Definitions**

* 1. Syllabus: An agreement between faculty and students that communicates course structure, schedule, student expectations, expected course outcomes, and methods of assessment to students.

### **Dropping the Class**

### \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the last day to drop the course without it showing on your transcript.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the last day to withdraw from the class.   
If you drop the high school class, you must also withdraw from the UVU class to avoid receiving a failing grade.

Due dates and this syllabus may change at the instructor’s discretion due to the needs of the class members.