

DANC148 SEC TD04 – Fundamentals of Modern I – Spring 2016

The Clarice – Dance Studio 1 - 1908

M | W 11:00am – 12:15pm

Instructor: Curtis W. Stedge

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Course Description

Continuation of the development of axial and locomotor movement skills with emphasis on the development of functional alignment, musicality, range of movement, coordination, and movement memory.

Expanded Course Description

This course offers a solid foundation for the student interested in exploring a fuller range of human movement potential. Through the use of the Laban Bartenieff Movement System we will engage the various categories of movement (Body, Effort, Space, Shape) to more fully realize our individual and collective movement choices and affinities. Generally, classes will begin with a centering meditation, progressing to Bartenieff floorwork, transition up to standing for a structured improvisation, before engaging in center work, an across the floor phrase that ties together the concepts learned throughout class, and concludes with an acknowledgement of community and connectivity.

Course Goals

Upon successful completion of the course students will be able to:

- Define, identify, explain basic modern dance vocabulary and principles as presented
- Perform movement with clear coordination and proper alignment
- Retain movement combinations and apply corrections
- Exhibit self-awareness and mindfulness: how much space do you take up in the class and why? How aware are you of those around you, and those you are dancing with?
- Demonstrate increased strength, flexibility, endurance, attention to detail and rhythmic precision
- Engage in improvised, creative exploration both as an individual performer and as part of an ensemble
- Analyze live and recorded dance performance through clear and articulate writing that describes the work and your personal opinion.

Physical Contact

Dance education, as a physical practice, works best with a combination of demonstration and hands-on contact to help the training body understand alignment, balance, and extension. This includes tactile cues on the limbs, head and neck, and torso. Please notify me if you are not comfortable with physical contact, and I will respect your wishes and privacy.

Course Materials

Textbooks: There is no textbook, however short readings in PDF format will be available on ELMS.

Please bring to each class:

- Notebook, laptop, or tablet;
- Pen or pencil;
- Water bottle and small towel;
- Appropriate dance clothes.
 - **Dress Code**
 - Comfortable, form-fitting clothes that allow for full range of motion.
 - **Hair:** Must be neat, pulled away from neck and face.
 - **Jewelry:** Small post or hoop earrings only. No rings, bracelets or necklaces.
 - **Layering** with sweats and/or leg warmers is recommended.
 - **Not Allowed:** Baggy clothing of any type, watches, dangling jewelry, hats, gum.

Course Requirements

- **Attendance and Participation** (500 pts.)

Attendance: Prompt, prepared, consistent attendance and in-class, active participation are integral components of all dance classes. Students may miss no more than two (2) classes without penalty to their grade. Each unexcused absence afterwards, will negatively affect their grade.

(See TDPS attendance policy below.)

Late Arrival: Arriving late or leaving early will count as one-half (1/2) of an absence. Walking in late to a dance class violates a code of etiquette in dance training. Out of respect for your fellow students, yourself, and I, please arrive early. Do not use the studio to change and/or fix your hair. This should be done before entering the studio.

Observing Class: If you are well enough to attend class, but unable to dance, or if you are late to class, you will be expected to write a one (1) to two (2) page commentary based on class observations. These will be due the same day as the observed class, before midnight. Failure to submit on time will result in an absence for that class. Commentaries should include:

- Choose three (3) exercises performed during class.
- Describe feedback given to students regarding those exercises.
- Describe aspects of these exercises that your colleagues do well.
- Describe aspects of these exercises that challenge your colleagues.
- Describe how you might apply these observations to your own dancing.

Participation: Just showing up to class does not mean that a student will necessarily earn all participation points. A student must be prepared, **actively participate**, and be fully engaged in the material. Students' grade will be assessed by the following criteria:

- Adherence to dress code;
- Classroom etiquette;
- Personal growth/technical development.

Written Assignments

- **Critical Response Paper** (100 pts.)
Due: One Week after performance.
Students will choose one (1) live performance to attend from the list of approved performances on ELMS. Complete assignment details will be provided once the course begins.
- **Class Journal** (50 pts. Each submission, 100 total)
Due: March 13, and May 8
Please use a Google Doc through the Collaboration function in ELMS.
Students will assess their comprehension and mastery of movement, its technical components (alignment, weight distribution, quality of the legs and feet and body coordination, kinesthetic awareness, spatial awareness, musicality, etc.). Students will discuss the challenges they discovered as well as the progress they have made in their class and anything else they wish to comment on, positive or negative, about their class experience.
Maintain, in your own fashion, an on-going record of vocabulary and movement concepts. This will reinforce, daily, new information.

Projects

- **Final Project** (100 pts.) **May 9**
Using the movements or concepts that resonated most strongly with you and your lab group, choreograph a short dance that will be performed in class. Please do not regurgitate class combinations. The goal is to take the information you have learned and create something new. Grading will be based on clarity of ideas, creativity in adapting the ideas, and teamwork. If you are unavailable to perform, you must notify me within the first two weeks of classes.

Practicums

- **Mid-Term Practicum** (100 pts.) – **March 7**
Written component due: March 13
One on One Evaluation Meetings – March 7-11
The mid-term is a practical exam given in the form of a modern dance class, including floor work, center work, and travelling sequences. Students will be videotaped and asked to turn in a written evaluation of their performance following their one on one evaluation meeting. This should include the following:
 - Comment on your overall performance.
 - How has your dancing changed over the course of the semester?
 - What progress do you hope to make for the next practicum?
 - What do you need in order to achieve these goals?
- **Final Practicum** (100 pts) – **May 4**
Written component due: May 8
The final is a practical exam given in the form of a modern dance class, including floor work, center work, and travelling sequences. Students will be videotaped and asked to turn in a written evaluation of their performance. This should include the following:
 - Comment on your overall performance.
 - How has your dancing changed over the course of the semester?
 - Have you made progress on your goals from the midterm? How?

Grading Rubric

A+	1000-970	B+	899-870	C+	799-770	D+	699-670	F	599-0
A	969-930	B	869-830	C	769-730	D	669-630		
A-	929-900	B-	829-800	C-	729-700	D-	629-600		

Plus Minus Grades: The implementation of plus minus grade factoring began in fall 2012. Under the new policy, quality points for each letter grade from A through D will reflect plus and minus components of the grade, as shown below. The plus/minus system will apply to both undergraduate and graduate courses. A+ = 4.0, A = 4.0, A- = 3.7, B+ = 3.3, B = 3.0, B- = 2.7, C+ = 2.3, C = 2.0, C- = 1.7, D+ = 1.3, D = 1.0, D- = 0.7, F = 0. The University's present marking system defining the standards for letter grades is retained under the new plus/minus policy. The present marking system is as follows:

A - Denotes mastery of the subject and excellent scholarship. The student has excellent in-class participation in all discussions, activities and projects, and engagement essays are completed thoughtfully. The student shows mastery of the presented material through his or her performance on the mid-term practicum, group project and final practicum. Assignments of the highest quality are submitted on time, with attention to grammar, spelling and documentation in addition to creativity, original thought and presentation.

B - Denotes sufficient knowledge of the subject and good scholarship. The student has good in-class participation in all discussions, activities and projects, and engagement essays are completed with a degree of thought. The student shows good understanding of the presented material through his or her performance on the mid-term practicum, group project and final practicum. Assignments of good quality are submitted on time, with attention to grammar, spelling and documentation in addition to creativity, original thought and presentation.

C - Denotes moderate knowledge of the subject and average scholarship. The student attends class, but participation in discussions, activities and projects is lacking and engagement essays are completed below expectations. The student shows basic understanding of the presented material through his or her performance on the mid-term practicum, group project and final practicum. Assignments of average quality are submitted on time, with some attention to grammar, spelling and documentation in addition to creativity, original thought and presentation.

D - Denotes little knowledge of the subject and below-average scholarship. The student's class participation is insufficient (excessive tardiness, lack of comments or questions, little to no participation in discussions, activities or projects, disruptive behavior), and engagement essays are not turned in. The student shows a lack of understanding of the presented material through his or her performance on the mid-term practicum, group project and final practicum. Assignments are either not turned in or are of poor quality, with no attention to grammar, spelling and documentation and a lack of creativity, original thought and presentation.

F - The student has major attendance issues and/or a complete lack of class participation. The student shows a total lack of understanding of the presented material through his or her performance on the mid-term and final practicums. Assignments are either not turned in or are of the poorest quality, with no attention to grammar, spelling and documentation and a total lack of creativity, original thought and presentation.

Students are required to earn a grade of at least C- in their major and have a minimum 2.0 Cumulative GPA in their major in order to graduate.

<http://www.testudo.umd.edu/plusminusimplementation.html>

Course Procedures and Policies

Attendance: Prompt, prepared, consistent attendance and in-class, active participation are integral components of all effective classes. Students may miss no more than two (2) classes without penalty to their grade. Each unexcused absence afterwards, will negatively affect their participation grade.

ATTENDANCE POLICY of the School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies: Regular attendance and active, in-class participation are integral components of all dance and theatre classes and seminars. Although instructors are responsible for informing each class of the nature of in-class participation and the effect of absences on the evaluation of a student's work, the School's general attendance policy on excused absences is consistent with the University's policy, which allows students to be excused for the following causes:

1. Illness of the student* or illness of a dependent as defined by the Board of Regents policy on family medical leave
2. Religious observance
3. Participation in University activities at the request of University authorities
4. Compelling circumstances beyond the student's control

*In May 2011, the University Senate and President passed a new policy for granting excused absences, which can be found at:

<http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/v100g.html>.

A student may provide a self-signed note when missing a single lecture, recitation, or laboratory per semester, with the understanding that providing false information is prohibited under Code of Student Conduct. Self-signed notes are not accepted during "Major Scheduled Grading Events." Specific questions concerning the TDPS policy on non-consecutive medical absences should be addressed with the Head of the Program.

Students claiming an excused absence must apply in writing and furnish documentary evidence for their assertion that the absence resulted from one of these causes. (Undergraduate Catalog, pages 36 & 37 or go to: <http://www.testudo.umd.edu/soc/atedasse.html>)

When possible, instructors will make a reasonable effort to re-schedule in-class presentations for students with an authorized excused absence. Students should check the specific requirements of their courses carefully, however, as such re-scheduling is not always possible.

Religious Observance Policy: University of Maryland Policies and Procedures Concerning Academic Assignments on Dates of Religious Observances provides that students should not be penalized because of observances of their religious beliefs; students shall be given an opportunity, whenever feasible, to make up within a reasonable time any academic assignment that is missed because of individual participation in religious observances. Students are responsible for obtaining material missed during their absences. Furthermore, students have the responsibility to inform the instructor of any intended absences for religious observances in advance. The student should provide written notification to the professor, by hand (not through email or mailbox delivery) within the first two weeks of the semester. The notification must identify holiday(s) and date(s). <http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/iii510a.html>

Participation: Just showing up to class does not mean that a student will necessarily earn all participation points. Students are expected to be prepared, attend, be fully engaged in the material, and **actively contribute** to **ALL** classes. You are expected to complete all assignments in advance of the class for which they are required and to demonstrate knowledge of these and, over the length of the course, of the recommended assignments as well.

Course evaluations are a part of the process by which the University of Maryland seeks to improve teaching and learning. Your participation in this official system is critical to the success of the process, and all information submitted to CourseEvalUM is confidential. (Instructors can only view group summaries of evaluations and cannot identify which submissions belong to which students.)

Elms Site Instructions for Students

LOGGING INTO Canvas:

1. Go to <http://elms.umd.edu>.
2. Click on Login on the far left side of the page
3. Type in your ID in the box labeled Username
4. Enter your Directory password in the Password box
5. In the top of the page, under the heading "Courses & Groups," there should be a link for this course. Click on that link
6. Important announcements will appear on Canvas, so be sure to check it daily.

Honor Code: The University has a nationally recognized Honor Code, proposed and administered by the Student Honor Council and approved by the University Senate. The University of Maryland Honor Pledge reads:

"I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this assignment/examination."

Unless you are specifically advised to the contrary, the Pledge statement should be handwritten and signed on the front cover of all exams, papers, projects, or other academic assignments submitted for evaluation in this course. Students who fail to write and sign the Pledge will be asked to confer with the instructor. Please recognize that all students are subject to the requirements of the University's Code of Academic Integrity whether or not they write and sign the Honor Pledge.

For more information: <http://www.orientation.umd.edu/VirtualFolder/academicintegrity.pdf>

Accommodating Individuals Who Have Disabilities: The University is committed to making reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities that have been documented by Disability Support Services (0106 Shoemaker Building, 301-314-7682). A disability should be verified and discussed with Disability Support Services and the student should provide an "Accommodation Letter" to the professor or TA. If you wish to discuss academic accommodations for this class, please contact the professor or TA no later than the end of the schedule adjustment period. For more information: <http://www.counseling.umd.edu/DSS/>

Diversity: The University of Maryland values the diversity of its student body. Along with the University, I am committed to providing a classroom atmosphere that encourages the equitable participation of all students regardless of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, race, religion, or sexual orientation. Potential devaluation of students in the classroom that can occur by reference to demeaning stereotypes of any group and/or overlooking the contributions of a particular group to the topic under discussion is inappropriate. (See **Statement on Classroom Climate**, <http://www.umd.edu/catalog/index.cfm/show/content.section/c/27/ss/1584/s/1541>).

Statement on Civility: The College of Arts and Humanities is expected to be a diverse, open and tolerant arena within which all ideas, whether popular or not, may be freely discussed without rancor. The instructors of this course are committed to creating an open and accepting environment in which diversity, unique perspectives, and others' worldviews are respected. Demeaning, intimidating or threatening behavior is unacceptable and contrary to our basic values. As citizens of the University, we take the lead in producing, and take pride in sustaining, an environment that is characterized by tolerance, respect and civility. This is the hallmark of a college that welcomes and values diverse perspectives, intellectual pluralism and the free and open exchange of ideas.

Sexual Harassment Policy: University of Maryland is committed to maintaining a working and learning environment in which students, faculty, and staff can develop intellectually, professionally, personally, and socially, free of intimidation, fear, coercion, and reprisal. The Campus prohibits sexual harassment which is a violation of law and University policy. Individuals who engage in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action. The University has procedures in place to report sexual harassment and correct it when it occurs. Students who have questions may call the Campus Compliance Officer (301-405-2839), or the Legal Office (301-405-4945). To read the entire Policy see Appendix B in the Undergraduate Catalog. <http://www.president.umd.edu/legal/policies/sh.html>
and
<http://www.umd.edu/catalog/index.cfm/show/content.section/c/52/s/943>

Emergency Protocol: Discussions and assignments will continue to be provided on ELMs.

Copyright Note: Class lectures and other materials are copyrighted and they may not be reproduced for anything other than personal use without written permission from the instructor.

This Syllabus is Subject to Change: Students will be notified in advance of important changes that could affect grading, assignments, etc.

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The Clarice - Dance Studio I (1908)

M,W 11:00am – 12:15pm

Instructor: Curtis W. Stedge

Acknowledgement of Syllabus Requirements

I _____, have completely read and understand the above syllabus. I acknowledge and agree to abide by the policies and complete all requirements as set forth in the above syllabus.

Signature

Date