GROSSMONT COLLEGE

Official Course Outline

DANCE 083A - LATIN AMERICAN DANCE I

1. Course Number Course Title Semester Units Semester Hours

DANCE 083A Latin American 1.5 1 hour lecture: 16-18 hours

Dance I 2 hours lab: 32-36 hours

32-36 outside-of-class hours for

lecture

80-90 total hours

1. Course Prerequisites

None.

Corequisite

None.

Recommended Preparation

None.

1. Catalog Description

Latin American Dance I is a beginning level survey course in a variety of established and emerging partnered dances of Latin American origin with an emphasis on Salsa dance. This course also addresses introductory techniques, styles, rhythms, leading or following skills, movement patterns and history of other selected dances of Latin American origin. This course is designed for students who wish to explore dances from Latin cultures and partnered dance. Students will learn the fundamental principles of physical fitness and their impact on life-long health and wellness. Students will be required to attend one live dance concert produced by the dance department, and one department sponsored master class.

1. Course Objectives

The student will:

a. List and define the historical roots and cultural significance of selected Latin American dance forms.

b. Demonstrate proper etiquette and courtesies to partners in a group setting.

c. Demonstrate rhythmic accuracy and musicality for beginning level footwork and variations in selected dance forms.

d. Demonstrate proficiency in either leading or following in basic Latin American partnered dance forms by applying appropriate compression through proper use of frame.

e. Analyze, define, and perform proper styling and posture for select Latin American dance forms, focusing on body alignment and movement quality, appropriate for beginning level skills.

f. Identify, analyze, and define appropriate music for selected dance forms.

g. Demonstrate beginning level improvisational skills in selected partnered Latin American dance forms by applying appropriate leading or following techniques.

h. Compare and contrast Latin American partnered dance to concert dance through video and/or concert viewing

i. Demonstrate knowledge of the principals of physical fitness, as well as healthy life-style choices, and evaluate their impact on an individual health and well-being.

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1. Instructional Facilities

a. Dance room or large facility, such as a gym, aerobics room, or ballroom with music system and speakers.

b. Occasional use of video camera, and video monitor.

1. Special Materials Required of Student

Dance shoes, including ballroom shoes (preferred), jazz shoes, character shoes.

1. Course Content
   1. Lectures on the historical and cultural or political significance of Latin American dance.
   2. Lectures on Latin American dance as a movement form, including discussions about movement vocabulary, technique, style and interpretation
   3. Basic body and arm positions and footwork patterns
   4. Fundamentals of partnering, leading, following, and improvisation
   5. Movement combinations using techniques and vocabulary introduced in class.
2. Method of Instruction
   1. Lecture.
   2. Guided practice.
   3. Collaborative learning.
   4. Demonstration of vocabulary, theory, and techniques.
   5. Video for presentation and evaluative purposes.
   6. Field trips.
3. Methods of Evaluating Student Performance
   1. Consistent participation in class.
   2. Movement exams.
   3. Written final examination focusing on vocabulary, theories, historical and/or cultural issues related to Latin American dance.
   4. Written critical analysis of live dance performance.
   5. Self-reflection.
4. Outside Class Assignments
   1. Attendance at dance department sponsored master class
   2. Attendance at department produced dance concert for the purpose of critical analysis
   3. Attendance of an outside partnered dance event for the purpose observation, analysis, reflection and practical application of partnering skills.
5. Texts
   1. Required Text(s):
      * 1. Grossmont College Exercise Science and Wellness Department. *The Way to a Long and Healthy Life.* El Cajon, 2015
   2. Supplementary texts and workbooks.
      * 1. McMains, Juliet. *Spinning Mambo into Salsa: Caribbean Dance in Global Commerce*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press; 1st edition, 2015.
        2. Chasteen, John Charles. *National Rhythms, African Roots: The Deep History of Latin American Popular Dance.* Albuquerque, NM: University of New Mexico Press, 2004.
        3. Drake-Boyt, Elizabeth. *Latin Dance*. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood – an imprint of ABC-CLIO , 2011.

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11. Texts (continued)

* + - 1. Garcia, Cindy. *Salsa Crossings: Dancing Latinidad in Los Angeles*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press Books, 2013.
      2. Hutchinson, Sydney. *Salsa World: A Global Dance in Local Contexts.* Philadelphia, PA: Temple University Press, 2013.

Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:

* 1. Gain a working knowledge of partnering skills inherent in Latin American dance, and will define and demonstrate said skills in either leading or following with a focus on proper connection to partner and compression through tension.
  2. Gain a working knowledge of dance steps in selected Latin American dance genres and will define and demonstrate said skills with a focus on coordinating footwork with music.
  3. Develop their knowledge of body posture specific to selected dance genres and will demonstrate their understanding by performing movement sequences focusing on body alignment and movement quality.
  4. Define basic Latin American dance terminology and identify specific genres appropriate for selected music.
  5. Develop aesthetic values as they relate to dance and, based upon these values, will be able to think critically about and analyze dance as an art form.

Date approved by the Governing Board: May 21, 2019