



WEST LA COLLEGE
MODERN JAZZ
DATQ 463 SECTION #0779/ FA 2015

Instructor: M. Funderburk

Email/Phone: funderm@wla.edu
310.287.4436

Class Hours: TuTh 9:35-11:00am

Location: PECS Studio A

Office Hours: MW 3:30-5pm & TuTh 2:30-3:30pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course teaches technique, principles, terminology and the practice of jazz dance. The course will emphasize not only the correct placement and execution of a wide variety of jazz movements, but will also teach various styles and the history of the movement. Various forms of contemporary, lyrical, Latin and hip-hop forms will be explored in class. Students will also learn rhythmical phrasing, syncopated articulation and unique distinctive forms.

RECOMMENDED TEXT:

Guarino, Lindsay and Oliver, Wendy. Jazz Dance: A History of the Roots and Branches ISBN-13: 978-0813061290

REQUIRED ATTIRE/CLASS ETIQUETTE:

Dance attire and jazz shoes are required for all class sessions (leggings, leotard, tanks, tights etc...) Please No oversized clothing: for the instructor needs to be able to appropriately identify and correct movement accuracy and alignment. No hanging jewelry, arm bangles and necklaces are to be worn during class to prevent injury to yourselves as well as classmates. No gum will be allowed in the studio. All phones must be turned on silent and checking phones or texting during class session is **strictly prohibited.** Emergencies must be discussed prior to class with the professor.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to develop and execute...

- Recognize various styles of jazz dance as they relate to genres in history.
- Describe how this course applies to their personal components of fitness.
- Differentiate between aerobic and anaerobic exercise and assess the value of both.

- Utilize principles of warm-up, conditioning, placement, and flexibility. Identify and apply practical jazz techniques, alignment, hip rotation, and weight placement.
- Distinguish and experiment with various movements and styles.
- Recall, demonstrate, and compare various jazz styles and movements.
- Evaluate a jazz performance by comparing movements learned and used in the classroom to movements used in the performance. Assess the effectiveness of the choreography.
- Recall and utilize movement vocabulary taught in class lessons.
- Assess their own levels of physical fitness, conditioning, and dance technique and create a plan for continued progress in their dance and fitness regimen.

COURSE CONTENT:

- History of Jazz in America
- Principles of warm-up, conditioning, alignment, placement, and flexibility.
- Specific explanation and demonstration of jazz warm-up technique, foot and arm positions, alignment, weight placement, and hip rotation.
- Isolation exercises of the head, shoulders, hips, arms, and torso. Fundamental jazz exercise focusing on balance and flexibility.
- Locomotor Jazz movements, jumps, and turns.
- Practice in various styles of jazz, such as classical, lyrical, Latin and hip hop, paying close attention to the music rhythms and styles that accompany it.
- Preparation of exam on warm-up techniques.
- Final group project creating original Jazz choreography.
- Critiques of class work

CLASS MOVEMENT CONCEPTS:

- Jazz technique and its relation to Jazz music.
- Jazz walks, pivot turns, kicks, kick ball-change, pas de bouree, box step, fan kick, barrel turns, chasse, chaines, hitch kick, lay-outs, sutenu turns and more...
- Body alignment, coordination, flexibility, and strength
- Rhythmical perception and musicality
- Qualitative nuances
- Use of space, (body and floor) breath, focus, dynamics, and use of weight and weight shifts in the pelvis
- Identify Jazz dance vocabulary and terminology

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Recall, demonstrate and compare various movements.
2. Analyze various movements used in class combinations.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENT GUIDELINES:

Daily Technical and Concentrated Participation

All students are required to attend class daily and apply and implement instructor's corrections and technical improvement notes on a daily basis. The student is expected to practice any alignment issues from improper technique habits before, during and after class. An individual and self-assessment will be addressed and assessed per class session.

Quizzes

Short quizzes will assess student's knowledge and comprehensive understanding of jazz dance terminology and vocabulary.

Skill Mastery Practicum

Movement phrases and combinations practiced in class will be assessed for technical competency. The assessment will examine students' improved technical ability and application, understanding of timing, phrasing with movement engagement and combination (specific steps) accuracy. Exam will be mid semester- date TBA.

Dance Concert Critique

A concert analysis will be required of all students. All students must attend the Fall Dance Concert here at WLAC. A detailed class discussion and written guide handout will be given to students prior to the concert. A 2- page typed and stapled analysis of one dance work on the concert program will be required. Paper is due one week after the performance.

Group Movement Project

Students will develop movement phrases incorporating jazz terminology studied over the course of the semester to create a dance. The dance must include spatial variations, level changes, stationary and traveling sequences with varying dynamic and timing changes. Project will be presented during finals week.

GRADING:

Daily Technical Growth and Development/ Participation	50%
Skill Mastery Midterm	10%
Terminology Quiz	10%
Concert Analysis	10%
Final Group Project	20%

90-100%= A 80-89%=B 70-79%=C 60-69%=D 59% and lower=F

CLASS POLICIES:

Students are expected to attend each class session. Poor attendance, Non-Participation, Improper Dress and Tardies will affect your daily growth/participation grade. Students will be allowed 3 absences. Students may be dropped from the course after 6 absences or disruptive behavior. Students who arrive after 15 minutes of class beginning will not be allowed to take class. For a make-up for non-participation, the student may take observation notes and turn in a typed copy analysis to the instructor by the next class session to be excused. For missed classes, a student may take another on campus dance/activity class with a signed make-up form from the instructor. (**only** 3 make-ups are allowed)

Consistent in and outs during the class session will not be acceptable and may result in dismissal from the class.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

In accordance with code 9803.28, academic dishonesty is prohibited. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, the following actions: cheating on an exam, plagiarism, working together on an assignment, paper or project when the instructor has specifically stated students should not do so, submitting the same term paper to more than one instructor, or allowing another individual to assume one's identity for the purpose of enhancing one's grade. Academic dishonesty of any type, such as cheating or knowingly furnishing false information, by a student provides grounds for disciplinary action by the instructor or college. In written work, no material may be copied from another without proper quotation marks, footnotes, or appropriate documentation.

STUDENT CONDUCT:

According to code 9803.15, disruption of classes or college activities is prohibited and will not be tolerated. Refer to the catalog and the standards of Student Conduct in the Schedule of Classes for more information.

RECORDING DEVICES:

State law in California prohibits the use of any electronic listening or recording device in a classroom without prior consent of the instructor and college administration. Any student who needs to use electronic aids must secure the consent of the instructor. If the instructor agrees to the request, a notice of consent must be forwarded to the Vice President of Academic Affairs for approval (WLAC College Catalog)

CAMPUS RESOURCES:

Office of Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S)

Student Services Building (SSB) 320/ 310.287.4450

West Los Angeles College recognizes and welcomes its responsibility to provide and equal educational opportunity to all disabled individuals. The office of Disabled Students Programs and Services has been established to provide support services for all verified disabled students pursuing a college education. DSP&S students may qualify for: priority registration, registration assistance, special parking permits, sign language interpreters and assistive technology (WLAC College Catalog).

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT (TUTORING) AND LEARNING SKILLS CENTER:

Heldman Learning Resources Center (HLRC)/ 310.287.4486

Improve your reading, language, vocabulary, spelling, math fundamentals and chemistry knowledge with convenient, self-paced computer-aided courses in the Learning Skills Center. Increase your knowledge and learning success: sign up for tutoring in various college subjects (WLAC College Catalog).

LEARNING SERVICES:

Heldman Learning Resources Center (HLRC)/ 310.287.4269 & 310.287.4486

The WLAC Library provides instruction on how to use the online catalog, periodical and research databases. In addition to a large college of books, periodicals and videos the WLAC Library has course textbooks in which students may use while in the Library. Web access is available in LIRL as well as meeting rooms. The upper floors provide a beautiful view ideal for study (WLAC College Catalog)