

JAZZ DANCE
Dance Techniques 437
TUESDAYS/THURSDAYS
SECTION O778

Tues./Thurs 9:35 – 11:00 am

Sunday, 9:45 – 12:15

Location: PECSA

Instructor: Janet Roston

Office: WPE 132

Office Hours: Thurs. 12:30 – 1:30 P.M., by appointment

Mailbox: 169A

Phone: (310) 287-4587

Email: rostonjl@wlac.edu

www.wlac.edu

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 movements. It includes instruction in jazz, contemporary, lyrical, latin, and hip hop forms.

This class presents jazz dance technique. It includes elements of basic ballet (a fundamental for jazz) funk, hip-hop, and lyrical through a sequence of warm-up exercises and dance combinations. The class is designed to incorporate various levels of experience, beginners through advanced level dancers may take the class. The class allows all students to learn at their own ability level simultaneously. Emphasis in the class is on:

1. Gaining confidence as a mover and jazz dancer.

2. Increasing ability to learn movement including change of weight and musicality.

3. Correct dance technique: alignment, correct line of legs, arms, feet.

4. Increased strength and flexibility

5. Performance Quality: becoming a performer dancing with a clear strong quality.

NO PRE-REQUISITES NECESSARY FOR THIS CLASS

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Increase ability to perform dance with correct technique

Improve ability to learn movement

Learn dance terminology

Develop musicality

Learn different jazz styles: lyrical, funky, hip-hop, musical-theater, ethnic based

Develop overall performance quality

To have FUN!!

GRADING

“A” work is excellent quality work in class based on the level you enter the with. It is possible for a beginning dancer to earn an “A”. It is equally possible for an advanced dancer to earn a low grade. Grading is computed as follows:

| | |
|---|-----|
| Attendance and Participation | 50% |
| Improvement | 20% |
| Dance Combinations (at least two per semester) | 20% |
| Written Review | 10% |

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Regular attendance is mandatory. Three unexcused absences will lower your final grade a letter grade. You may make up to four absences in the following ways:

Take an outside dance class. Have instructor sign the dance schedule after the class. Two outside classes allowed for make-ups

Write an extra credit review of a live dance/theater event or dance film.

You must be dressed and ready to start at 9:35 AM. From 9:35 – 9:50 you will be marked tardy. Two tardies equal one absence. After 9:50 you will not be admitted to class.

If you choose to drop the class you are responsible for taking care of the necessary administrative paperwork.

DRESS CODE AND PROPER DANCE CLASS BEHAVIOR

Dance is a non-verbal medium. Therefore please do not talk to other students during class. If you need help or have a question about the movement, please ask!! I’m here to help! No gum. Hair pulled back, no large earrings, large necklaces, or bangle bracelets. Dance clothes are suggested but workout clothes are acceptable if they are form fitting enough to see the line of the body. You will need either jazz shoes or an athletic shoe with a flat sole (Pumas and Adidas work well).

Jazz shoe and dance wear is required

JAZZ CLASS FORMAT

Format of a jazz class:

Opening warm-up (standing)

Strengthening and stretching sequences (on floor)

Standing Center Floor Technique: Plies, tendus, degage, leg in the air and Develop, adagio, etc.

Across the Floor: jazz walks, pirouette turns, pique turns, battement, etc.

Combination: two to three combos a semester. These will vary in style from Funky to lyrical.

WRITTEN REVIEW

You will be spending two days a week in dance class, your awareness of dance needs to extend outside the classroom. You are therefore required to write a written review. You may review a live dance event or dance film. If a film featuring dance is not currently in the theaters then you may rent a video. (Some suggestions are: Center Stage, Dance With Me, Movie Musicals, Fred Astaire films, Gene Kelley films, Bollywood Musicals). The review need to be two pages. For live dance review: style of dance (varieties of styles) amount of dancers used (entrances and exits), performance quality, costumes, lighting, literal or abstract dance. For film: style of dance, shooting style (full body shots, close ups, quick editing or long shots), performance quality, costumes.

REMEMBER...

Remember, everyone enters this class at their own level and progresses at their own rate. Work hard but be patient with your own personal improvement rate. Class is a community experience. Jazz class doesn't happen alone but in a group. Let's feel the groove, flow with the music and have a great time.

Cell Phones and Lap Tops

Cell phones must be on vibrate, as a courtesy to your classmates and your professor. It is not acceptable to take phone calls or text in class. . If you have to answer an emergency phone call, please step out of the classroom. You may take notes in class on your laptop, but do not let that be a distraction to participating in class.

Electronic Mail

E-mail is the official method of communicating with you. Every WLAC student has an e-mail address. Check your Student.LACCD@Edu account daily/weekly. To access your account visit www.wlac.edu, and click on the Student Email button. To log in use your student ID # and your birthday and month. Your Student.LACCD@Edu email can be forwarded to any other personal email account.

Disabled Student Services

If you know or think that you have any learning or physical disabilities, please contact Dr. Duke in the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS) Office in HLRC 121 at (310) 287-4450. The DSPS will then contact your instructors to notify them of needed accommodations, such as additional testing time, or a note taker. If you require an accommodation for this class, please speak with me. Tape recording of lectures and discussions will not be permitted without my consent.

Dropping the course

According to college policy, you will be excluded for excessive absences or for not following the Standards of Student Conduct (printed in the Schedule of Classes). If you drop the course, be sure to do so at the Admissions and Business Offices and keep your receipt. Pay attention to drop dates in the Schedule of Classes. The last day to drop for this class with no fee owed is Tuesday, February 21, 2012. The last day to drop without a "W" is Friday, March 2, 2012. The last day to drop with a "W" is Friday, May 4, 2012.

Academic Integrity

Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. When there is evidence of cheating or plagiarism in classroom work, the instructor may assign a failing grade, "F," or zero points to the examination or assignment in which the alleged cheating or plagiarism occurred. Before a substandard grade is issued the instructor will provide the student with supporting documentation of the plagiarism or cheating charge. Instructors have the authority to use plagiarism detecting instruments such as "Turn It In" to detect academic dishonesty.

Forms of Behavior which Violate Academic Integrity

- **Cheating.** Using any materials or devices or strategies which provide undue advantage on any exam, assignment, activity or other method of assessment for a course. This includes, but is not limited to, looking at another student's exam, using phones or other communication systems to text message during exams, taking pictures or images of exams, talking with others during exams, using Internet to find information, or any other system of inappropriate "help." Exams are to be measures of what YOU, as an individual, have learned.
- **Collaboration.** Working together on projects, papers, exams or other forms of assessment which are to be completed individually.
- **Plagiarism.** Taking anyone else's work as one's own. Presenting another's words, ideas, forms of expression, materials, or labor without proper citation, referencing, and declaration that this material originated outside the student's own work.

For assistance with classroom projects, papers and assignments, please visit the Learning Skills Center, HLRC.

Standards of Student Conduct

The West LA College faculty, staff and administrators are dedicated to maintaining an optimal learning environment and will not tolerate any disruptive behavior in or outside of the classroom or any academic dishonesty. These standards apply to all students.

Disruptive, disrespectful, or obstructive behavior will be dealt with in accordance with the LACCD Standard of Student conduct. Disciplinary action can be taken if student behavior interferes with instruction. (Please refer to the Spring 2012 Schedule of Classes pages 117-118.)

- Warning—A verbal or written notice, given to the student by the instructor.
- Removal by the Instructor—An instructor may remove a student from class for the day of the incident and the next class meeting. During the period of removal, the student shall not return to the class from which he or she was removed without the permission of the Vice President of Student Services.

Classroom and Campus Cleanliness

Please help us keep the classroom and campus grounds clean. No food or beverages, except for water, is permitted inside instructional classrooms /labs. Please use the receptacles to dispose of trash.

Electronic Mail

Electronic mail is the official method of communication for delivery of college information. Please check your Student.LACCD@Edu account daily/weekly. To access your account visit www.wlac.edu, click on the Student Email button. To log in use your student ID# and your birthday and month. Your Student.LACCD@EDU email can be forwarded to any other personal email account.