COMMON COURSE OUTLINE: Course discipline/number/title: DANC 1103: Jazz I

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION
1. Credits: 3
2. Hours/Week: 3
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): None
4. Co-requisites (Course discipline/number): None

This is an introductory jazz dance course designed to give the student foundational skills and vocabulary to progress further in the field. Basic jazz terminology, familiarity with the body as a tool of performance art, aspects of performance and broad outlines of jazz history will be covered. Physical flexibility, strength and stamina will be developed. For beginning dancers as well as those who have been away from dance for some time. RECOMMENDED ENTRY SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE: College level reading skills, the ability to pick up unfamiliar terminology.

B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): March, 2008

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
Material is presented by means of demonstration and discussion. Practice and repetition are the primary means of learning and are followed by correction and clarification. The content includes:
1. Warm-up: a series of exercises designed to stretch and strengthen the body and prepare the student to dance
2. Observation, analysis and critical response to the art of dance through written and oral means
3. Practice proper physical movement in preparation for dance performance including: proper alignment, stamina, coordination and fluidity of movement
4. Awareness of and use of breathing techniques for the art and health
5. Rhythmic accuracy
6. Mental preparation and gain focus through observation of performances
7. Basic isolation of body parts for coordination
8. The use of jazz style in simple exercises
9. Introduction to fundamentals of jazz dance such as opposition, level change, and rhythm
10. Introduction to the dance vocabulary reflected in the jazz idiom
11. Improvisation to explore various elements of jazz dance
12. Study a variety of historical and social influences on the art of dance
13. Exploration of expressiveness
14. Creation of a dance piece for performance

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will gain:
1. The ability to learn and perform simple jazz combinations.
2. Ease and efficiency of movement, flexibility, strength, and stamina.
3. A basic understanding of movement qualities.
4. Basic skills in locomotor patterns and phrases.
5. A basic awareness of the artistic aspects of dance performance.
6. An understanding of the broad outlines of jazz history.
7. A basic understanding of anatomy.
8. A basic understanding of choreography.

E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC):
Goal 6/The Humanities: Students should be able to:
1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
4. Engage in the creative process or interpretive performance.
5. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.
F. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:
The course will be assessed with latitude depending on the instructor. In general, the methods of evaluation may include:
1. Attendance & demonstration of course material
2. Participation, effort, attitude & improvement
3. Examinations
4. Journals
5. Quizzes

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any): None