CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS
DANC 1410:01 - BEGINNING BALLET-FA MAJORS ONLY

Semester/Year: Fall 2015

Lecture Hours: Laboratory Hours: 3 Credit: 1

Class Time: 11:00 - 12:30 Days: T, TH Room: KT 159 Studio A

INSTRUCTOR: Jodi Youmans-Jones OFFICE: KT 156 PHONE: 268-2690
Email: jjones@caspercollege.edu
CELL: 258-8910

Office Hours: M 12-3pm, W 2-3pm, TH 12:30-1:30pm (Appointment is suggested)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will emphasize the fundamentals of ballet. Will focus on technique, terminology, and the execution of the basic steps.

*The study of dance often requires physical contact, either teacher-to-student (in terms of physical alignment & muscle use) or student-to-student (in the course of improvisation, partnering, or ensemble work). If you have any concern or reservations about the appropriateness of physical contact, please talk to the instructor immediately.

STATEMENT OF PREREQUISITES: None

GOAL: To expose the student to the basic principles of ballet and the understanding of its primary objectives. This course will expose students to Cecchetti pedagogy, basic ballet steps and combinations. The student will also be exposed to different forms of ballet and will write about these forms.

OUTCOMES: The student who completes this course in good standing should be working on a single pirouette en dehors, flexibility to 90° in all directions, accomplish beginning ballet barre exercises and performance choreography. The student also will be versed in basic Cecchetti ballet vocabulary and be able to demonstrate exposure to differing ballet approaches through writings and projects.

Casper College Outcomes:
1. Appreciate aesthetic and creative activities.
2. Use appropriate technology and information to conduct research.
3. Demonstrate effective oral and written communication.

METHODOLOGY:
1. This class will experience demonstrative and hands on teaching as well as a lot of imagery work to accomplish the skills.
2. You will view a more contemporary ballet video in class and will be responsible for discussing. You will then be responsible for writing a 2nd review on a different full-length ballet. Both are required to be in MLA format.
3. You will be responsible for a research project looking at Pre-classical court dance. (MLA Format)
4. MLA format will be strictly required.

Class Content:

1) **BARRE** - 35-45 min. (Plié, Tendu, Port de Corps, Degage, Rond De Jambe a' terre, Frappe, Battement Fondue, Grand Battement, Stretches)

2) **CENTER FLOOR** - 45-55 min. The center floor work will include:
   1. Adage: 8 Cecchetti Body positions, balance and arabesque work
   2. Pirouettes and turns
   3. Allegro work both Petite and Grande
   4. Reverence
   (We will also put many of these skills together and work longer combinations across the floor.)

**EVALUATION CRITERIA:** The subject itself forces subjective grading and evaluation. Take initiative to insure the instructor's awareness of your growth and potential. Insofar as possible, evaluation will not be based on talent, but rather on commitment, discipline, respect for the art, and an honest effort to better yourself as a dancer. The point values for each assignment follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Total Pts.</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ballet Readings (2)</td>
<td>50 pts</td>
<td>(2 summaries, 1-2 pgs w/attached article)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ballet Review (2)</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
<td>(2 reviews of a full ballet production, 3 pg minimum, MLA Format)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Terminology Exams (4)</td>
<td>300 pts</td>
<td>(2 50 pt. quizzes, 2 100 pt. exams)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technical Exams (2)</td>
<td>200 pts</td>
<td>(Midterm and Final)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Choreography Exams (1)</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daily participations</td>
<td>400 pts</td>
<td>(200 per ½ semester)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>200 pts</td>
<td>(100 per ½ semester)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Historical Paper/Project</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
<td>(Creative project w/ paper and presentation OR Research Paper. MLA Format. See Paper/project requirements under Class Schedule)</td>
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** All writing/project assignments requires MLA format – See Reworks@www.caspercollege.edu/library/index.html for questions and help.**

-You are allowed one absence without affecting your grade. With each absence following the one, you will lose 5% of your attendance grade. Tardies or leaving class early will also affect your grade. Two tardies will result in an absence and a loss of 5% of your attendance grade. Please note that
there is no such thing as an excused absence at Casper College. Absences for any reason will be recorded. Your technical grades—including choreography, will be based off of the following rubric.

**Ballet I Rubric**

- Skills are performed with intention, correct placement/alignment, good spatial awareness, correct rhythm, and above average improvement. 9-10 points

- Skills are performed with intention, good placement/alignment, good spatial awareness, average rhythm and good improvement. 8-9 points

- Skills are completed but somewhat unsure, placement/alignment is attempted but inconsistent, spatial awareness is attempted, rhythm is inconsistent and average improvement. 7 points

- Skills are unsure and questioned, placement/alignment is unclear, spatial awareness is unclear, rhythm is inconsistent, no visual improvement. 5-6 points

- Skills are incomplete, no efforts toward placement/alignment demonstrated; rhythm and spatial awareness are questionable. 1-4 point

**Grading Scale**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-59%</td>
<td>F</td>
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**Midterm Exam** - A written exam covering terminology, Cecchetti 8 positions of the body, and a demonstration of what you have learned in class.

**Final Exam** - A written exam on terminology and presentation of technique combinations and choreography.

**Ballet Review Paper** – Each student will be expected to write two Review papers on two Ballet videos or performances. This paper should be 3-5 pages, have a cover page and follow a review format. It should cover all aspects of the performance and personal view points, and must be written in MLA Format.

**Historical Paper** – This paper should be 4-6 page in length and should cover a Pre-Classical Dance Form. You should include its history, performance venues, music, steps, etc. and its importance to today’s ballet. This ‘paper’ can be done as a project as well. (MLA Format) See Paper/Project Requirements after class schedule.

**Late work** - All work not completed by the date specified is subject to being discounted 25% of the total credit possible. This includes missed pop quizzes. Vocabulary and Technical exams can not be made up if missed.

CLASS POLICIES:

1. Participation - The nature of this class is experience; you will be expected to participate in warm-up exercises, center and across the floor technique, and combinations.

2. Clothing
   a. Split-sole Ballet shoes are **required** every day for class unless otherwise specified.
   b. Form fitting clothes **required** -leotards and tights for women, shirts and close-fitting shorts or tights for men. Ballet skirts are acceptable for women.
   c. Dance belts are **required** for men and sports bras or needed support for women is **required** as needed.
   d. Long hair needs to be secured away from face and up off the neck, no pony tails or long braids. Buns are expected unless otherwise specified.
   e. No necklaces, chokers, dangle earrings, bracelets or loud prints in clothing.
   f. Classical dress is expected on testing days. This would be pink tights and black leo for women, white t-shirts and black tights/shorts for men.

3. Daily Assignments - New terminology and steps will be introduced daily. You will be expected to take notes and be prepared for written, oral, and demonstrative quizzes. Vocabulary is a must. You will be expected to purchase a vocabulary workbook and be up-to-date with it at all times.

4. Classroom Etiquette
   1. No gum or candy in class. Throat lozenges are acceptable with notification.
   2. If you are more than 15 minutes late for class you need to observe the class.
   3. **Anytime you are observing class, you need to take specific notes on combinations and corrections if you want partial credit for that class period.**
   4. No cell phones in the ‘on’ mode are permitted. If a cell phone goes off during class you will lose participation points.
   5. Please be courteous to all other dancers, instructors or observers. Learn from as many sources possible, this includes one another.
   6. Hair needs to be off the face and neck for class in a bun. No hats or beanies-doo rags and scarves acceptable. Men w/long hair must pull it back as well.
   7. Applause at the end of class is appropriate to show appreciation for fellow students, the art form, and the instructor
   8. If you have to leave class, please check with the instructor first.
   9. Please have personal water bottle for class so as the need to leave class will be lessened.

LAST DATE TO CHANGE TO AUDIT STATUS OR TO WITHDRAW WITH A W GRADE: The Final Date for Withdrawal from the Course or to change to Audit Status will be
those posted in the Official Semester Schedule. This is usually the first Friday following Midterm Break. This date will be strictly followed.

**Student Rights and Responsibilities:** Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

**Chain of Command:** If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor in order to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

**Academic Dishonesty:** (Cheating & Plagiarism) Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct.

**Official Means of Communication:** Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student’s assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly.

**ADA Accommodations Policy:** If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college’s Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344 (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

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**DANC 1410:01- BEGINNING BALLET**

**CLASS SCHEDULE - FALL 2015**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 25</td>
<td>Orientation</td>
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<td>Aug 27</td>
<td>Dance Attire &amp; Shoes or white cotton socks required</td>
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<td>Sept 1</td>
<td>Meet in Library Classroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 17</td>
<td>Video w/ Review due Sept. 22</td>
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<td>Sept 22</td>
<td>Ballet Review due – (50 pts)/Vocab review/class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 24</td>
<td>Vocabulary Quiz #1 (50 pts)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 29</td>
<td>Reading #1 due (25 pts)</td>
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Oct 13  Technical Exam (100 pts.)
Oct 15  Midterm Written Exam (100 pts.)
Oct 20  Fall Break
Oct 22  Historical Paper/Project due (100 pts)
Oct 29  Ballet Review #2 due (50 pts)
Nov  6   Advising Day
Nov 12  Vocabulary Quiz #2 (50 pts)
Nov 19  Reading #2 due (25 pts) Work on in class
Nov 25-29 Thanksgiving Break
Dec  8   Technical Final Exam (100 pts.)
Dec 10  Choreography Exam Final (100 pts)
Dec 14-17 Written Final Exam

** Dec. 15, 16 SEASONAL SHOWING – 7:30 PM

BALLET ONE HISTORICAL PAPER REQUIREMENTS

This paper should investigate the pre-classical forms of dance, Court Dances. These forms include the Pavane, the Galliard, the Minuet, the Gigue, the Courante, the Sarabande, the Allemande, and many others. These were all dances performed in the courts of royalty in the 1500’s and 1600’s, stemming from the peasant dances of previous generations. Please choose one of these and research it so that your paper includes the description of the dance, the meter, the where/when/whys of the dance and who danced the dance. Also include the steps that are done today that could be linked or stemmed back to the dance. This paper should be at least 5 pages in length and should also include a cover page and a bibliography or works cited page. The paper should be in MLA form.

*Alternate choice for topic: You may choose two or three of the court dances and compare them in all their aspects. You then could compare them to a ballet class of modern times. All of the factual information that is listed above should also be included in this paper also.

*Alternate choice for paper: This may also be presented in project form with a 2-3 page paper explaining the project. The historical ideas have to be presented on or within the project. This can be a tri-fold poster, a short story, poem, children’s book, diorama, etc. Be creative!