CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS  
THEA 1450:01 BEGINNING TAP

Semester/Year: Fall 2006

Lecture Hours: Lab Hours: 3  Credit Hours: 1 CR

Class Time: 3:00-4:30  Days: T, TH  Room: KT 157

Instructor’s Name: Tristan Sheets  Instructor’s Office:
Phone #: 268-2690-(Jodi’s, leave message)

Office Hours: TBA

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Will emphasize the fundamentals of Tap. Will focus on technique, terminology, and the execution of the basic steps.

*The study of dance often requires physical contact, either teacher-to-teacher (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.

PREREQUISITES: None

COURSE GOAL: To gain a basic understanding of the exercises, stretches, steps, combinations, and movements related to Tap. To prepare the students minds and bodies for the task of dance, be it for personal gain or class objectives for theatre and the arts.

OUTCOMES: The tap student will finish with a better understanding of rhythm and how tap steps are performed and created.

METHODOLOGY:

1. Attendance - Your goal is perfect attendance. Missed dance classes are impossible to make up, so any absence is discouraged. Because attendance is so important, it will be a major part of your grade for this class.

2. 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.

3. Clothing - As this class is based on participation, you will need to dress for maximum freedom of movement. Leotard, tights, sweats or unitards are suggested. Tap shoes are required. No excessive jewelry or wild prints.

4. 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.

Method of Grading: Grades will be assigned on the following percentage scale:

90 - 100% = A  
80 - 89.9% = B  
70 - 79.9% = C  
60 - 69.9% = D  
50 - 59.9% = F
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.

Grading Attendance - Each student will be allowed 400 points for the semester for attendance. No credit will be deducted for the first two classes missed by the student. Afterward, 35 points will be deducted for each class missed. Tardies will result in the loss of 15 points. Missing class during tech and run times of C.C. productions will result in a double F if you are involved in the production. (Please note that there is no such thing as an excused absence at Casper College. Absences for any reason will be recorded.)

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.

Assignments will be graded as follows:
- Class attendance: 400 points
- Exams and Quizzes: 200 points
- Daily work: 400 points
- Mid-term technical evaluation: 100 points
- Group/Class Presentation: 100 points
- Final Technical Exam: 100 points

Required Text, Readings, Materials: Vocabulary sheets handed out in class.

Last Date to Change to Audit Status: 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.

Last Date 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:

A. Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.
B. It is the policy of Casper College to provide appropriate accommodations to any student with a documented disability. If you have a need for accommodation in this course, please make an appointment to see the instructor at your earliest convenience.
C. 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 your problem through the appropriate chain of command starting with the department head, then the division chair, and lastly the vice president for academic affairs.
D. 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.

Calendar or Schedule indicating course content:
Aug 29       Class starts/Orientation
Aug 31       Dress for class
Aug 31       D. D. orders due 1:00 p.m.
Sept 19      Sound Check
Sept 21, 28  Video
Sept 28      Sound Assign #1 given
Oct 3        Sound Assign due & learned
Oct 3        Sound Assign #2 given
Oct 10       Sound Assign #2 due
Oct 17       Midterm written
Oct 19       Midterm Demonstration
Oct 24       **Fall Break**
Nov 3-5      Departmental Denver trip
Nov 7        Class project
Nov 14       Class project
Nov 22-26    Thanksgiving
Nov 28       Class presentation
Dec 17       Moscow Ballet *Nutcracker*
**Dec 18-21**   Finals

**Class 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.
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.