Casper College Course Syllabus
THEA 1480:01 Beginning Jazz

Semester/Year: Fall 2006

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

Class Time: 8:30-10:00 AM Days: T, TH
Room: KT 159-Studio A

Instructor’s Name: Jodi Youmans-Jones

Instructor's Office #: KT 156 Phone #: 268-2690

Office Hours: M, 1:30-2:00; T, 10-11; W, 1:30-2:00; TH, 10:00-11:00; F, 8:00-9:00
(Appointment is suggested)

Course Description: A comprehensive class in the basic techniques of jazz movement.

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.

Prerequisites: None.

Course Goals:
1) Development of Techniques
2) Advancement of Skills
   a) Perception - eye to muscle coordination
   b) Performance - energy, dynamics, focus, accent
   c) Rhythmic sense and recognition of different meters
   d) Spatial and directional awareness
   e) Motor development
3) Building of strength and flexibility
4) Achievement of knowledge of correct placement and alignment
5) Understanding and appreciation of dance as an art form.

Outcomes: The student who completes this course in good standing will gain a basic understanding of the exercises, stretches, steps, combinations, and movements related to jazz.

Methodology: The student will experience a warm-up, a centre combination and across the floor exercises.

Evaluation Criteria:
Assignments will be graded as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
<th>400 points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class attendance</td>
<td>400 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams and Quizzes</td>
<td>200 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily work</td>
<td>500 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term Technical</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Presentation</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Technical</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1400 points possible

90 - 100% = A
80 - 89% = B
70 - 79% = C
60 - 69% = D
50 - 59% = F

Required Text, Readings, Materials: Class Handouts

Last Date to Withdraw with a W Grade: The Final Date for Withdrawal from the course or to change to Audit 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 29</td>
<td>Class starts/Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 31</td>
<td>Dress for class/clothing order due by 3:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 17, 19</td>
<td>Midterm - Movement Phrase, Technical and Vocabulary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 24</td>
<td>Fall Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 3-5</td>
<td>Departmental Denver trip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 22-26</td>
<td>Thanksgiving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 18-21</td>
<td>Finals-Self-Choreographed piece, technical and vocabulary exams</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Note:

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. I recognize that many of you are heavily committed to departmental productions and I will always try to take this into account, however, students cannot assume that production commitments take precedence over academic assignments. Missing class during tech and run times of CC productions will result in a double F if you are involved in the production. Absence from two classes is permitted without penalty.

Classes missed beyond this point will result in a 3% reduction (per class missed) in your final grade. (Please note that there is no such thing as an excused absence at Casper College. Absences for any reason will be recorded).

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
   1. Jazz shoes or bare feet.
   2. Form fitting clothes required – leotards and tights for women, plus shirts and shorts or tights for men.
   3. Dance belts are required for men and support bras or needed support for women is expected.
   4. Long hair needs to be secured away from face and up off the neck
   5. No necklaces, chokers, dangle earrings, bracelets, or loud prints in clothing.

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.
   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.
   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 a personal water bottle for class so as the need to leave class will be minimized.