CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS
DANC 1450.01 Beginning Tap Dance

Semester/Year: Spring 2016

Lecture Hours: 0       Lab Hours: 3       Credit Hours: 1

Class Time: 2-3:30pm    Days: MW       Room: KT159

Instructor’s Name: Anna Corvera

Instructor's Contact       Office Phone: 307-268-2261 Email: acorvera@caspercollege.edu
Information: Office KT147  Cell Phone: 314-409-3680

Office Hours: T & Th 12-1pm & 2:30-3pm, W 12-1pm, F 11am-1pm

Course Description: This course will emphasize the fundamentals of tap dance. Will focus on technique, terminology, and the execution of the basic steps.

Statement of Prerequisites: None

Goal: To develop the student’s beginning tap dance technique and vocabulary. To develop a sense of musicality. To be able to confidently perform and choreograph as well as discuss and write about tap dance.

Outcomes and Course Objectives: The student who completes this course in good standing will be able to successfully demonstrate beginning tap dance vocabulary, technique, and choreography. The student will successfully create and perform choreography. The student will also read, write, and discuss different aspects of tap dance.

Casper College General Education Outcomes:
1. Demonstrate effective oral and written communication
2. Solve problems using critical thinking and creativity
3. Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures and historical perspectives
4. Appreciate aesthetic and creative activities
5. Use appropriate technology and information to conduct research
Methodology: This class will use discussion, demonstration, performance, video, reading, writing, and vocabulary testing. Students will work individually, in partners, in small groups, and in large groups. This is primarily a movement-based class.

*The study of dance often requires physical contact, either teacher-to-student (in terms of physical alignment and 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.
**Evaluation Criteria:**

Introduction Letter, 1-2 pages, 25 points  
Reflection Letter, 1-2 pages, 25 points  
Midterm Conference, 10 minutes, 25 points  
Vocabulary Exam 1, 100 points  
Vocabulary Exam 2, 100 points  
Reading Discussion 1 (Preface & Introduction & Chapters 1-2), 25 points  
Reading Discussion 2 (Chapters 3-4), 25 points  
Reading Discussion 3 (Chapters 5-6), 25 points  
Technique Demonstration 1, 50 points  
Technique Demonstration 2, 50 points  
Technique Demonstration 3, 50 points  
Technique Demonstration 4, 50 points  
Choreography Final, 100 points  
Duet Project, 2-2½ minutes, 100 points  
Collaboration Project, 100 points  
Performance Review, 3-4 pages, 50 points  
Attendance & Participation, 200 points

**Tap I Technique Rubric:**

**9-10 points:** Exhibits consistently clear understanding and strength in this area, which he/she applies consistently.  
**8 points:** Exhibits mostly clear understanding and strength in this area, which he/she applies regularly but not consistently.  
**7 points:** Exhibits some understanding and strength in this area, which he/she applies sometimes.  
**6 points:** Exhibits a limited understanding and strength in this area, and has difficulty applying it.  
**0-5 points:** Does not demonstrate an understanding and strength in this area, and is unable to apply it.

_____Timing, Rhythm, Musicality, & Consistent Tempo  
_____Quality/Clarity of Sound & Dynamic Range  
_____Upper/Lower Connectivity (integrated use of head, arms, and legs)  
_____Shifting Weight, Traveling, & Groundedness  
_____Confident, Well-Rehearsed, & Applied Corrections  
_____Total (50 points)

**Grading Scale:**

A = 90-100%, B = 80-89%, C = 70-79%, D = 60-69%, F = 0-59%

Casper College may collect samples of student work demonstrating achievement of the above outcomes. Any personally identifying information will be removed from student work.
Required Text, Readings, and Materials: *Inside Tap* by Anita Feldman, a water bottle, appropriate dance attire, and tap shoes. MLA format information can be found on the Casper College Library website (www.caspercollege.edu/library) or on the Purdue OWL website (https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/).

Class Policies: Any missed or late assignments need to be made-up within one week of the due date. Any revised assignments need to be finished within one week of receiving feedback. If observing class due to sickness or injury, you need to take thorough notes which are due at the end of that class. All formal papers must be in MLA format.

Wear appropriate dance attire meaning clothes your body can move in and clothes your body can be seen in, and tap shoes. Wear appropriate supportive undergarments. Hair should be secured away from your face. No jewelry. No gum. No cell phones. For Technique Demonstrations wear solid colors.

*You are allowed one absence without it 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 of these will count as an absence. Please note that there is no such thing as an excused absence at Casper College. Absences for any reason will be recorded.*

Last Date to Change to Audit Status or to Withdraw with a W Grade: Apr 14, 2016

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 to attempt 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 for more information on this topic.

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. This is also, where you will find course evaluation links during course evaluation periods.
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.

Course Calendar: (Subject to change at the instructor’s discretion.)
Wed Jan 20th - First Day of Class, Syllabus
Mon Jan 25th - Introduction Letter, 1-2 pages, 25 points
Mon Feb 1st - Reading Discussion 1 (Preface & Introduction & Chapters 1-2), 25 points
Wed Feb 3rd - Technique Demonstration 1, 50 points
Mon Feb 15th - President’s Day (no classes)
Feb 15-19 - American College Theatre Festival
Mon Feb 22nd - Reading Discussion 2 (Chapters 3-4), 25 points
Wed Feb 24th - Technique Demonstration 2, 50 points
Mon Feb 29th - Review for Vocabulary Exam 1
Wed Mar 2nd - Vocabulary Exam 1, 100 points
Mon Mar 7th - Midterms - Midterm Conference, 10 minutes, 25 points
Mar 9-12 - American College Dance Association
Mar 14-18 - Spring Break (no classes)
Fri Mar 25th - Spring Holiday (no classes)
Mon Mar 28th - Reading Discussion 3 (Chapters 5-6), 25 points
Wed Mar 30th - Technique Demonstration 3, 50 points
Fri Apr 8th - Advising Day (no classes)
Mon Apr 11th - Technique Demonstration 4, 50 points
Wed Apr 13th - Performance Review, 3-4 pages, 50 points
Wed Apr 20th - Collaboration Project, 100 points
Mon Apr 25th - Review for Vocabulary Exam 2
Wed Apr 27th - Vocabulary Exam 2, 100 points
Mon May 2nd - Reflection Letter, 1-2 pages, 25 points
Tue May 10th 10:10am-12:10pm - Final Exam - Duet Project, 2-2½ minutes, 100 points
Tue May 10th & Wed May 11th 7:30pm - Seasonal Dance Showcase & Choreography
Final, 100 points
Fri May 13th - Commencement

Performance Calendar:
Dança Nova - Fri Feb 26th 2:30pm
Carmina Burana - Feb 24-27 & Mar 3-5 7:30pm, Feb 28 & Mar 6th 2pm
Mulberry - Apr 21-23 & 27-30 7:30pm, Apr 24 2pm
Artcore Events