

Eastern Illinois University
Technique & Theory of Modern Dance
KSS 2230
Course Syllabus

Instructor: Diana Lenzi
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Office Hours: M-W: 11 am-12 pm T-Th: 12 pm-1 pm
(other times by appointment)
Office hours posted outside office door
Mailbox is located in 1110 McAfee

Course Description: This course is an introduction to the study of modern dance technique and theory. It will introduce the student to dance as an art form and will include composition and improvisation.

Course Objectives: 1. To gain an understanding of modern dance as an art form.
2. To experience basic modern dance movement and technique.
3. To gain an understanding of movement principles.
4. To experience the creative realm within modern dance.
5. To become acquainted with leaders in the modern dance field.

Course Content: **Warm-Ups:** The muscles are stretched through a series of movement patterns to prepare for physical activity and minimize the risk of injury.
Technique: Basic movements and movement combinations are learned and performed.

Assessment/Evaluation:

Attendance and Class Participation—30%

Grades are lowered according to the number of absences.
2=no grade change, 3=no grade higher than a B, 4=no grade higher than a C, 5=no grade higher than a D, and 6=failure of the class.
Passing this portion of the course is mandatory. (Attendance without participation equals half an absence.) Class participation will be subjectively observed by the instructor and possible peer evaluations.

Technique Development—30% This includes a mid-term and a final project.

Assignments and Notebooks—20% This includes short research papers and a notebook.

Mid-term and Final Exams—20%

Course Requirements:

Clothing: Leotards and footless or stirrup tights may be worn as well as shorts or sweat pants. T-shirts should be form-fitting. Bare feet or approved dance shoes are only allowed on the sprung floor of the studio.

Other requests:

1. No street shoes allowed. Students will dance in bare feet. Check with instructor to approve other footwear.
2. No jeans, dangling jewelry or hats.
3. Wear pants that will not hinder movement.
4. Tie hair up or back away from the face.
5. Please do not touch the mirrors.
6. Sit on the floor or benches. Do not play the piano without permission.
7. No gum, food or drinks. Water bottles are acceptable.
8. Be prompt! Be dressed and ready to move at 12:00 p.m. sharp. If more than five minutes late, a tardy will be recorded and count as half an absence. (It is the *student's* responsibility to make sure proper credit is given.)
9. Any assignment not turned in on time is automatically lowered one letter grade per 24 hours it is late.
10. Turn off cell phone before entering the classroom.

Emergency Procedure: The class will either go to an inside hallway of McAfee in case of inclement weather or meet at the pavilion by the campus pond behind Lantz in case a campus emergency exists.

Disability Statement: If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the coordinator of the Office of Disability Services at 217.581.6583.

Students who are having difficulty achieving their academic goals are encouraged to contact the Student Success Center (www.eiu.edu/~success) for assistance with time management, test taking, note taking, avoiding procrastination, setting goals, and other skills to support academic achievement. The Student Success Center provides individualized consultations. To make an appointment, call 217.581.6696, or go to 9th Street Hall, Room 1302.