DNCE 4 – BEGINNING TAP SYLLABUS

Spring 2013  2 Units  YSM 187  T TH 3:00-4:15
Associate Professor Ed Brazo  Office  SHS 112
Office Hours: T TH 1:00-2:30  edbrazo@csus.edu

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Introduction to fundamental tap dance skills including basic steps, history and vocabulary and style development. This course is designed as a beginning tap class for the student with no or very little previous tap training. However, basic dance technique and terminology knowledge will be helpful. Classes will include thorough warm-up exercises, across the floor combinations, rhythm and technique emphasis, followed by routine and combination work. Focus in this class in on Broadway and musical theatre style tap and then will include contemporary and improvisational and rhythm tap styles.

REQUIRED TEXT/MATERIALS:  NO text is required. Tap shoes are required and student presence at three dance concerts. Final dance project to be discussed at length at midterm.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
• Identify and define tap vocabulary physically, verbally and in writing.
• Understand and comprehend history of tap dance styles and progressions, which have been incorporated into the current world of Broadway’s musical theatre and contemporary tap choreography.
• Analyze and break down warm-up and practice habits.
• Understand tap technique and terminology.
• Create new tap steps, rhythms and routines.
• Apply skill of learning tap dance steps and routines quickly for musical theatre audition purposes.
• Demonstrate a comfortable level of beginning tap dance ability that includes a personality and performance quality necessary in professional musical theatre production.
• Evaluate and relate tap dance with regard to contemporary culture.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Attendance is MANDATORY!! Missed classes can NOT be made up!!!
P.A.P.P. – Participation  Attitude  Preparation  Progress

Rigorous Attendance Policy
• For a 2-unit dance class, not more than 2 absences are allowed. A deduction of 15 points will start with the third absence and for each thereafter. Absolutely no make-ups will be allowed. Each student is responsible for keeping track of his/her absences.
• Classes start and end on time. If you arrive more than 10 minutes after class has begun, you will not be able to participate, but you may observe. You must turn in a thoughtful written summary at the end of class if you do observe, failure to do so will result in a loss of points.
• 3 TARDIES OR EARLY DEPARTURES EQUALS 1 ABSENCE.

ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION/GRADING
In-class performance/attitude  75
3 Concert attendance papers  60
Final practical exam  35
Response/Observation papers/quiz  30
Total  200
186-200 A  (93-100%)  160-165 B-  (80-82.5%)  134-139 D+  (67-69.5%)
180-185 A-  (90-92.5%)  154-159 C+  (77-79.5%)  126-133 D  (63-66.5%)
174-179 B+  (87-89.5%)  146-153 C  (73-76.5%)  120-125 D-  (60-62.5%)
166-173 B  (83-86.5%)  140-145 C-  (70-72.5%)  0-119 F  (00-59.5%)
In class performance/attitude is based on the dancer’s ability relative to an absolute standard of excellence. This standard is reflected by class attendance, ability to assimilate corrections, individual growth, and willingness to take risks.*Handouts may be provided. Video will be used in class occasionally.

Weekly Course Outline – Flexible and Tentative depending on Master Classes and class needs.

Week 1   Introduction, Overview, Etiquette, Dress Code
Week 2   Fundamentals -plie, tendu, etc.
Week 3   Fundamentals -plie, tendu, etc.
Week 4   Warm-up exercises elaborated on, Combinations
Week 5   Discussions of Alignment, Vocabulary
Week 6   Fondu, Develope, Frappe
Week 7   Musicality, Mid-term phrase work learned
Week 8   Continued work on Mid-term phrases and combinations
Week 9   Mid-term Practical and Written Exams
Week 10  Work on above movement principles
Week 11-13 Jete, Petite Allegro
Week 14  Infusing artistic dynamics into phrase work
Week 15  Infusing artistic dynamics into phrase work
Week 16  Final combinations and phrase work. Work on final combinations, etc.

Last Week of Classes-Work for Final Practical Exam

Class Etiquette
1. Respect each other, the instructor, and the studio we create, grow, and dance in.
2. Eating and gum chewing are prohibited in dance classes.
3. Cell phones must be turned to silent. No texting allowed.
4. Students may bring their own water bottle. No other food or drink prohibited.
5. Talking in class is unacceptable except in instances when the instructor requests student discussion.
6. If you need to leave the studio for any reason, get permission from the instructor.

All technique classes require active participation, physically and mentally.

Required Attire/ Dress Code:
- Women-Pink Ballet slippers, black leotard of your choice Pink tights-women
- Men- white or black t-shirts, black tights, black or white ballet slippers
- Warm-ups-sweat shirts, etc., may be worn for the first 15 minutes of class.
- Hair pulled back and secured. No obtrusive jewelry.

*Please feel free to make an appointment with professor at any time during semester for any questions or concerns you may have regarding this course and its requirements.

***Student Tutorial on how not to plagiarize:http://library.csus.edu/content2.asp?pageID=353. There is a ZERO TOLERANCE Policy for Plagiarism. ***(If you have a disability and require accommodations, you need to provide disability documentation to SSWD, Lassen Hall 1008, (916) 278-6955. Please discuss your accommodation needs with me after class or during my office hours early in the semester. (Note-The “Dropping” of any course MUST be done by STUDENT, following appropriate steps.)

“You dance love, and you dance joy, and you dance dreams. And I know if I can make you smile by jumping over a couple of couches or running through a rainstorm, then I’ll be very glad to be a song and dance man.” — Gene Kelly