

2014

## MUSC 166-01 Modern Dance

Christina Bolden

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## Modern Dance Syllabus

**Class: Modern Dance**

**Instructor: Christina Bolden**

**Credit Hours: 1**

**Phone: 513-519-4066**

**Class Held: Wednesday 5:00- 5:50pm**

**Room: Edgecliff Hall, Room 201**

**Email: ChristinaBolden08@gmail.com**

**Course Description:** The class will explore the genre of modern dance. This will be accomplished through technique instruction, critique of video performances and improvisational exercises. Throughout the course various approaches to modern dance will be studied including: Graham, Dunham, Limon and Pedestrian styles. The course will culminate with the study of contemporary choreographers influenced by the modern dance movement. Each class will begin with proper stretching, followed by technique instruction. Improvisational exercises will be used to enhance students' creativity, and choreographic sensibilities. As the class progresses, students will learn routines which strengthen choreographic phrasing skills.

**Objective:** Students will learn about dance not just as a physical art form, but as an academic and intellectual pursuit. Students will develop their own personal style, and grow an appreciation for the dance styles of others. This class will enhance dance technique, as well as overall aesthetic sensibility.

### **Evaluation:**

**Participation (1/3):** Students will be graded on participation and effort made during class. In order to get an A regular attendance is required. More than three unexcused absences will result in your grade being lowered by one letter. Also, repeated tardiness will result in a lowering of a grade as tardiness causes students to often miss the stretching portion of the class increasing risk to injury. Participation must be active and students must show engagement while routines are both demonstrated and practiced.

**Quizzes (1/3):** Three quizzes will be given within the semester. Quizzes will consist of two portions: written and performance. The written portion will contain a series of questions which test on new vocabulary learned, as well as questions pertaining to choreographers studied. The performance portion requires that students demonstrate their knowledge gained during class participation. Students will demonstrate a command of various movements as either a choreographic phrase or a routine.

An A requires a demonstration of technical knowledge and accuracy in creating the movements requested, as well as artistic interpretation of the movement. A B requires that the student demonstrate technical execution of the movement with appropriate timing to the music. A C requires demonstrating some technical knowledge as well as accuracy in demonstrating the movements.

The last quiz will be the final examination. The final will include the written portion as well as a performance of a routine learned in class. For the performance students must incorporate their acquired technique while bringing their unique artistic interpretation to the piece. All quiz grades will be averaged together to determine the final quiz grade.

**Dance Critique** (1/3): Students will write one critique on dance/movement related work. Each critique should contain technical terms learned within the semester. The critique should also include an informed opinion of the respective work, relating it to the progression of the art form as a whole. The critique must be turned in by the last class. Failure to turn the reflection in at that time will result in the grade being lowered by one letter grade for each late day.

**Attire:** Students must wear attire that allows for freedom of movement. Socks, ballet shoes or lyrical dance shoes are all appropriate footwear.

Week 1, August 27th - Introduce Class  
Stretching Techniques  
Why We Dance, Explore Styles of Dance

Week 2, September 3rd - Working from the parallel - plie, tendu  
Movement across the floor

Week 3, September 10th - Working from the parallel - tendu, degage, rond de jambe  
Spirals  
"Black Tambourine" phrase

Week 4, September 17th- Introduction to Graham  
Floor work with contractions  
Graham DVD

Week 5, September 24th- Graham Floor work  
Develope, Battement

Week 6, October 1st- **Quiz #1**

Week 7, October 8th- Dunham Technique Introduction  
Dunham Barre  
Yanvalou

Week 8, October 15th – Dunham Technique  
Dunham across the floor

Week 9, October 22nd - Dunham Technique  
Dunham DVD

Week 10, October 29th- Pedestrian movements, Michael Kidd DVD

Week 11, November 5th- Pedestrian movement, **Quiz #2**

Week 12, November 12th - Introduction to Limon  
Weight Sharing  
“Moors Pavane” DVD

Week 13, November 19th- Limon Choreography

Week 14, November 26th - Thanksgiving Break!!

Week 15, December 3rd- Contemporary Choreography  
Jiri Kylian

Week 16, December 10th - Conclusions  
Duato DVD

Week 17, December 17th - Final Examination- **Quiz #3**