

# COURSE OUTLINE

**DANC-115**  
**Musical Theatre Dance**  
**2 Semester Hours**

## HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Instructor: Jenny Male**

**Office: 210 B**

**Office number: (410) 772-4298**

**Office hours: TTH 12-1, W 11-12, F 12-2**

**Class time: TTH 2:00-3:20**

**Class location: HVPA 115**

**Email: [JMale@howardcc.edu](mailto:JMale@howardcc.edu)**

### **Description**

This course will focus on training performers in the various dance styles used in Broadway and off-Broadway musicals. The students will demonstrate these dance skills by performing pieces of choreography created by well-known musical choreographers such as Michael Bennett, Agnes de Mille, Susan Stroman, and Bob Fosse. The students will then apply this knowledge towards a final performance of several contrasting pieces. (3 hours weekly)

### **Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Achieve competence with history and works of famous musical choreographers
2. Compare and contrast different dance styles of these musical choreographers
3. Demonstrate choreography of each major choreographer
4. Research musical characters for performance
5. Create a physical life for characters in each dance
6. Demonstrate ability to work well with other students in group choreography
7. Define and apply musical theatre and jazz technique terminology
8. Analyze professional musical dancers' performances

### **Other Course Information**

This course is required for the Musical Theatre major. It also serves as a Fine Arts and Humanities elective. Participation is required to master course objectives.

### **Course Requirements**

Students must arrive on time and ready to work. Students are expected to participate in all exercises with good attitude and energy and complete all assignments on time. Most importantly, students are expected to grow in their musical theatre work and apply their new knowledge toward their performance studies.

### **Clothing Requirement**

All students must wear clothes that allow for freedom of movement and show the line of the body. Unacceptable clothes are jeans, tight pants, short shorts, and crop tops. Good clothing would entail sweat pants or dance pants and form-fitting T-shirts. Also, all jewelry must be removed at the start of class. Ear studs are acceptable but hoops are not. Hair must be pulled back away from the face. Jazz shoes are required for this course.

### **Awareness in Dance Class**

Some of the work we do will involve human contact which may raise issues for some people. Students will be asked to make safe physical contact with each other during the semester. The teacher may use touch to help with spinal alignment, adjusting balance, or adjusting arm positions. Please feel free to step out of any exercise that is significantly discomforting to you. If you have problems with touch or with individuals in class, please discuss this with me outside of class. You may also discuss such issues with Lisa Wilde, Director of Theatre, Dance, Speech, and Film.

### **Attendance**

Since this class only meets twice each week, attendance is crucial for artistic growth. Every student is allowed one absence. Also, students arriving 3-10 minutes late will be marked as tardy. If they arrive 10-15 minutes late, another tardy will be applied. After 15 minutes, students must sit out and observe the class. Students will write out their observations and hand them in at the end of class. Three tardies equal an absence.

### **Grading**

**25%** Class participation, in-class dance performances, attire, quiz

**10%** Attendance

0, 1 = 100%

2 = 90%

3 = 75%

4 = 60%

5 = 40 %

6 = 20%

7 = 0%

8 = automatic failure

\*\*Note – 3 late arrivals (more than two minutes late) equal an absence

**10%** Musical Theatre critique of *Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (Must go between 11/28-12/7)

**15%** Solo performance and presentation

**15%** Midterm performance

**25%** Final performance

**100%**

## Course Calendar (subject to change)

Aug 26, 28	Syllabus review, basic jazz technique
Sept 2, 4	Fosse: <i>Chicago</i> , “All That Jazz”
Sept 9, 11	Fosse: <i>Chicago</i> , “Cell Block Tango”
Sept 16, 18	Continue both pieces
Sept 23, 25	Fosse: “Hot Honey Rag”
Sept 30, Oct 2	Review, begin ballet technique
Oct 7, 9	Stroman/de Mille: <i>Oklahoma!</i> , “Dream Ballet”
Oct 14, 16	Lynne: <i>Cats</i> , “Jellicle Ball”
Oct 21, 23	Continue <i>Cats</i>
Oct 28, 30	Bennett: <i>A Chorus Line</i> , “Jazz Audition”
Nov 4, 6	Bennett: “Jazz” & “One”
Nov 11, 13	Continue “One”, Michael Kidd, Garth Fagan, Jerome Robbins
Nov 18, 20	Begin work on solo pieces and review choreographers
Nov 25	Choreographer presentations (Happy Turkey!!!)
Dec 2, 4	Perform solos, work on all pieces
Dec. 11	Final class performances, Musical Theatre history quiz <b>DUE Dec. 11<sup>th</sup></b> : Musical Theatre Critique on <i>Funny Thing</i> <b>Final – 1:30-3:30</b>

## Additional Regulations

- No eating, chewing gum, drinking (except water) or smoking in the studio.
- Pagers and cell phones must be turned off; any student who answers a call during class will be asked to leave and marked with an absence.
- If you have a learning disability which is documented to Student Support Services, it is your responsibility to bring it to my attention immediately. This will allow us the greatest possible opportunity to smooth out any potential conflicts.
- It is expected that students will be respectful of their peers and professors in regard to race, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, learning styles, physical disabilities and personal values. Disrespectful students may be asked to leave class and charged with an absence.