

COURSE OUTLINE

DANC-194 Tap I 1 Semester Hour

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

This course serves as an introduction to the principles of tap dance on a beginning level. Students will learn the fundamental steps of tap dance. Skills include basic one and two sound movements performed at the barre and simple rhythmic combinations in center. Course will trace tap dance history in film and in the theatre. (2 hours weekly.)

Overall Course Objectives

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

1. Demonstrate at a beginning level an understanding of tap vocabulary by participating in class discussions and passing written assignments
2. Satisfactorily pass examinations demonstrating technical ability in performance of movement sequences
3. Demonstrate an understanding of rhythmic patterns and phrasing
4. Explain the origin and a brief history of tap dance
5. Communicate in a written critical analysis a tap dance or musical theatre performance
6. Demonstrate an appreciation for tap dance as an art form

Major Topics

1. Tap dance as a fine art form with cultural implications
2. Brief history of tap
3. Tap dance technique
4. Music for tap dance
5. Warm-up and center exercises

Course Requirements

Students must acquire tap shoes and wear appropriate dance clothes which are determined by individual faculty member.

Clothing Requirements

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, basic cotton shorts, 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. tAP shoes must be purchased by the start of the second week of class.

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 the instructor outside of class. You may also discuss such issues with our Department Chair, Valerie Lash.

Grading Procedures

- 70%** **Participation** (includes attire, attendance, good attitude and focus)
**Three late arrivals (more than two minutes) equal an absence
**If you are ill, you may sit out and observe the class twice in the semester
**Each student is allowed two unexcused absences. Each subsequent absence will result in loss of all participation points for the day missed. Students experiencing significant absences due to illness should contact the instructor immediately.
- 15%** **Mid-term assessment**
15% **Final assessment**

Dance Etiquette

Please keep all food and drink out of the studios. Turn off all cell phones and pagers before the start of class. Failure to do these things will result in loss of participation points. Respect the process of your fellow students as each are learning at a different pace. Please take care of yourselves and alert the instructor if you are injured or ill.

Other Course Information

This course serves as a requirement for the Musical Theatre major and as an elective for the Dance Performance major. It also serves as a Fine Arts elective.