



COURSE OUTLINE

Course Number DAN 120	Course Title Choreography I	Credits 3
Hours: Lecture/Lab/Other 2/2/0	Co- or Pre-requisite DAN116 Studio Tech I with a minimum of a C or better	Implementation Semester & Year Fall 2022

Catalog description:

Introduces several choreographic strategies used to develop an idea into a dance structured for the stage. Students are exposed to the tools of choreography beginning with basics—time, space, and force—and then move on to more complex issues faced by intermediate choreographers—form, style, abstraction, compositional structures, and choreographic devices.

General Education Category:
Not GenEd

Course coordinator:
Jody P Gazenbeek-Person, x3524, gazenbej@mccc.edu

Required texts & Other materials: NONE

Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

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

1. Describe and discuss the work of important choreographers in key areas such as structure, themes, movement vocabulary, and design elements. [Supports ILG # 6 & 11 ; PLO # 1 & 2]
2. Apply these discussions to his/her own choreography. [Supports ILG # 6 & 11 ; PLO # 1 & 2]
3. Create specific choreography projects to experience fundamental choreography concepts. [Supports ILG # 6 & 11 ; PLO # 1 & 2]
4. Use improvisation to elicit creative movement. [Supports ILG # 6 & 11 ; PLO # 1 & 2]
5. Recognize moments of self-censorship. [Supports ILG # 6 & 11 ; PLO # 1 & 2]
6. Evaluate choreography to develop a critical eye and discriminating judgment. [Supports ILG # 6 & 11 ; PLO # 1 & 2]
7. Critically craft and form his/her own movement. [Supports ILG # 6 & 11 ; PLO # 1 & 2]

Course-specific Institutional Learning Goals (ILG):

Institutional Learning Goal 6. Humanities. Students will analyze works in the fields of art, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language.

Institutional Learning Goal 11. Critical Thinking: Students will use critical thinking skills understand, analyze, or apply information or solve problems.

Program Learning Outcomes for DANCE AA & DANCE AFA (PLO)

- 1 Master the physical discipline and time investment necessary to carry out professional concerts;
- 2 Choreograph independently to create their own dances;
- 3 Work collaboratively with artistic and production staff;
- 4 Create successful auditions by preparing materials and exhibiting professional conduct

Units of study in detail – Unit Student Learning Outcomes:

Unit I: Improvisation [Supports Course SLOs #4, 5, 6, 7]

The student will be able to

- Develop a richer store of movement experience from which to draw.
- Develop spontaneity.
- Listen to their bodies and transcribe what it is they are doing into a well-structured dance.
- Explore inner-directed movement response to an image, an idea, or a sensory stimulus.
- Develop and refine movement for choreography.

Unit II: Choreography Projects [Supports Course SLOs #3, 4, 6, 7]

The student will be able to

- Use remembered physical sensations from improvisation as an impetus to create choreography.
- Analyze and integrate compositional structures into projects.
- Evaluate peer choreography (which will aid students in developing a critical eye).
- Integrate choreographic devices into larger works.
- Evaluate what constitutes significant moments during a dance.
- Understand how ideas are transformed and generated into a dance.

Unit III: History and Analysis of Choreography, 1930 – Present [Supports Course SLOs #1, 2, 6]

The student will be able to

- Describe and discuss the work of important choreographers in key creative areas such as structure, arc, themes, physicality, and their use of time and space.
- Apply these discussions to their own choreography.
- Evaluate dances by master choreographers (which will aid students in developing a critical eye).
- Demonstrate an understanding of the various choreography movements which comprise the history of dance in the U.S.

Evaluation of student learning:

1. Students write one 4 to 6 page research paper exploring the life and work of a major choreographer. This paper must be accompanied with an annotated bibliography that evaluates the sources utilized in their paper.
2. Students will take periodic and unannounced in-class quizzes on the works they have read for each class. Quizzes will include a short essay component.
3. Students will work alone and in groups to create 8 to 10 short dance pieces.
4. Students will write two papers that synthesize the information learned in class through viewing and critiquing two live professional dance concerts. Students must obtain the instructor's approval for the production.
5. One of the two papers assigned will go through a rigorous revision process with the instructor—for the sole purpose of strengthening students' communication when discussing or writing about dance