

Collin College

Dance Department Course Guidelines: Dance Technique

Updated 8/2015

EXPECTATIONS

You are expected to demonstrate a focused physical application and/or mental application of the course material. It is important to take responsibility for your own growth by watching, listening, processing, and clarifying within each class.

LEVEL PLACEMENT/ASSESSMENT

Evaluation in Technique Classes

Students will be evaluated within the first two weeks of the semester to ensure proper technique placement. It may be necessary to move a student up in level or down in level based on his/her technical skill or physical limitations. It is the primary focus of the department to provide appropriate material for the assigned level to maintain curriculum integrity and transferability to university dance programs. It is also imperative that courses be taught with safety concerns in mind. It is vital that students work at their appropriate level to avoid injury.

ATTENDANCE

Absences

Attendance is critical. You must be present in class in order to be evaluated on your work. Students are evaluated daily in technique classes on the basis of attendance and quality of commitment during class time. Consequences for absences can include, but are not limited to: point deduction, assignment failure, and grade deduction/failure.

Review Faculty Syllabus for specific attendance policy.

Absence from class is not an excuse for late work or failure to be prepared for the next lesson.

Pace of technique classes will be determined by comprehension of the students. Attendance and practice are essential in order to increase the pace.

Tardiness

Students must arrive promptly for class. If a student is 5 minutes late to class, then that student will be considered tardy. A student who is tardy is required to gain permission from the professor before joining the class. If the professor determines that the student is able to join class, then that student will receive partial participation points. If the professor determines that the student is too late to join

class, then the professor may request the student observe class for reduced participation points.

30 minutes late will be considered absent.

Leaving Class Early

If a student must leave early, that student must notify the professor BEFORE instruction begins. The professor will determine whether the student will receive credit for a full class, a partial class, or any class at all. If the student fails to notify the professor before instruction begins, the student may be counted absent and/or lose participation points.

Observation

If a student is injured or is ill and is unable to participate in class, (s)he may sit and observe. Students observing must complete a department observation form and will receive reduced points for the day.

Make-up Classes

Collin College Dance Department does not allow make-up classes.

PARTICIPATION

Physical Participation

All dance technique courses require students to be physically involved. Certain physical limitations may impact a student's learning experience and ultimately his/her grade. Each student must be fully aware of his/her physical limitations and the requirements for a particular technique course. It is the student's responsibility to discuss with the professor any concerns (s)he might have regarding his/her physical participation in a class.

Note: Some technique classes are more physical than others. To find out more, discuss with your faculty member or the chair of the department. Students will be evaluated within the first two weeks of the semester to ensure proper technique placement. It may be necessary to move a student up in level or down in level based on their technical skill or physical limitations.

Verbal Participation

All dance courses require students to verbally participate. Level of student's participation in discussions is reflected in daily participation grade.

Daily Evaluation/Points

*All dance courses utilize a daily evaluation point system.
Review Faculty Syllabus for specific daily evaluation policy.*

Application of Professor Feedback

It is imperative that students enrolled in upper level technique classes (Level III & IV) apply the feedback they receive from their professor. One way faculty evaluate the level of their class is by the students' abilities to listen to a movement concept and movement correction and apply that within their bodies. If students fail to demonstrate an application of professor feedback, effort points will be deducted.

First Day of Class

All upper level technique classes will dance the first day of class (Level II, III, & IV). Movement activities may occur in level I classes on the first day in addition to professors reviewing course expectations and required course attire.

INFORMAL DANCE CONCERT

All dance students enrolled in dance technique courses are encouraged to participate in the end-of-semester informal concert. Participation in this concert, as a class and individually, is solely at the discretion of the professor. Advanced level technique courses are required to participate in this concert. The informal concert will be held in the John Anthony Theatre on the Spring Creek Campus in Plano. Dance classes meeting at the Preston Ridge or Central Park Campuses MUST travel to the Spring Creek Campus for technical rehearsals throughout the week of the performance. These rehearsals will occur in the theatre during scheduled class time. Any concerns about this performance opportunity must be discussed with the faculty member in a timely manner. All participants in the informal dance concert MUST sign a performance contract and adhere to its guidelines.

CLASS ETIQUETTE

All dance students enrolled at Collin College are expected to practice the following classroom etiquette:

- No leaving the studio/classroom for any reason without obtaining the professor's permission. This includes the use of the restroom. Please plan accordingly PRIOR to class. Communicate any concerns with your faculty.*
- Cell phones must be turned off or placed on silent during class. Students may not use cell phones during class. Students may not leave class in order to respond to calls or texts. If a student leaves class to respond to a call or text, then that student will not be permitted to return to that class period. If a student is expecting an urgent call, (s)he must notify the professor PRIOR to the start of class. See Collin Student Handbook regarding Disciplinary Action that may be taken if your cell phone or electronic device disrupts the class.*
- No talking while the professor is speaking and/or demonstrating.*
- No sitting down during technique class without professor's permission.*
- Dance studio is for class use only. Any personal use must be approved by department chair, faculty or dance lab assistant.*
- No eating or drinking in the dance studio. Bottled water is the only exception.*
- No chewing gum in dance studio.*
- Use of laptops in classrooms is at the professor's discretion.*

- *Students enrolled in technique classes are expected to uphold proper hygiene; i.e.: perspiration towel, change of dance attire, proper undergarments, etc.*
- *It is proper to acknowledge gratitude to the dance accompanist immediately following each class.*

VIDEO POLICY

Collin College Dance Department classes may **not** be recorded for public or private use by anyone other than the instructor of record. Students observing class who are unable to participate for the day may **not** record the class, students, or instructor during class time.

Any and all video recording for personal use to work on class material must be done outside of scheduled class time and is only allowed if permission is granted by the instructor, students, and/or other participants.

DANCE ATTIRE

General Dress Codes for Technique Courses

*Appropriate dance attire is required for all technique classes – no baggy clothing. Leotards and tights are preferred. Hair must be pulled back in a way that is not disruptive during class. Hats, excessive jewelry and chewing gum are not allowed. Failure to comply with course attire will result in loss of participation points. **All dancewear must meet with professor approval. Review specifics on Faculty Syllabus.***

All students must wear supportive undergarments: bras for females and dance belts for males.

Ballet I, II (DANC 1141, 1142)

Females:

*Solid colored leotard: preferably black in color
Pink or black tights or leggings
Pink ballet shoes: REQUIRED by end of 2nd week
Hair must be pulled up off the neck
Minimal jewelry
Ballet skirts - optional*

Males:

*White or black T-shirt, tank or leotard
Black tights or tight fitting dance pants
Black socks/tights and black ballet shoes
Shoes REQUIRED by end of 2nd week
Dance belt*

Ballet III, IV (DANC 2341, 2342)

Females:

*Leotard: Black only
Pink or black tights
Pink ballet shoes: REQUIRED by end of 2nd week
Hair must be pulled up and secured back*

Minimal jewelry

Ballet skirts – optional

Pointe shoes at the discretion of the faculty

Males:

White or Black T-shirt, tank or leotard

Black tights or tight fitting dance pants

Black socks/tights and black ballet shoes. Shoes REQUIRED by end of 2nd week

Dance belt

Modern I, II (DANC 1145, 1146)

Dance attire highly recommended: leotard, tights, fitted pants, leggings

No street clothes

No shorts or sheer tights

Kneepads permitted

Barefoot

Modern III, IV (DANC 2345, 2346)

Dance attire REQUIRED: leotard, tights, fitted pants, dance shorts; no specific color requirement

No street clothes

No shorts, sheer tights, or wraps over dance attire

Kneepads permitted

Barefoot

Jazz I, II (DANC 1147, 1148)

Dance attire highly recommended: leotard, tights, jazz pants

No street clothes

No shorts or sheer tights

Kneepads permitted

Jazz shoes REQUIRED by end of 2nd week: jazz shoe or jazz sneaker; preferably black in color

Jazz III, IV (DANC 2347, 2348)

Dance attire REQUIRED: leotard, tights, jazz pants; no specific color requirement

No street clothes

No bare feet or socks after warm-up

Kneepads permitted

Jazz shoes REQUIRED by end of 2nd week; preferably black in color and NO JAZZ

SNEAKERS

Tap I, II (DANC 1110, 1111)

Dance attire highly recommended: leotard, tights, jazz pants

Loose fitting clothes permitted with professor approval

No jeans

Tap shoes REQUIRED by end of 2nd week: single taps only; flat soles or character style tap shoes; preferably black in color

Hip Hop I, II (DANC 1222, 1223)

Dance attire highly recommended: leotard, tights, jazz pants

Loose fitting clothes permitted with professor approval

No jeans

Kneepads permitted

Hip Hop sneakers REQUIRED – not street shoes

Ballroom I, II (DANC 1128, 1129)

Close-fitting, comfortable, stretchy clothing. No short tops, skirts, or shorts allowed.

Hair must be pulled back.

Black ballroom shoes, jazz shoes or jazz sneakers only. These shoes are not to be worn outside of class.

[Please keep in mind that you will sweat A LOT in this class and will be dancing closely with other

people. Deodorant is mandatory.]

Dance Composition (DANC 1301)

Rehearsal dancewear (No street clothes)

Minimal jewelry

Barefoot

Pilates/Anatomy for Dancers (DANC 2325)

Dance attire highly recommended: leotard, tights, jazz pants

Loose fitting clothes permitted with professor approval

Performance & Practicum I, II, III, IV (DANC 1151, 1152, 2151, 2152, 1212, 1213, 2213, 2214)

Rehearsal dancewear (No street clothes)

Minimal jewelry

GRADING POLICY

Method of Evaluation

Evaluation is ongoing throughout the semester via verbal and written comments from the professor. Evaluation of technique and creative work is based primarily on the student's commitment to the activity as evidenced by energy investment, degree of exploration, participation in the group creative process, contribution to discussions, and application of suggestions from professor to enhance quality of performance and technical expertise.

Grading Scale

Consult the Faculty Syllabus for specifics. Collin College's Dance Department scale:

90-100%	A
89-80%	B
79-70%	C
69-60%	D
Below 60%	F

Late Assignments

Consequences for late work can include, but are not limited to: point deduction, failure of assignment or refusal to accept work. Review the Faculty Syllabus.

Extra Credit

Extra Credit opportunities are at the discretion of the professor. Review Faculty Syllabus.

Finals

All students are required to attend the final exam. Consult the semester exam schedule for details.

Participation in the end-of-semester informal concert is not in lieu of attending the final exam.

Grade Appeal

Students interested in appealing his or her grade must go through the district's procedures for a grade appeal. It is highly recommended that students first discuss their concerns with the professor and department chair and then proceed to the Grade Appeals Committee. Procedures to appeal grades can be found on the college's website.

Audit Students

Students who are auditing classes will not receive grades or credit for the course. Full participation and attendance are expected of all audit students. There will be no overt distinction between credit vs. audit students within the class session. Audit students' participation in the informal concert will be addressed on an individual basis at the professor's discretion.

Academic Ethics

Consequences for any form of academic dishonesty can include, but are not limited to: Incident report to the Dean of Students & Department Chair, loss of points, failure, reassignment, or expulsion from institution. Action will be assessed on an individual basis.

***All** suspected incidences of plagiarism, cheating, or any form of scholastic dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Students' Office.*

**ALL ASSIGNMENTS SUBMITTED AND/OR PRESENTED IN THIS CLASS MUST
BE YOUR ORIGINAL WORK!**

Collin College Student Handbook

*All students are responsible for the material presented in the Collin College Student Handbook. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the sections on **Disorderly Conduct** and **Scholastic Dishonesty**.*

COURSE WITHDRAWAL/TRANSFERS

Withdrawal/Drop Procedures

Students must contact the Admissions and Records Office for withdrawal deadlines. A student who discontinues class attendance and does not officially drop or withdraw from the course will receive a final performance grade. Discuss your concerns and needs with your professor if you feel you need to withdraw from the course. Please note: Your professor cannot drop you from the course. Students must fulfill all drop procedures established by Collin College.

Transfer Courses & Repeat Policies

*Note: Students may take DANC 1110, DANC 1111, DANC 1128,, DANC 1129, DANC 1141, DANC 1142, DANC 1145, DANC 1146, DANC 1147, DANC 1148, DANC 1151, DANC 1152, DANC 1222, DANC 1223, DANC 2141, DANC 2342, DANC 2345, DANC 2346, DANC 2347, DANC 2348, DANC 2151, DANC 2152, DANC 2301and DANC 2325 for a combined total of no more than 18 credit hours.**
**Subject to change.*

All students are strongly encouraged to meet with an academic advisor AND dance faculty for dance advising to insure successful transfer to universities.

Course Transfers

Course transfers, whether laterally or internally, are issued at the professor's discretion. After consultation with the department chair, a student may transfer into another course or section. This may be necessary if a student was enrolled in an inappropriate technique level. The chair or professor may refuse to give a transfer to a student whose absences from class create a disruption in the student's and class' learning process. Transfers cannot be a means to "shop" for a specific faculty or course.

If a student has any comments or concerns regarding a course guideline, grade or professor, he/she must first discuss the situation with his/her professor or bring their concerns to the department chair. After meeting with the chair, further issues may be brought to the Dean of Fine Arts.

DANCE DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

DANCE FACULTY	CONTACT INFORMATION
Tiffanee Arnold, <i>Chair</i>	tarnold@collin.edu
Meghan Cardwell-Wilson, <i>Professor</i>	mcwilson@collin.edu
Courtney Mulcahy, <i>Professor</i>	cmulcahy@collin.edu
Lesley Snelson, <i>Professor</i>	lsnelson@collin.edu
Associate Dance Faculty	See Faculty Syllabus
Dean of Academic Affairs – Fine Arts	SCC – A175

ACCEPTANCE OF GUIDELINES

The professor is the final authority in matters concerning safety, discipline and instruction. The students' safety and learning experience in all of the Collin College Dance programs are the highest concern of the Collin College Dance Faculty and staff; therefore, the professor has the ability to make procedural and instructional classroom decisions that affect classroom safety and instruction.

I have read and understood the Collin College Dance Department Course Guidelines.

Semester _____

Year

Name (printed)

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Dance Course(s)

Signature

Date _____

Please detach this page and return to your professor. If you are enrolled in multiple dance classes, then you only need to complete this once and return to one of your professors. This page must be completed each semester.