McLennan
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS

AND

INSTRUCTOR PLAN

BEGINNING JAZZ

DANC 1247 - 01

JOSEPH TAYLOR

NOTE: This is a 16-week course.

COVID 19 Notice:

McLennan Community College is committed to providing you with every resource you need to reach your academic goals including your safety. We will continue to monitor the evolving situation with COVID 19 and adjust our safety guidelines to make sure we offer a safe environment for you and our faculty. Please make sure to consult your faculty and the MCC website at https://www.mclennan.edu/crisis-management/coronavirus-updates/index.html on any changes to these guidelines.

Course Description:

Introduction to and participation in dance performance specifically focused on **Jazz Technique**.

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:

There are no prerequisites for this course. It is advisable that the student be in relatively good health, with no prior injuries, fractured and/or broken bones, or any other physical ailments that could hinder physical participation in this class. It is recommended that the student inform the instructor, prior to registration, of any medical concerns and/or physician's ongoing care that could affect the student's participation in the class.

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

It is recommended that the student enhance muscle development and overall well-being by combining this class with participation in aerobic exercises and/or other physical development such as weight-training, in order to help prevent injuries.

Dress Code:

Ladies – Leggings or yoga pants with an appropriate T-shirt. If shorts are worn you are asked to wear tights under your shorts that extend past the knee.

Men – sweat pants or athletic shorts with an appropriate T-shirt. If shorts are worn you are asked to wear compression shorts underneath for additional support.

All – No clothes that are not dance/athletic related. Just because they are stretchy doesn't mean it is appropriate for class. Shoes are needed for class; Jazz booties or sneakers are preferred.

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Joseph Taylor

MCC E-mail: jataylor@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: 254-299-8173

Office Location: MTA #105-B

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: By Appointment and via Zoom

MCC Bookstore Website: http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

All classes meet in the MCC Dance Studio (Room 020) in the Physical Education Building, and can be physically demanding. Each class is comprised a combination of the following elements: warm-up that includes strengthening and flexibility; center floor combinations; terminology; across the floor combinations incorporating strength, flexibility, various rhythmic structures; performance skills within musical theatre; learning movement by a choreographer and creating one's own dance.

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

1. To acquire a working knowledge and understanding of the technical aspects of jazz which will also include a comprehensive understanding of ballet.
2. To develop correct alignment, as well as flexibility, strength, coordination, and musicality/rhythm.
3. To acquire a knowledge of dance terminology.
4. To develop audition techniques and etiquette.
5. To demonstrate an understanding of dance as an expression of a scope and variety of individual and human values within historical and social contexts.
6. To engage in the creative process of performance and comprehend the physical and intellectual demands required of the performing artist.
7. To develop and demonstrate an appreciation for the varying aesthetics of dance.

Course Outline or Schedule:

Weeks 1 – 4 – Learning Warm up material and focusing on isolations, core strength training, and across the floor exercises that aid in the learning of the technique.

Weeks 5 – 9 – Deepening the understanding and accelerating the technical approach.

Weeks 10 – 15 – Understanding Terminology, History and Pedagogy of Jazz while continuing to grow technically.

Week 16 – Final

Course Grading Information:

Each student will be graded on the following:

Class participation and technical improvement: 65%; Terminology Exam 25%; Video Coursework 10%. **S**tudents will be graded on their own physical potential.

A - 100 – 91; B - 90 – 81; C - 80 – 71; D - 70 – 61; F - 60 – below

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

All dance courses rely on repetition in developing the appropriate skills inherent in gaining the mental and physical requirements associated with proper alignment, flexibility, strength, and repertoire. Therefore, attendance is MANDATORY!

Make-up classes: Students may attend any other technique class that will count as a make-up class. Please make sure that the instructor has prior knowledge that you are attending a class for make-up. After the class is complete, the student is responsible for emailing the instructor asking that their make-up class be recorded. This option is only available twice in a semester.

The instructor will be available before and after each class to answer questions pertaining to technique and alignment. Therefore, attendance is obligatory so the student will not be behind in the analysis and performance of technique. According to official campus policy, "students whether present or absent, are responsible for all material presented or assigned for a course and will be held accountable for such materials in the determination of course grades". Please refer to the Highlander Guide for the complete policy.

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

Each student will be required to exercise focus, discipline, and strict adherence to the normally accepted protocols from professional dance classes: There will be no talking when the instructor is demonstrating via lecture and/or demonstration; students shall never interrupt the instructor or speak to any other student during lecture and/or demonstrations; students will be obliged to hold all questions pertaining to performance skills and/or technique until the instructor has opened the floor for inquiries; students will respect the physical aspects of floor, barre, mirrors, music equipment: no chewing of gum, no liquids except bottled water, no shoes other than required dance/foot wear. Students will observe the utmost in decorum by keeping within safe distances from other students during combinations; students will not illustrate frustrations via swearing; students shall develop a professional attitude during all exercises and performance combinations.

Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy
(https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)
Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have additional guidelines specific to this course.

McLennan COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

Accommodations/ADA Statement:
Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit www.mclennan.edu/disability.

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

disabilities@mclennan.edu
254-299-8122
Room 319, Student Services Center

Title IX:
We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling Dr. Drew Canham (Chief of Staff for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion/Title IX) at (254) 299-8645. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at MCC at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student or employee may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/.

Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at www.mclennan.edu/titleix/. It contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence.

Student Support/Resources:
MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu. Students may visit the Completion Center Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. to schedule a meeting with a Success Coach and receive additional resources and support to help reach academic and personal goals. Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff based on household size. Text (254) 870-7573 to schedule a pantry appointment. The Completion Center and pantry are located on the Second Floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:
Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf.

MCC Academic Integrity Statement:
Go to www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity for information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:
Go to https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-Staff-Commons/requirements.html for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

Minimum Technical Skills:
Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

Backup Plan for Technology:
In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

Email Policy:
McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails.

Instructional Uses of Email:
Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

Email on Mobile Devices:
The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email Helpdesk@mclennan.edu for help.

Forwarding Emails:
You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

Disclaimer:
The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.