

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for DANC 5-A
DANCE COMPOSITION BEGINNING
Effective: Fall 2014

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

DANC 5-A — DANCE COMPOSITION BEGINNING — 2.00 units

An introduction to the art of making dances for choreographers working in any style of dance, this course is open to students who have little or no dance training.

1.00 Units Lecture 1.00 Units Lab

Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

Discipline:

	MIN
Lecture Hours:	18.00
Lab Hours:	54.00
Total Hours:	72.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

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

- A. recognize the basic choreographic principles used in designing and presenting dance compositions;
- B. differentiate between the various rhythmic and dance patterns as they apply to selected dance expressions;
- C. develop dance patterns and create unique interpretations of more traditional forms

V. CONTENT:

A. Movement improvisation

- 1. Imagery
- 2. Body awareness
- 3. Emotions
- 4. Atmosphere

B. Explorations of space

- 1. Air and floor pathways
- 2. Diagonals
- 3. Symmetry
- 4. Positive and Negative space
- 5. Imitation
- 6. Balance

C. Time

- 1. Tempo
- 2. Slow motion
- 3. Accelerating and decelerating
- 4. Pacing

D. Energy

1. Contrasting energies
2. Dynamics - qualities of movement
3. Intensity

E. Solos, duets, and trios

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Classroom Activity** -
- B. **Student Presentations** -
- C. improvisations
- D. **Demonstration** - dance movements through demonstration, slides, and film
- E. **Lecture** -

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Create and perform dance studies
2. Apply principles of space, time, and energy to movement studies such as this: create three nonlocomotor movement phrases expanding and contracting into space.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of counting structures by choreographing with counts in this assignment: Create a movement phrase that establishes a tempo, a half time tempo and a double time tempo.
4. Solve this problem choreographically: Create at least four separate movement phrases based on abstraction of natural movement.
5. Set movement studies on peers, for example: Take a previous assignment and develop it into a trio.

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

1. Exams/Tests
2. Group Projects
3. Class Participation
4. Class Work
5. Class Performance

B. **Frequency**

1. Final Exam
2. Weekly presentation of solo and group movement studies
3. Daily participation in improvisation and assigned studies

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

1. Pomer, J. (2009). *Dance Composition: An Interrelated Arts Approach*. : Human Kinetics.
2. Smith-Autard, J.M. (2010). *Dance Composition; A Practical Guide to Creative Success in Dance Making* (6th ed.). New York, NY: Bloombury Publishing.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

- A. Students are to provide their own dance apparel and footwear