

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for DANC 5A

DANCE COMPOSITION 5A

Effective: Spring 2018

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

DANC 5A — DANCE COMPOSITION 5A — 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:

- Dance

	<u>MIN</u>
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. Identify and demonstrate the elements of dance: Body, Action, Space, Time and Energy
- B. Discuss and evaluate the elements of dance used in designing and presenting dance compositions
- C. Construct dance compositions using the elements of dance

V. CONTENT:

- A. Movement improvisation
- B. Explorations of Body
 1. Body parts, isolation, initiation of body part
 2. Whole body
 3. Body connectivity
- C. Motion/Action
 1. Axial (in place)
 2. Locomotor (moves through space)
 3. Effort Actions
 - a. Press
 - b. Wring
 - c. Slash
 - d. Punch
 - e. Flick
 - f. Dab
 - g. Glide
 - h. Float
- D. Space
 1. Design of Body- Shape
 2. Direction
 - a. Forward
 - b. Backward
 - c. Upward
 - d. Downward
 - e. Sideward
 - f. Diagonally
 3. Pathway
 4. Relationships
 - a. In front
 - b. Behind
 - c. Over

- d. Under
 - e. Near
 - f. Far
- 5. Focus
 - a. Inward
 - b. Outward
 - c. Direct
 - d. Indirect
- 6. Plane
 - a. Sagittal
 - b. Vertical
 - c. Horizontal
- E. Time
 - 1. Duration
 - 2. Speed
 - 3. Beat
 - 4. Tempo
 - 5. Accent
 - 6. Metric Rhythms- 2/4, 4/4, 3/4 patterns
 - 7. Rhapsodic Rhythms
 - a. Breath
 - b. Wind
 - c. Water
- F. Energy
 - 1. Qualities of Movement
 - a. Sustainment
 - b. Suspension
 - c. Swinging
 - d. Swaying
 - e. Collapsible
 - f. Vibratory
 - g. Percussive
 - 2. Degrees of Energy
 - a. Strong/weak
 - b. Heavy/light
 - c. Boundflow/freeflow
 - 3. Tension
 - 4. Attack

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

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

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Create and perform a dance study using an assigned element of dance
- B. Perform improvisationally in groups
- C. Provide insightful feedback using the "Critical Repsonse Process"
- D. Solve choreographic problems.
 - 1. For example: take an 8 count phrase and extend it into a 16 count phrase
- E. Set movement studies on peers

VIII. EVALUATION:

- A. **Methods**
 - 1. Exams/Tests
 - 2. Group Projects
 - 3. Class Participation
 - 4. Class Work
 - 5. Class Performance
- B. **Frequency**
 - 1. Final Movement Evaluation
 - 2. One vocabulary exam
 - 3. Semi-weekly presentation of solo and group movement studies
 - 4. Daily participation in improvisation and assigned studies

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. Stanton, E. (2017). *Choreography: The Basics* (First ed.). New York City, New York: Routledge.
- 2. Smith-Autard, J.M. (2015). *Dance Composition: A Practical Guide to Creative Success in Dance Making* (5th ed.). New York City, New York: Routledge.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

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