

# **RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE**

## **DANC-101 MODERN DANCE I**

### **I. Basic Course Information**

A. Course Number and Title: DANC-101  
MODERN DANCE I

B. New or Modified Course: Modified

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Fall                      Year: 2023

**D. Effective Term: Fall 2024**

E. Sponsoring Department: Arts & Design

F. Semester Credit Hours: 2

G. Weekly Contact Hours: 3                      Lecture: 1  
Laboratory: 2  
Out of class student work per week: 3

H. ☐ Prerequisite (s): No  
☐ Corequisite (s): No  
☐ Prerequisite (s) and Corequisite (s): No

I. Additional Fees: No

J. Name and E-Mail Address of Department Chair and Divisional Dean at time of approval: Darren McManus ([Darren.McManus@raritanval.edu](mailto:Darren.McManus@raritanval.edu)) and Virginia Smith ([Virginia.Smith@raritanval.edu](mailto:Virginia.Smith@raritanval.edu)), Dean Patrice Marks ([Patrice.Marks@raritanval.edu](mailto:Patrice.Marks@raritanval.edu))

### **II. Catalog Description**

PREREQUISITE: NONE

Modern Dance I provides a basis for students to understand and develop an appreciation of dance as an art form. Through active participation students explore fundamental movement

principles and modern dance techniques. Incorporated into this course is an introduction to kinesiology and anatomy. Structured improvisation and choreography allow the students to manipulate abstract ideas and develop their creativity. No previous dance experience required. Students will be required to provide appropriate dance attire.

### **III. Statement of Course Need**

- A. This course complements the four-semester sequence of dance technique, and is a standard course in all baccalaureate dance curricula.
- B. The lab component is a necessity in a performance/rehearsal course, and offers the students the ability to learn and rehearse the choreography
- C. Transferability:
  - 1. This course generally transfers as a dance program elective.
  - 2. This course generally transfers as a dance program requirement.

### **IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum**

- A. Free Elective
- B. Studio Arts elective
- C. This course meets a program requirement for the A.F.A. Dance Degree.
- D. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, [www.njtransfer.org](http://www.njtransfer.org); b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

### **V. Outline of Course Content**

Class will consist of the following major components:

- A. Modern Dance Technique:
  - 1. Basic conceptions of dance: position of the feet, stability and alignment
  - 2. Whole body movement
  - 3. Body-part movement and isolations
  - 4. Coordination/rhythmic patterns
  - 5. Locomotor patterns: such as walk, run, hop, slide, skip, gallop, prance, leap
  - 6. Space/time/energy manipulation
  - 7. Kinesphere (external) awareness and Body/breath (internal) awareness
- B. Physiology
  - 1. Strength and flexibility
  - 2. Stamina/endurance
  - 3. Physicality and alignment
- C. Improvisation techniques and Creative Movement
- D. Rehearsal process:
  - 1. Learning and retaining dance phrases

- 2. Cultivating performance techniques
- E. Dance as an Art Form
  - a. Art and the Aesthetic experience
- F. Dance Production
- G. Dance in Education and Careers in Dance
- H. Anatomy and Kinesiology
- I. Written critical analysis and viewing of modern dances

## **VI. A. Course Learning Outcomes:**

**At the completion of the course, students will be able to:**

- 1. Identify, analyze and critique dance as a communicative art form and a means of personal expression both orally and in writing. (GE 1, 6, \*)
  - 2. Apply critical analysis skills of modern movement styles and structure. (\*)
  - 3. Demonstrate development of basic components of modern dance technique, including execution of movement, quality, dynamics, and emotion.
  - 4. Apply fundamental theories and principles to a broad range of movement combinations. (\*)
- (\*Embedded critical thinking)

## **B. Assessment Instruments**

- 1. Lecture/discussion and critique
- 2. Small-group work
- 3. Student presentations
- 4. Student collaboration
- 5. Instructor Demonstration
- 6. In-class and homework movement assignments

## **VII. Grade Determinants**

- A. Professional class attitude
- B. Projects
- C. Attendance/Participation
- D. Weekly assignments
- E. Technical improvement
- F. Exams

Primary formats, modes, and methods for teaching and learning that may be used in the course:

- A. Lecture/discussion and critique
- B. Small-group work
- C. Student presentations

- D. Student collaboration
- E. Instructor Demonstration
- F. In-class and homework movement assignments

## **VIII. Texts and Materials**

### **A. Suggested text(s):**

1. Learning About Dance; Dance as an Art Form and Entertainment, eighth Edition, Nora Ambrosio, Kendall/Hunt Publishing, Iowa, 2006
2. Body Movement: Coping with the Environment, Irmgard Bartenieff with Dori Lewis, Gordon & Breach, Science Publishers, Inc. NY, 1980
3. The Vision of Modern Dance, 2nd edition. Edited by Jean Morrison Brown, Naomi Mindlin, and Charles Woodford, Princeton Book Company. 1998

B. Appropriate dance rehearsal clothes, such as leotards and tights.

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

## **IX. Resources**

- A. Video and DVD equipment
- B. Stereo system equipped with digital audio input Rehearsal Dance Studio, with professional floor and appointments
- C. Marker board

**X. Check One:** ☐ Honors Course ☐ Honors Options ☒ N/A