

**RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE**

DANC-105 JAZZ DANCE I

I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: DANC-105 JAZZ 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) and Virginia Smith (Virginia.Smith@raritanval.edu), Dean Patrice Marks (Patrice.Marks@raritanval.edu)

II. Catalog Description

PREREQUISITE: NONE

Jazz Dance I will focus on the fundamentals of jazz dance, encompassing theatre dance, music video and other contemporary dance styles. Through active participation in jazz technique, students will learn the universal vocabulary of movement. Emphasis will be placed on rhythmical movement patterns, coordination and performance. No previous

dance experience required. Students will be required to provide appropriate dance attire and shoes.

III. Statement of Course Need

- A. This course addresses the needs of the serious dance student, as well as the needs of lifelong learners who are interested in furthering their own abilities in jazz dance. 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, and to work on their movement comprehension, technical abilities, physical endurance and alignment.
- 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. This course serves as a dance elective for the A.F.A. Dance Degree.
- C. Studio Arts elective
- D. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, 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. Jazz Dance Technique:
 - 1. Basic conceptions of Jazz dance: isolations, position of the feet, center of gravity, and musicality
 - 2. Movement elements of Jazz Dance: gliding/dragging footwork, tilted and fluid spine, percussive, propulsive gestures and centrifugal movement
 - 3. Whole body movement: Beginner level jump, turn, fall, roll, twist, simple undulations
 - 4. Body-part movement and isolations: contract, arch, use of the back.
 - 5. Coordination/rhythmic patterns
 - 6. Simple locomotor patterns
 - 7. The legs: fan kick, hitch kick, jazz split, battement
 - 8. Rolls: head roll, shoulder roll, hip roll
 - 9. Simple jumps and turns: pencil turn, spins
- B. Physiology

1. Strength and flexibility
 2. Stamina/endurance
 3. Physicality and alignment
- C. Rehearsal process:
1. Learning and retaining dance phrases
 2. Cultivating performance techniques
- D. Written critical analysis and viewing of 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 in the fundamental components of jazz dance technique, including whole body versus isolation movement, as well as percussive style and rhythm.
 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. Dance in Its Time, Walter Sorell, Anchor Press/Doubleday, Garden City, NY, 1981
2. Jazz Dance, The Story of American Vernacular Dance, Marshall Winslow Sterns, Da Capo Press, 1994.

- B. Appropriate dance rehearsal clothes, such as leotards, Jazz shoes 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 ~~cassette tape~~, digital audio input and ~~CD~~
- C. Rehearsal Dance Studio, with professional floor and appointments
- D. Marker board
- E. ~~Library of video and DVD performance recordings~~

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