

RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE

MODERN DANCE IV - DANC-214

I. Basic Course Information

- A. Course Number and Title: MODERN DANCE IV - DANC-214
- B. New or Modified Course: Modified
- C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Fall Year: 2024
- D. Effective Term: Fall 2025
- E. Sponsoring Department: Arts & Design
- F. Semester Credit Hours: 3
- G. Weekly Contact Hours: 6 Lecture: 0
 Laboratory: 6
 Out of class student work per week: 6
- H. ☒ Prerequisite (s): DANC-211 Modern Dance III or permission of the instructor
 ☐ Corequisite (s):
- I. Additional Fees: None

II. Catalog Description

Prerequisite: DANC-211 Modern Dance III or Permission of Instructor

Modern Dance IV is an advanced level modern dance technique class. Through active participation students will refine their technical skills and performance capabilities, develop highly advanced movement patterns and explore their own personal movement styles. Structured improvisation and choreography allow the student to manipulate abstract ideas, and develop their creativity. Students will be required to provide appropriate dance attire.

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 modern dance. With many of RVCC dance majors being placed out of the basic Modern I class, it is important that they receive four semesters of Modern. Modern IV would serve as their third in a series of four required semesters.
- B. The lab component is a necessity in a technique course, and offers the students the ability to work on their movement comprehension, technical abilities, physical endurance and alignment.
- C. This course generally transfers as a dance program requirement or as a dance program elective dependent upon transfer institution.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

- A. Free Elective
- B. This course meets a program requirement for the A.F.A. Dance Degree.
- C. This course meets a studio requirement for Liberal Arts degree program.
- 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

- A. Modern Dance Technique:
 - 1. Advanced conceptions of dance: strong emphasis on placement, alignment, coordination, and movement quality.
 - 2. Laban principles
 - 3. Partnering
- B. Performance Techniques
 - 4. Powers of projection
 - 5. Differences between displaying movement and communicating it to an audience
 - 6. Building of concentration
 - 7. Awareness of stylistic differences
 - 8. Establishment of professional rehearsal behavior
- C. Physiology
 - 9. Strength and flexibility
 - 10. Stamina/endurance
 - 11. Physicality and alignment
- D. Improvisation techniques
- E. 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. (GE 1, 6, *)
2. Apply critical analysis skills of modern movement styles and structure. (GE 6, *)
(*Embedded critical thinking)
3. Demonstrate precise technique and expressive qualities in complex movement combinations, including execution of movement, quality, dynamics, and emotion, as well as including creative work in the modern dance style.
4. Apply fundamental theories and principles to a broad range of challenging movement combinations requiring advanced technical precision and expressive range.

B. Assessment Instruments

- A. Small-group work
- B. Student collaboration
- C. Lecture/Discussion
- D. Instructor Demonstration
- E. Movement assignments
- F. Group and Individual Critiques

VII. Grade Determinants

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

Modes of Teaching and Learning

- A. Lecture/discussion
- B. Instructor Demonstration
- C. In-class and homework movement assignments
- D. Guest artists
- E. Student performances
- F. Student collaboration

VIII. Texts and Materials

- A. Suggested textbook
 - Body Movement: Coping with the Environment, Irmgard Bartenieff with Dori Lewis, Gordon & Breach, Science Publishers, Inc. NY, 1980
 - The Vision of Modern Dance, 2nd edition. Edited by Jean Morrison Brown, Naomi Mindlin, and Charles Woodford, Princeton Book Company. 1998
- B. Appropriate dance clothes

(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
- D. Marker board

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