

COURSE OUTLINE

**DANCE 125
TAP DANCE I**

I. Catalog Statement

Dance 125 provides students with practical experience in basic tap dance techniques. Through discussion and movement, the course emphasizes the development of coordination, rhythm, and performance skills. Students learn tap dance combinations and dances. A brief history of the development of the tap dance medium is included.

Total Lecture Units: 1.0

Total Lab Units: 0.5

Total Course Units: 1.5

Total Lecture Hours: 16.0

Total Lab Hours: 24.0

Total Faculty Contact Hours: 40.0

Prerequisite Skills: None.

II. Course Entry Expectations

Skill Level Ranges: Reading 5; Writing 5; Listening-Speaking 5; Math 1.

III. Course Exit Standards

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

1. identify and define tap dance terminology;
2. demonstrate proper body alignment;
3. demonstrate the strength, coordination, and rhythmic ability required to execute the technical aspects of tap dance;
4. perform beginning, intermediate and advanced tap dance combinations;
5. evaluate movement skills in terms of space, time, and force;
6. analyze a tap dance performance in a dance concert and/or video tape format in terms of tap choreography, music selection, and the technical performance of the dancers.

IV. Course Content

Total Faculty Contact Hours = 40

A. Technical Skills

Lecture: 6 hours – Laboratory: 2 hours

1. Body Alignment

2. Breathing

3. Focus
 4. Dynamics
 5. Weight shifts -- slow to medium tempo
 6. Phrasing
 7. Performance qualities
- B. Basic Tap Dance Techniques Lecture: 4 hours – Laboratory: 6 hours
1. Shuffles
 2. Flaps
 3. Ball changes
 4. Toe punch
 5. Heels
 6. Brushes
- C. Locomotive Skills Lecture: 3 hours – Laboratory: 8 hours
1. Flap heels
 2. Running flaps
 3. Shuffle ball changes
 4. Front and Back Irish
 5. Cramp rolls with brushes
 6. Single time step with shuffle
 7. Time step break
 8. Various tap turns
- D. Traditional Steps Lecture: 3 hours – Laboratory: 8 hours
1. Back essence
 2. Soft shoe
 3. Shim sham
 4. Riffs forward, back, three, and four
 5. Susie Q
 6. Waltz clog
 7. Pull backs
 8. Shuffle off to Buffalo
 9. Maxi Ford

V. **Methods of Instruction**

The following instructional methodologies may be used in the course:

1. classroom lecture and demonstration of tap dance techniques;
2. in-class student dance step and combination practice;
3. presentation of current and historical video-taped and filmed examples of tap dance techniques, combinations, routines and choreography;
4. in-class critiques, done individually and in groups, of tap dance techniques, combinations, routines and choreography.

VI. Out of Class Assignments:

The following out of class assignments may be used in the course:

1. attendance at GCC dance department performances;
2. on-line research of the genre;
3. written evaluation of the performances attended.

VII. Methods of Evaluation

The following methods of evaluation may be used in the course:

1. movement exams;
2. class participation in critiques, analysis, and evaluation of dance performance;
3. written exams;
4. written essays;
5. final exams.

VIII. Textbooks

Craine, Debra and Mackrell, Judith. *The Oxford Dictionary of Dance*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2010.

12th Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN: 0199563446

IX. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

1. identify and define tap dance terminology;
2. demonstrate proper body alignment;
3. demonstrate the strength, coordination, and rhythmic ability required to execute the technical aspects of tap dance;
4. perform beginning and intermediate tap dance combinations.