

**DANC 1604 Jazz Dance Foundations Course Syllabus**  
**Fall 2007 12:20-1:10pm Rm 272 Dance Building**  
**INSTRUCTOR - Denise Posnak**  
**CONTACT - dposnak@uga.edu**  
**OFFICE HOURS - By Appointment Only**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Dance 1604 is a beginning level dance course that focuses on the fundamental characteristics of jazz dance and the jazz class as known in the twentieth and twenty-first century. Through practical experience, students will encounter various jazz styles and trends that stem from vernacular (social dance) forms and that are inspired by improvisation, various music styles and certain modern dance concepts.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. Development of technical skill in jazz movement and performance. This encompasses strength, flexibility, balance, control, musicality, and confidence in dancing in front of an audience (peers and others).
2. Development of musicality and rhythmic skills through performing choreography that contains complex rhythmic changes.
3. Gaining a greater knowledge of jazz dance and it's vernacular roots through performing historical and present day styles that take into account the history of jazz dance.
4. Improvement of spatial awareness through performing choreography that incorporates directional changes, diverse floor patterns and movements that demand expansion and retraction of the body.
5. Development of a critical and inquisitive mind that views the body and it's functions in ways that may be new and unconventional. Students will find new means to approaching movement and will be encouraged to utilize these paths to enhance their dance experience.

### **CLASS POLICIES**

**APPROPRIATE DANCE ATTIRE** includes dance pants, biker shorts, yoga pants, tightly fitting tops, leotards or tights. **NO BAGGY CLOTHING. Jazz shoes are highly recommended.**

**STUDIO RULES** - no food, drink, gum or shoes on dance floor. Water bottles are permitted and recommended.

## **ATTENDANCE**

There will be no differentiation between "excused" and "unexcused" absences. You may acquire three absences and MAKE UP a fourth (in another foundations dance course) without penalty. FOUR absences (without one being made up) **will result in a "U" (unsatisfactory) grade.** Make up classes must be completed prior to the last week of classes. You must show proof of your make up to get credit.

**Tardiness** is disruptive to the class and dangerous for your body. **FOUR "tardies" results in one absence.** This same rule applies to **leaving early.** IF YOU CANNOT MAKE IT TO CLASS ON TIME OR MUST LEAVE EARLY - DROP THE CLASS.

## **GRADING POLICY**

To receive an "S" (satisfactory) grade in the course the student must:

- 1 - Meet attendance requirements.
- 2 - Attend and complete a two page paper on one dance production, (See DANCE EVENTS Fall 2007 sheet).

*\*The two page response may include drawing and/or any other creative method of "talking" about your experience. There must be at least 500 words in the document.*

- 3 - Participate in class with enthusiasm, concentration and respect for your fellow classmates and teacher.

NOT MEETING THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS WILL RESULT IN A "U" GRADE.

## **A CULTURE OF HONESTY**

*All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." Each student is responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.*

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*The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.*

