

DANCE 115: TAP 1

Fall 2017: Tuesdays & Thursdays 2 – 3:25

NFAC 136

Jeannie Hill, Professor

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NFAC 140E

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Office Hours: M 11:30-12:30, W 9-10, Th 3:30-4:30 and by appointment

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Dance Program Mission Statement

UWSP's dance program aspires to create a dynamic culture in which students are inspired to achieve full physical expression, technical and stylistic range, and anatomical efficiency. We are dedicated to artistic experimentation and contemporary inquiry that is culturally relevant and historically grounded, preparing students to communicate, contribute and lead as global citizen artists.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Through daily warm-up sequences, tap rudiments, across the floor progressions and beginning-intermediate level center combinations dancers learn a full-bodied approach to tap dancing. Class work promotes a body-healthy approach to dance study by including the principles of Jump Rhythm® Technique, a rhythm-first system of dance and movement education created by Billy Siegenfeld. Applying these action/ideas to tap class combines the articulations of the feet with those of the hands, head, and voice to create sparkling swing and/or percussive funk through the whole body. Outside of class practice, reading, video viewing and writing are required. Additional classroom activities include discussion, video viewing, improvisation and sharing choreographic studies.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will be able to:

- demonstrate beginning and intermediate level tap technique.
- demonstrate anatomically efficient alignment in class sequences.
- demonstrate technical improvement by practicing outside of class.
- improvise short phrases of tap dancing.
- identify and apply musical information to tap dancing.
- dance the Shim Sham Shimmy – a historic dance of the 1920's.
- dance the Coles Stroll – a circle dance of introduction choreographed by Charles Honi Coles.
- dance the Copasetics Chair Dance
- identify and demonstrate the difference between duple and triple rhythm.
- choreograph phrases using tap dance vocabulary.
- discuss notable tap dancers and their contributions to the form.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance

It is the dance program policy to allow no more than two (2) absences. Six (6) absences result in a failing grade. Frequent tardiness will not be tolerated and will lower your grade. Two (2) tardies will be counted as one (1) absence. Each additional absence beyond the two (2) allowed will lower your grade a full letter grade (A to B, etc.). You are required to contact me prior to class either by email or phone if you are going to be absent. You are responsible for keeping track of your number of absences. Make-up classes are not allowed.

Preparation

I expect you to come to class on time, to be dressed properly, and be ready to participate fully in all class experiences. Adequate pre-class physical and mental preparation and post-class cool down are the responsibility of each dancer. Class begins at 2:00. I encourage you to arrive at least 30 minutes early to warm-up and to begin the process of focusing on your work and the class ahead.

Practice

In order to get the most out of this class it is essential that you practice what you have learned outside of class in between our meetings. Consider keeping a tap notebook so you can jot down manipulations to practice. You have my permission to bring a notebook into class and step aside to make notes during class. You also have my

permission to videorecord a step immediately after class. Consider participating in TAP CLUB – Open Studio Time available for practice - Time TBD.

Participation

Consistent focused and enthusiastic participation includes: promptness, attentiveness, motivation, positive attitude, commitment, and concentration. I expect you to approach the class with an open mind, to show respect and offer support to your peers, and to demonstrate your own investment in the work by the way you approach each lesson.

Attending but not participating

If you are well enough to attend but cannot participate (injury or non infectious illness), you can receive attendance credit by observing the full class and submitting your written observations to me at the end of class. Even if you are feeling well enough to dance you may wish to take an observation day during the semester. It offers you an opportunity to process the information differently – how is the experience of viewing different from doing? Address what you discovered by observing class and how you will apply your discoveries to your work. If you do not submit your observations directly to me at the end of class, your observation will not count and you will be marked absent. You may observe class two (2) times only before it may affect your grade.

Receiving and Working with Responses, Suggestions and Additions

In dance, a substantial portion of learning is grounded in reconsidering and refining your anatomical, kinesthetic, mental, and artistic/emotional approach to the work. Receiving responses and suggestions about your work are essential aspects of your development and are intended for each student's improvement. It is always possible to listen for meaningful information offered to the class group and other individual dancers. This aspect of training is a dialog. Responses and suggestions are intended to bring you back on task or to take you deeper and further into the work at hand.

Reading

Required Text: *Tap! The Greatest Tap Dance Stars and Their Stories 1900-1955* by Rusty Frank.
Available for purchase at the University Book Store. See due dates for reading assignments on our D2L site.

Writing

I expect all writing to be clear, thoughtful, and grammatically correct.

- *Reflective Writing*. Six reflective D2L posts in response to readings are required.

Quizzes

Two or Three quizzes will be given during the semester. Information will be drawn from readings and class work.

Choreography Projects

Students will create two choreographic studies during the semester: Three and a Break Study and Tap Duet.

Performance Viewing

Students are required to attend all Department of Theatre & Dance productions:

- *Student Body* (Studio Theatre) Directed by Stephen Trovillion Smith, October 13-15, 18-21
- *Spamalot*, (Jenkins Theatre) Directed by Mark Hanson, November 10-12, 15-18
- *Afterimages 2017* (Studio Theatre) December 7-10

Additional recommended Dance Performances:

- Nutcracker Sweet (Sentry Theatre) November 11th @ 7:30/12th @ 2:00
- Dance for Hope (Sentry Theatre) September 22nd @ 7:30/23rd @ 7:30

Additional recommended Music Performances:

- October 26 (Michelsen Hall) Percussion Ensemble, Decades Series-Origins 7:30
- November 17 (Michelsen Hall) Jazz Band and Jazz Ensemble Concert 7:30
- December 12 (Michelsen Hall) Jazz Ensemble Concert 7:30
- December 14 (Michelsen Hall) Percussion Ensemble Concert, Decades Series – 1940's

Cross-Training Options

Workout for FREE at the Cardio Center and the Strength Fitness Center until September 10!

Must bring UWSP-issued photo ID to workout.

Facebook: UWSP Health and Fitness

Instagram: uwsp_healthandfitness

Twitter: @UWSPHealthFit

Cardio Center is in the Allen Center located behind May Roach and Smith Hall, 400 Illinois Ave. 715-346-4711
Monday-Thursday: 5:45 a.m. - 11 p.m.
Friday: 5:45 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Saturday: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Strength Center is located in the Health Enhancement Center (HEC) between Neale and Pray-Sims Hall.
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 6 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday 6 a.m. - Midnight
Tuesday and Thursday 6 a.m. - Midnight

COURSE INFORMATION

Office Hours

Mondays 11:30-12:30, Wednesdays 9-10, Thursday 3:30-4:30 and by appointment

In a group learning environment there is often not enough time for adequate personal attention. If you are unclear about a suggestion I have given you in class, have other concerns about your work, or would just like to check in please schedule a time to meet with me outside of class.

Dressing to work in class

- As dancers our work together is often in close proximity. It is important that you bathe daily, and wear a fresh change of clothes to class.
- Tap shoes are required: black flat shoes; leather upper, full sole recommended.
- Dressing in a manner consistent with the profession for tap class means wearing comfortable clothes to dance in – dance pants and close-fitting athletic tops or t-shirts are a good choice. Please choose pants that are not too baggy and do not drag on the floor. Class will sometimes begin in bare feet.
- Secure your hair so that it stays away from your face and neck throughout the class. Remove wrist and neck jewelry and dangling earrings. No gum, no lozenges.

Dressing Rooms

Dancers should use NFAC 134 (male) and NFAC 135 (female) locker rooms to dress for class. Enter the studio dressed and ready to go. Lockers are provided for dance program majors and minors – you may use the cubbies in the warm-up room to store your dance bag. The dance program expects all students to maintain the dressing rooms as part of our professional spaces by securing all personal belongings and taking home and laundering dance clothes. So that our custodial staff can thoroughly clean, all belongings must be put away and cleared at the end of each day. Anything left on the floor will be moved to the lost and found. The dance program cannot be responsible for thefts.

Floor Surfaces, Water, Food

CHECK YOUR SCREWS DAILY! Loose screws can make deep gouges in the Maple floor. A screwdriver is on the white board tray. If you have any questions about your shoes, please ask me.

To protect our professional floor surfaces, please do not wear body lotion or powder to class. These come off on the floor surfaces and make the floors slippery. They are also difficult to remove. Only water, in sealed bottles, is allowed in the dance studios. No beverages in open containers or food is allowed in either studio. Street shoes are not allowed in the dance program studios.

Dance Studio Use

Dance majors and minors and students enrolled in dance courses may reserve the NFAC dance center studios. Weekly studio schedules are posted on the NFAC 136A warm-up area bulletin. You may reserve a maximum of two 1-hour rehearsal blocks/week. Priority is given to faculty, *Afterimages* choreographers and majors/minors. You provide audio playback device; an iPod cord is available to connect to the studio sound system.

Ongoing or Previous Injuries and Self Care

As dancers it is essential that you develop a clear plan to make whole food nutrition, hydration, and a consistently adequate amount of time for rest and recuperation your top priorities. It is your responsibility to notify me of any injury or health issue that may affect your class work.

As dancers you work deeply on several levels. To be able to develop and sustain a holistic approach to your training and artistry it is important to consider the following. What do you need in order to successfully pace and balance your physical and academic work? How deeply are you aware of the role that daily rest, recuperation, and whole food nutrition plays? What is your plan to prioritize these into your schedule?

Injury

If you are injured either inside or outside of class it is essential to STOP what you are doing immediately and take care of your body. Immediate self-care for strains or sprains must include R. I. C. E. (Rest, Ice, Compression, Elevation) A first aid kit is located in the warmup area. Additional ice packs are in the freezer in the dance office for immediate use during class.

Students who require ice or heat therapy for an existing injury should supply their own reusable ice/heating packs. For injury evaluation, and additional therapy needs, dance program students are encouraged to make an appointment to meet with dance program Athletic Trainers. More information about this process will be posted on the warmup area bulletin board

If you will miss two (2) or more classes due to an injury or illness you must submit all of the following, in writing, to me. Recording detail about any injury or illness you sustain throughout the semester that prevents you from fully participating in class will be useful to both instructor and student.

1. Date and specific description of injury or illness
2. Physician, Chiropractor, Physical Therapist, Athletic Trainer and/or other medical professional report and specific diagnosis
3. Specific recommended follow up care, for example: icing, therapeutic exercises (number or repetitions, frequency, intensity), footwear, etc.
4. How thoroughly and consistently are you fulfilling these recommendations?
5. Specific timeline to recovery and your return to full dance participation

If you sustain an injury or illness or, if other circumstances prevent you from full class participation for four (4) or more consecutive or combined weeks, the dance faculty will evaluate your circumstances and will likely suggest that you drop the course and register to take it when you are able to complete the required work.

Email

You are responsible for the information sent to your UWSP email, and to check your UWSP email daily for class updates and announcements. Relevant information will also be posted on D2L and the Dance Program 136A bulletin board. Check SMOD and Face Book for additional performance listings and announcements.

EVALUATION AND GRADING

Final Exam Wednesday, December 20th 2:45PM - 4:45PM

D2L and Submitting Assignments

<http://www.uwsp.edu/d2l/Pages/default.aspx>

The class will use Desire to Learn (D2L), UWSP's online classroom, to submit and archive course assignments. Use your UWSP password to login from the myPoint page.

All assignments must be submitted completely and on time. I do not accept late assignments. Failing to submit an assignment by the due date will result in zero credit for that assignment.

Evaluation

- *To earn the grade A:* You will demonstrate both a deep physical and intellectual understanding of the material covered and embodied that work in your performance. You will attend and actively participate in class by; you will consistently and accurately practice course material outside of class; you will complete assignments within the given time frame. You will consistently prepare for class and show strong improvement throughout the semester. The grade of "A" is excellent.
- *To earn the grade B:* You will understand and complete assignments yet you are unable to clarify some of your smaller anatomical or technical problems. You will attend and actively participate in class but are not consistent in practicing course material; you will complete the assignments well, fulfilling the minimum requirements. You will be present during class and actively participate. The grade of "B" is very good: above average improvement.

- *To earn the grade C:* You will attend and participate in class, follow through on feedback, and make an effort to complete requirements. Your preparation and practice of course material are inconsistent or underdeveloped. You will improve enough to fulfill the minimum requirements. The grade of “C” is average.
- *To earn the grade D:* You will attempt to complete the assignments, but are unable to achieve some of the requirements. The “D” grade reflects the minimal amount of effort/improvement to receive a passing grade.
- *To earn the grade F:* Your attendance is inconsistent, or you missed 6 classes, and you did not adhere to the assignment guidelines. You did not adequately participate in class. Little or no improvement was shown.

Grading

- **Participation, Effort, Attitude (25%)** Consistent attendance in class provides the greatest opportunity for growth and development in physical practice. While in class, an active engagement in class and eagerness to try new things is essential for a successful, exciting and enjoyable experience. Student attentiveness, motivation, positive attitude, promptness, commitment, concentration, focus, willingness to participate, and respect of instructor and peers will be considered in final grading.
- **Personal Progress/Improvement (25%)** Investing in your work includes deepening your intellectual inquisitiveness, taking your practice goals seriously, and applying physically the suggestions and corrections given in classwork. A strong commitment to your own growth as well as demonstrated improvement in physical practices will be considered in final grading.
- **Quizzes (20%)**
- **Writing (10%)**
- **Choreographic Assignments (10%)**
- **Final Exam (10%)**

Grading

Participation, Effort, Attitude	25%
Personal Progress/Improvement	25%
Quizzes	20%
Writing	10%
Choreographic Assignments	10%
Final Exam	10%
Total	100%

Grading Scale						
Letter	GPA	Points		C+	2.33	78-79
A	4.0	93-100		C	2.00	73-77
A-	3.67	90-92		C-	1.67	70-72
B+	3.33	88-89		D+	1.33	68-69
B	3.00	83-87		D	1.00	63-67
B-	2.67	80-82		F	0.00	0-62

UWSP Community Bill of Rights and Responsibilities

UWSP values a safe, honest, respectful, and inviting learning environment. In order to ensure that each student has the opportunity to succeed, a set of expectations have been developed for all students and instructors. This set of expectations is known as the Rights and Responsibilities document, and it is intended to help establish a positive living and learning environment at UWSP. For more information go to: <http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Pages/rightsandresponsibilities.aspx>.

The Rights and Responsibilities document also includes the policies regarding academic misconduct, which can be found in Chapter 14. A direct link can be found here:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/SRR-2010/rightsChap14.pdf>.

Americans with Disabilities Act

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal law requiring educational institutions to provide reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. For more information about UWSP's policies, check here: <http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/ADA/rightsADAPolicyinfo.pdf>.

If you have a disability and require classroom and/or exam accommodations, please register with the Disability Services Office and then contact me at the beginning of the course. I am happy to help in any way I can. For more information, please visit the Disability Services Office, located on the 6th floor of the Learning Resource Center (the Library). You can also find more information here:

<http://www4.uwsp.edu/special/disability/>

UWSP Emergency Preparedness

- Be prepared.
- Share what you know with others.
- Working together is how we will be safe and stay safe.

Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with UWSP safety resources

<https://www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/preparedness/default.aspx>