

I. Course Overview:

Upon successful completion of this course, the students should be able to demonstrate correct body alignment during floor warm-up exercises and preparation form movement techniques, recognize various jazz dance styles, and perform jazz dance compositions before an audience.

II. Units:

Unit 1. Floor warm-up, body alignment

General Outcome:

- 1.0 The students should be able to initiate correct spinal alignment through a specific series of on-the floor conditioning exercises necessary for proper preparation to dance.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 1.1 Demonstrate awareness of skeletal form and correct placement of body parts.
- 1.2 Understand deep breathing as related to muscular oxygenation and correct use with each exercise.
- 1.3 Recognize deep breathing as a meditation and focus on inner attitude to precede action.
- 1.4 Demonstrate proper dance posture and centering.
- 1.5 Understand floor warm-up as personal and necessary maintenance for the dancer's body/instrument.

Unit 2. Technique Exercises

General Outcome:

2.0 The students should be able to demonstrate jazz exercises with correct technique and alignment.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

2.1 Execute the following:

- 2.1.1 Pliés (in parallel and turn-out)
- 2.1.2 Tendus (in parallel and turn-out)
- 2.1.3 Flexibility stretches
- 2.1.4 Battements (degagé, grand)
- 2.1.5 Contractions
- 2.1.6 Isolations
- 2.1.7 Arm movements
- 2.1.8 Pivots

2.2 Perform the following turns (in parallel position):

- 2.2.1 Chainé
- 2.2.2 Pencil turns (en dehors, en dedans)
- 2.2.3 Piqué
- 2.2.4 Pirouettes (en dehors, en dedans, plié, relevé)
- 2.2.5 Tour en l'air
- 2.2.6 Spotting technique for all turns

2.3 Execute the following jumps:

- 2.3.1 Sautés (parallel, turn-out)
- 2.3.2 Sissonnes (straight, stag)
- 2.3.3 Chassés
- 2.3.4 Pas de chat (straight, turning)

2.4 Execute the following leaps:

- 2.4.1 Grand jeté
- 2.4.2 Tour jeté (entrelacé)
- 2.4.3 In second position
- 2.4.4 Stag split
- 2.4.5 Switch leg

2.5 Execute the following movements at varying tempos:

- 2.5.1 Jazz walks (with various isolations)
- 2.5.2 Jazz pas de bourrée
- 2.5.3 Hops
- 2.5.4 Kicks (straight leg, in plié, in attitude)

Unit 3. Centre Floor Combinations

General Outcome:

- 3.0 The students should be able to execute varying combinations of jazz technique exercises and steps with emphasis on correct execution and musicality.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 3.1 Demonstrate pas de bourrée to an outside or inside turn in plié or relevé.
- 3.2 Execute chassé to various leaps.
- 3.3 Demonstrate combinations of kicks and walks with head rolls and/or contractions and various isolations.
- 3.4 Perform opposing torso movements against different locomotor movements and patterns.
- 3.5 Demonstrate different fall and recovery techniques to descend and ascend from the floor.
- 3.6 Perform a series of steps in varying musical tempos.

Unit 4. Composition/Choreography

General Outcome:

- 4.0 The students should be able to demonstrate the elements of jazz dance through an original composition of jazz choreography that defines a particular jazz style.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 4.1 Demonstrate spatial and temporal qualities of choreography.
- 4.2 Demonstrate themes as related to music, dance patterns, and content.
- 4.3 Differentiate rhythmic patterns.
- 4.4 Perform a dance style appropriate to the choice of music and time period.
- 4.5 Perform an original and creative in composition.

Unit 5. Performance/Audition Preparation

General Outcome:

- 5.0 The students should be able to perform, before an audience, a short composition utilizing several different combinations of jazz dance in various jazz styles, learn appropriate audition techniques, and proper mental and physical preparation for both.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 5.1 Understand and perform, with little practice, simple combinations as might be required in an audition.
- 5.2 Present a variety of characterizations appropriate to a particular jazz dance style.
- 5.3 Demonstrate concentration and self-discipline in class and rehearsals for performance.
- 5.4 Learn the use of stage make-up and costuming.
- 5.5 Learn about the integration of theatrical elements in dance for musical theatre.
- 5.6 Perform the final compositions with correct technique and good stage presence.

Unit 6. Viewing and Critiquing

General Outcome:

- 6.0 The students should be able to recognize the aesthetic qualities of various jazz dance forms and write a critique of a live musical theatre/dance performance.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 6.1 Understand different jazz dance forms.
- 6.2 Recognize spatial and temporal qualities of choreography.
- 6.3 Recognize use of correct technique and execution in both solo and ensemble work.
- 6.4 Recognize integration of theatrical elements in the production.
- 6.5 Write a composition describing the dance and theatrical elements of the production viewed including personal opinions.