

Cedar Crest College  
Beginner Tap – DNC 223 00 2  
Spring 2009

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Nicole B. Hockenberry, *Professor of Dance*  
Office: Steinbright Dance Studio  
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Office Hours: By appointment only

General Course Information:

- Spring 2009
- Beginner Tap Technique Class
- M/W 9:30-10:45am
- Class meets in Steinbright Dance Studio
- 1.5 credits
- 2.5 hours per week

Course Description:

This course will combine basic tap technique, musical structure and traditional tap history with new, innovative styles being created in the tap world today. The student will understand the knowledge of tap education at a basic level along with basic musical structure, the role of improvisation in today's tap world; traditional and vintage tap choruses and an overview of American tap history.

Dress: Comfortable, loose fitting clothing is suggested for freedom within movement. Flat tap shoes are recommended for best sound & clarity. The screws in your tap shoes **MUST** be tightly attached to the soles of your shoes to protect the floor & to allow for best quality of sound.

Assignments: Readings will be passed out and videos will be shown throughout the semester for your information and growth as a tap dancer. Written feedback *may* be required. Supplemental reading and video viewing are recommended according to individual needs and interests.

Four typed assignments will be given as per the Dance Department handout. There will be a choreography assignment within this course. Students will have ample class time to learn, rehearse & present the choreographed material. At the end of the semester, a showing of the choreography is REQUIRED for the completion of the course. The showing(s) will be during your class time on Wednesday, April 29, 2009; this is your final exam.

Class Format:

- Tap warm up
- Technical review
- Muscle memory exercises
- Choreography
- Improvisation

Course Objectives:

At the completion of the course, the student should be able:

- To come away with an understanding of tap dance as a musical and educational art form and to form an appreciation of American tap history.
- To preserve the history, knowledge and choreography of tap dance pioneers while learning the proper ways to communicate the language of tap through education and performance.

Attendance: Classes have clear beginnings and endings. Lateness and leaving early are inexcusable. **More than two unexcused absences will adversely affect your grade. After more than four absences or non-physical participation within the class, you must withdraw or fail the class.**

Participation: The quality of participation in class directly affects your grade. You must challenge yourself daily to go beyond what is comfortable and safe. The quality and consistency of your participation will determine the path and speed of your progress.

Class Assessment:

- Required Choreography Showing (Exam): 15%
- Written Assignments: 20%
- Class Participation: 25%
- Knowledge of Current Material: 25%
- Attendance: 15%

Policies/Procedures: The following have been taken from the Student Customs Book

Honor Philosophy:

The Cedar Crest College Honor Philosophy states that students should uphold community standards for academic and social behavior in order to preserve a learning environment dedicated to personal and academic excellence. Upholding community standards is a matter of personal integrity and honor. Individuals who accept the honor of membership in the Cedar Crest College community of scholars pledge to accept responsibility for their actions in all academic and social situations and for the effect their actions may have on other members of the college community.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity and ethics remain steadfast, withstanding technological change. Cedar Crest College Academic Standards therefore apply to all academic work, including, but not limited to, handwritten or computer generated documents, video or audio recordings, and telecommunications.

*As a student at Cedar Crest College, each student shall:*

- Only submit work which is his/her own.
- Adhere to the rules of acknowledging outside sources, as defined by the instructor, never plagiarizing or misrepresenting intellectual property.
- Neither seek nor receive aid from another student, converse with one another when inappropriate, nor use materials not authorized by the instructor.
- Follow the instructions of the professor in any academic situation or environment, including taking of examinations, laboratory procedures, the preparation of papers, properly and respectfully using College facilities and resources, including library and computing resources to ensure that these resources may be effectively shared by all members of the College community.
- Abide by the Cedar Crest Computer Use Policy.
- If a student perceives a violation of the Academic Standards, he/she will go to their instructor.
- If you are unable to resolve the problem with the instructor, you should go to the chair of the department. If you need further assistance after consultation with the instructor and the chair, you should see the Provost.

Classroom Protocol:

Appropriate classroom behavior is defined and guided by complete protection for the rights of all students and faculty to a courteous, respectful classroom environment. That environment is free from distractions such as late arrivals, early departures, inappropriate conversations and any other behaviors that might disrupt instruction and/or compromise students' access to the Cedar Crest College education.

Furthermore: Students are expected to have prompt and regular classroom attendance in accordance with the policy stated on the syllabus.

Learning Disabilities/Statement of College Policy:

Students with documented disabilities who may need academic accommodations should discuss these needs with their professors during the first two weeks of class. Students with disabilities who wish to request accommodations should contact the Advising Center.

I fully support the Cedar Crest College Honor Code and Classroom Protocol Code.

Plagiarism will result in an "F" for the assignment and will be reported to the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Dean of the Faculty.