

*Cedar Crest College*  
*DNC 230 00 2*  
*Intermediate Modern Dance*  
*Spring 2009*

**Class Meeting Time: Tuesday & Thursday 9:30 - 10:45**

**Professor: Tabatha Robinson-Scott Ed.M.**

**Course # DNC 230 00 2**

**Office Hours: By Appointment**

**Email: [trobinso@cedarcrest.edu](mailto:trobinso@cedarcrest.edu)**

**Course Description**

This technique course is designed to challenge students to not only enhance their technique, but to define their own movement vocabulary. Using codified techniques in addition to the trends of contemporary dance, students will build upon their existing physical capacities to grow as dancers and artists. Emphasis on movement integration, rhythm, and dynamic qualities will be presented in exercises in class. Students are expected to be self-motivated and work in a healthy way.

**Course Objectives:**

- ❖ To provide students with a codified movement foundation from which to develop their movement style
- ❖ To provide movement experiences that explore use of gravity, spatial awareness, rhythm, time, and energy.
- ❖ To build a foundation in technical proficiency and proper alignment
- ❖ To provide a warm-up, center activities, floor work, traveling sequences and combinations to build confidence, strength and eventually focus on performance
- ❖ To gain a stronger sense of physicality and the way the body should move properly in a healthy way
- ❖ To celebrate the individual artist and each movement style within the technique
- ❖ To explore the various elements of choreography and modern dance genres
- ❖ To understand the aesthetic premise of modern dance and how it has developed through history
- ❖ To develop strength, stretch, flexibility, stamina, endurance while increasing one's range of mobility
- ❖ To explore the elements of rhythm, musicality and timing
- ❖ To utilize the vocabulary terms in their journals as well as in performance
- ❖ To prepare dancers for the current trends in the field of dance today

Students are expected to:

- ❖ Fully participate in all classes
- ❖ Take risks
- ❖ Be self-motivated in the tracking of their progress
- ❖ Complete the supplemental material and assignments to deepen the experiences in class and knowledge about the art form
- ❖ Communicate with the instructor about their progress and assessments
- ❖ Provide a safe, supportive and energized environment for their fellow students

## Class Format

### Attendance, Lateness and Performance Policy

- ★ **Attendance** – no more than 2 absences are permitted. Any missed classes beyond the first two will result in point deductions from your final grade **unless** with an excused note from the Dean. After 2 absences, the grade will drop by one grade per absence. Since this class is an experience and not a lecture, the work missed cannot be made up. If you are anticipating an extended absence due to illness or injury, contact me immediately.
- ★ **Lateness** – Please arrive early to your class to change or prepare for the class. After the 1<sup>st</sup> documented lateness, 1 point will be deducted from your final grade for each additional lateness. If a student is more than 5 minutes late to class without prior notification, it is recorded as a 1/3 absence; therefore 3 “lates” count as one absence. More than four absences or non-physical participation (for any reason) you must withdraw from the class or fail.
- ★ **Performance** – You are expected to fully participate in all classes to the best of your ability. All participants are expected to provide a supportive environment with positive feedback. In the event you are not able to participate in class due to an illness, you are strongly encouraged to observe the class.
- ★ **Observation Policy** – In the event you are ill or injured, you must consult with the instructor prior to the beginning of class. The 1<sup>st</sup> observation assignment will result in full participation credit. Each observation after that will result in ½ credit.

### Homework & Written Assignments

Your name should appear on all assignments and journal entries. For all papers, please include your name, date the paper is due, and title. Your paper should then start immediately at the top of the paper. All article responses should be typed, double-spaced, 12 font or smaller and one inch margins. If you do not follow the format, your grade will be affected. All work turned in must be the product of your own. Plagiarism is not acceptable. If you are caught plagiarizing, you will receive a failing grade for that assignment. All assignments will be returned to you in a timely manner. Journal entries should be at least 250 words. Journal entries may be handwritten but must be legible.

### Mid-Term and Final

You will have a mid-term presentation, which will reflect all of the material covered up until that point. You will have substantial notice about the assignment at a later date.

### Evaluation

Your grade for this class will consist of the following components:

- ★ Attendance and Class Participation, Movement studies in class (70)
- ★ Journal entries, Movement Assessments & Written Assignments (15)
- ★ Mid-term assignment (5)
- ★ Final (10)

A specific breakdown of the weight of the grades will be determined at a later date. You will receive a copy of the breakdown within the first third of the class.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Performing Arts Department Policies

### General

Please:

- ★ Do not bring food or beverages other than water into the dance studio
- ★ Keep all belongings in the dressing room
- ★ Do not bring valuable items such as jewelry and wallets
- ★ Do not bring cell phones into the dance studio
- ★ Do not enter the dance studio with street shoes on
- ★ Do not wear scented, “fruity” lotions to class: these lotions contain oils that stain the marley floor and cause slick surfaces.

### Email guidelines

The main objective for email between student and the instructor is for contact and communication when necessary outside of class time. Students should always try to talk with instructors in person whenever possible and reserve email for brief information that was missed during class time. Students should get missed assignments from fellow classmates whenever possible.

Email is for information such as meeting times, quick questions on assignments, absentee notification, etc. They should be kept brief and to the point. Email should not be used to discuss more serious matters such as grade or attendance grievances. Students should make an appointment with a faculty member to discuss such matters. At all times students should keep the tone of their email courteous and respectful to the instructor.

The instructor reserves the right to hold the student responsible for proper email etiquette and the grade may be affected if the instructor feels the guidelines have not been met by the student.

\*\*\*Please refer to the additional guidelines and requirements listed in the Technical Standards for participating in any dance department course.