

Origination Date: August 2011
Curriculum Committee Approval Date: March 2011
Effective Term: Fall 2012
Course Originator: Denaya Dailey

**College of San Mateo
Official Course Outline**

1. **COURSE ID:** DANC 390 **TITLE:** Dance Composition/Theory/Choreography
Semester Units/Hours: 2.5 - 3.0 units; a minimum of 32.0 lecture hours/semester; a maximum of 32.0 lecture hours/semester; a minimum of 24.0 lab hours/semester; a maximum of 48.0 lab hours/semester
Method of Grading: Grade Option (Letter Grade or P/NP)
Recommended Preparation:
DANC 121, DANC 131 DANC 132 DANC 141 or DANC 143

2. **COURSE DESIGNATION:**
Degree Credit
Transfer credit: CSU; UC
CSU GE:
CSU GE Area E: LIFELONG LEARNING AND SELF-DEVELOPMENT: E2

3. **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:**
Catalog Description:
This course is intended for students with dance experience. Students are introduced to aesthetic, philosophical and theoretical concepts regarding dance composition. Emphasis placed on movement invention, choreographic techniques, analyzing choreography, working with music and text, and choreographing solo and group works. Both formal and improvisational structures are explored. Students choreograph as well as participate in others' compositions.

4. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) (SLO'S):**
Upon successful completion of this course, a student will meet the following outcomes:
 1. Demonstrate an understanding of choreographic ideas - time, space, rhythm, and energy through choreographic works.
 2. Perform a complete solo and/or group dance.
 3. Analyze dance choreography in an articulate and critical manner.

5. SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of choreographic ideas - time, space, rhythm, and energy through choreographic works
2. Perform a complete solo and/or group dance
3. Analyze dance choreography in an articulate and critical manner

6. COURSE CONTENT:

Lecture Content:

1. Historical context
 1. Innovative dance choreographers of the 20th century
 2. Historical choreographic pieces and concepts
2. Evaluation and critique of dance performances
3. Analyze and work with choreographic concepts
 1. Movement generation
 2. Form
 3. Spatial relationships
 4. Dynamics
 5. Musicality
4. Choreographic studies to practice solo and group composition
 1. Theme and Variation
 2. Canon and Fugue
 3. Site Specific
 4. Rondo

7. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Typical methods of instruction may include:

1. Discussion
2. Other (Specify):
 1. Lecture/Readings
 2. Viewing videos and live performances
 3. Class discussions
 4. Demonstrations
 5. Writing/Skill Building
 6. Choreographic studies that solve choreographic problems through the creative process
 7. Perform in other students' dances
 8. Analyze choreographic works; both professional and in class
 9. Keep a journal throughout semester
 10. Outside Assignments
 11. Written/verbal critique of observed dance performances
 12. Rehearse/practice choreography approximately 3 hours per week outside of class
 13. Critical Thinking Assignments
 14. To choreograph dances that assemble group and solo dancers
 15. To choreograph and practice dance exercises and combinations
 16. To engage in the creative process through choreographic and improvisational exercises

8. REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNMENTS

Representative assignments in this course may include, but are not limited to the following:

Writing Assignments:

- Choreographic studies that solve choreographic problems through the creative process
- Perform in other students' dances
- Analyze choreographic works; both professional and in class
- Keep a journal throughout semester

Reading Assignments:

Other Outside Assignments:

- Written/verbal critique of observed dance performances
- Rehearse/practice choreography approximately 3 hours per week outside of class

To be Arranged Assignments (if applicable):

Critical Thinking Assignments

- To choreograph dances that assemble group and solo dancers
- To choreograph and practice dance exercises and combinations
- To engage in the creative process through choreographic and improvisational exercises

9. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF EVALUATION

Representative methods of evaluation may include:

- Students will demonstrate their learned skills through
 - The act of choreographing on fellow students
 - The act of dancing in fellow students' choreographic works
 - The act of critically analyzing both professional and in-class choreographic works
 - Final Exam - Performance

10. REPRESENTATIVE TEXT(S):

Possible textbooks include:

0. Matlha Bremser. *Fifty Contemporary Choreographers*, ed. Routledge Key Guides, 2011
1. Doris Humphrey. *The Art of Making Dances*, ed. -, 1991
2. Stuart Hodes. *A Map of Making Dances*, ed. -, 1998
3. Lynne Anne Blom. *The Intimate Act of Choreography*, ed. -, 1982