DANC 14.2 Course Outline as of Summer 2025

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: DANC 14.2 Title: CONTEMPORARY DANCE II
Full Title: Contemporary Dance II
Last Reviewed: 1/28/2019

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	1.50	Lecture Scheduled	0.75	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	13.13
Minimum	1.50	Lab Scheduled	2.25	6	Lab Scheduled	39.38
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 26.25 Total Student Learning Hours: 78.75

Title 5 Category:	AA Degree Applicable
Grading:	Grade or P/NP
Repeatability:	00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP
Also Listed As:	
Formerly:	DANCE 14.2

Catalog Description:
Contemporary dance draws from ballet, modern, and jazz dance techniques. This Level II course follows a dance class format including center warm-ups, progressions, and combinations. The choreography focuses on interpretation of the mood of the music or the lyrics of the songs.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation:
Course Completion of DANCE 14.1

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:
Description: Contemporary dance draws from ballet, modern and jazz dance techniques. This Level II course follows a dance class format including center warm-ups, progressions, and combinations. The choreography focuses on interpretation of the mood of the music or the lyrics of the songs. (Grade or P/NP)
Prerequisites/Corequisites:
Recommended: Course Completion of DANCE 14.1

Limits on Enrollment:
Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.
Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

AS Degree:	**Area**			Effective:	Inactive:
	L8	Student Success and Wellness		Fall 2025	
CSU GE:	**Transfer Area**			Effective:	Inactive:
IGETC:	**Transfer Area**			Effective:	Inactive:
CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Spring 2014	Inactive:	
UC Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Spring 2014	Inactive:	

CID:

Certificate/Major Applicable:
Major Applicable Course

COURSE CONTENT

Student Learning Outcomes:
At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:
1. Execute and analyze Level II contemporary dance sequences using applicable dance vocabulary.
2. Perform Level II contemporary dance choreography applying Level II techniques, musicality and performance skills.

Objectives:
At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:
1. Demonstrate Level II competence in the ballet, jazz, and modern dance skills incorporated in contemporary dance choreography.
2. Incorporate Level II contemporary dance performance skills such as expressive movement quality
and appropriate facial expressions in the context of a contemporary dance class.
3. Choreograph a Level II contemporary dance combination.
4. Differentiate between contemporary dance and other dance genres including ballet, modern and jazz dance.
5. Demonstrate musicality in the performance and choreography of a Level II contemporary dance
movement.
6. Apply knowledge of contemporary dance to the analysis of dance pieces viewed in a live or video
performance.

Topics and Scope:

I. Theory
A. Background and characteristics of contemporary dance.

B. Comparison of stylistic elements of contemporary dance to those of other dance genres (ballet,
modern, and jazz)
C. Level II dance terminology and corresponding movement vocabulary incorporated in contemporary dance

II. Level II Contemporary Dance Skills and Techniques
A. Warm-up exercises
B. Footwork and plies
C. Legwork
D. Alignment and limb placement
E. Balance
F. Stretching and strengthening
G. Floor work
H. Progressions (across the floor movements)
I. Center floor combinations
J. All of the above include practice in assimilation and retention of Level II dance sequences

III. Level II Contemporary Dance Performance Skills
A. Emotional expressiveness
B. Facial expression
C. Dynamic contrast
D. Projection
E. Performance energy
F. Dealing with performance anxiety

IV. Musicality
A. Expressing musical mood and color through movement quality
B. Phrasing and rhythmical timing
C. Accents
D. Learning dance movement with and without counts (i.e. to lyrics or instrumentation of music)

V. Choreographing a Level II Combination in the Contemporary Dance Style
A. May include improvisational experiences as a precursor to choreography
B. Synthesis of contemporary dance vocabulary and stylistic elements with personal style

VI. Critiquing a Dance Performance in Relation to Contemporary Dance
A. Deciphering dance - what to look for in a dance performance
B. Comparing and contrasting elements of a dance piece to characteristics of contemporary dance

All topics are covered in the lecture and lab portions of the course.

Assignment:

Lecture-Related Assignments:
1. Practice of dance skills and combinations from class (ungraded)
2. Reading of instructor prepared materials and/or text book reading assignments (5-10 pages per week)
3. Choreography of a dance combination (short dance sequence) either in solo, with a partner, or group choreography projects
4. Studying vocabulary (ungraded)
5. Written 2 to 3 page critique of a live dance performance. (Alternate assignment: paper on a video-taped dance performance)

Lab-Related Assignments:

1. Performance exams (1 - 3)
2. Midterm vocabulary terminology exam
3. Final exam (skill demonstration)

Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

Writing: Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Critique	Writing 10 - 15%

Problem Solving: Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None	Problem solving 0 - 0%

Skill Demonstrations: All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

Class performance in general, performance exams, choreography	Skill Demonstrations 20 - 40%

Exams: All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Midterm and final exams	Exams 10 - 15%

Other: Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Attendance and participation	Other Category 40 - 60%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:
The Essential Guide to Contemporary Dance Techniques. Clarke, Melanie. Crowood Press (November 1, 2020) .
Looking at Contemporary Dance; A Guide for the Internet Age. Strauss, Marc Raymond. Princeton Book Company (June 29, 2012) classic.
Instructor prepared materials