

DN 351 Section 001: Jazz Technique III-A

Fall 2012

3 Credit Hours

Primary Instructor: Stacy Alley

Syllabus subject to change.

Prerequisites

From the Student Records System

- DN 251 (undergrad)
- Or
- DN 252 (undergrad)

Course Description

A class focusing on advanced jazz dance technique emphasizing work in correct body alignment, improvisation, flexibility, strengthening exercises, and performance. Students will be taught dance combinations in classical jazz, lyrical and musical theatre dance to enhance technical skills and prepare them for professional work.

Student Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this course, students will be able:

1. To define the language and identify the techniques of advanced jazz dance as a physical, recreational, and artistic experience.
2. To improve rhythm and increase body tone and strength through proper body placement and alignment.
3. To identify and show creative expression through body movement.
4. To demonstrate generally improved physical awareness, endurance, balance, coordination and conditioning.
5. To be an informed member of the artistic community.
6. To self-assess in order to examine his/her own individual rate of progress and choose areas on which to work more.

Outline of Topics

Nine weeks of classical jazz technique

Five weeks of modern/classical musical theatre jazz

Exams and Assignments

One technique/performance jazz exam

One final jazz performance

You are also required to see or participate in both Dance Alabama! (Oct. 16-19) & ARDT (Nov. 6-9) as well as write a critique for

one piece. More specific criteria will be given to you at a later date.

Grading Policy

100-95= A

94-90= A -

89-86= B+

85-82= B

81-79= B-

78-75= C+

74-71= C

70-68= C-

67-64= D+

63-60= D

59-57= D-

<57= F

500 points total:

Class Participation:	100 pts.
Dance Concert Critique	100 pts.
One technique/performance exam:	100 pts.
Final Performance:	200 pts.

Grading Criteria

1. Foundational Dance Skills:

Correct physical alignment/body placement

Proper knowledge and execution of warm-up routine and across the floor exercises

Improvement in strength and flexibility

2. Performance of Choreography:

Correct independent execution of choreography

Artistry in interpretation and performance of choreography

Accurate musicality in performance of choreography

Dynamic energy and full commitment to performance

3. Attitude and work ethic:

Punctual consistent attendance in proper attire

Positive attitude and willingness to learn

Openness to change

Response to direction and corrections

Concentration and Focus

Energy and full commitment to the movement

Self-motivation

4. Progress:

There should be a visible progress in each student's execution of the foundational skills, strength, flexibility, and performance of choreography.

Policy on Missed Exams & Coursework

It is extremely hard to make-up dance exams. If, for some reason, that you must miss an exam, performance, or presentation, it is up to you to make arrangements with the professor the class period that you return if not sooner. Only those with an excused absence with written documentation will be allowed to make-up any assignments.

Attendance Policy

This is a performance/participation course and attendance is mandatory! You are allowed to miss two classes after which your grade will be lowered one third of a letter grade for each subsequent absence. **This includes both excused and unexcused absences.** Three tardies equal one absence and will also lower your grade a third of a letter grade.

Proper Attire

Please dress neatly so that I can see your body and your feet. After warm-up (bare feet please), you can wear jazz shoes, socks, or no shoes at all--that is up to you. I ask for hair to be pulled out of the face and jewelry to be kept to a minimum.

Required Texts

UA Supply Store Textbook Information

Textbook data from the Supply Store not found for this course.

Other Course Materials

N/A

Extra Credit Opportunities

N/A

Policy on Academic Misconduct

All students in attendance at the University of Alabama are expected to be honorable and to observe standards of conduct appropriate to a community of scholars. The University expects from its students a higher standard of conduct than the minimum required to avoid discipline. Academic misconduct includes all acts of dishonesty in any academically related matter and any knowing or intentional help or attempt to help, or conspiracy to help, another student.

The [Academic Misconduct Disciplinary Policy](#) will be followed in the event of academic misconduct.

Disability Statement

If you are registered with the Office of Disability Services, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss any course accommodations that may be necessary. If you have a disability, but have not contacted the Office of Disability Services, please call 348-4285 or visit 133-B Martha Parham Hall East to register for services. Students who may need course adaptations because of a disability are welcome to make an appointment to see me during office hours. Students with disabilities must be registered with the Office of Disability Services, 133-B Martha Parham Hall East, before receiving academic adjustments.

Severe Weather Protocol

In the case of a tornado warning (tornado has been sighted or detected by radar, sirens activated), all university activities are automatically suspended, including all classes and laboratories. If you are in a building, please move immediately to the lowest level and toward the center of the building away from windows (interior classrooms, offices, or corridors) and remain there until the tornado warning has expired. Classes in session when the tornado warning is issued can resume immediately after the warning has expired at the discretion of the instructor. Classes that have not yet begun will resume 30 minutes after the tornado warning has expired provided at least half of the class period remains.

UA is a residential campus with many students living on or near campus. In general classes will remain in session until the National Weather Service issues safety warnings for the city of Tuscaloosa. Clearly, some students and faculty commute from adjacent counties. These counties may experience weather related problems not encountered in Tuscaloosa. Individuals should follow the advice of the National Weather Service for that area taking the necessary precautions to ensure personal safety. Whenever the National Weather Service and the Emergency Management Agency issue a warning, people in the path of the storm (tornado or severe thunderstorm) should take immediate life saving actions.

When West Alabama is under a severe weather advisory, conditions can change rapidly. It is imperative to get to where you can receive information from the [National Weather Service](#) and to follow the instructions provided. Personal safety should dictate the actions that faculty, staff and students take. The Office of Public Relations will disseminate the latest information regarding conditions on campus in the following ways:

- Weather advisory posted on the UA homepage
- Weather advisory sent out through Connect-ED--faculty, staff and students ([sign up at myBama](#))
- Weather advisory broadcast over WVUA at 90.7 FM
- Weather advisory broadcast over Alabama Public Radio (WUAL) at 91.5 FM
- Weather advisories are broadcast via WUOA/WVUA-TV, which can be viewed across Central Alabama. Also, visit [wvuatv.com](#) for up-to-the-minute weather information. A mobile Web site is also available for your convenience.

Course Schedule

AUGUST

- 22 Introduction—Go over syllabus**
- 27 Learn warm-up, focus on footwork**
- 29 Technique/Across the floor (pirouettes, chaines with directional change)**

SEPTEMBER

- 3 Labor Day -- no class**
- 5 Technique/Across the floor (pirouettes, battements, etc.)**

- 10 **Technique/Across the floor (pirouettes, rhythmic elements)**
- 12 **Begin learning Combo #1 (*Bitch of Living*)**
- 17 **Technique/Combo #1 continued**
- 19 **Combo #1**
- 24 **Technique/Across the floor (pirouettes, jumps, etc.)**
- 26 **Technique/Across the floor**

OCTOBER

- 1 **Begin Combo #2 (*Ease on Down the Road*)**
- 3 **Combo #2 continued**
- 8 **Combo #2 with emphasis on performance**
- 10 **Midterm Review**
- 15 **Midterm Exam/Evaluation -- Group #1**
- 17 **Midterm Exam/Evaluation -- Group #2**
- 22 **Audition Day/Dance Alabama paper due**
- 24 **Technique/Across the Floor/Center Work (control, placement)**
- 29 **Technique/Across the Floor/Center Work (control, placement)**
- 31 **Begin Combo #3 (TBA)**

NOVEMBER

- 5 **Combo #3 continued**
- 7 **Across the floor/Combo #3**
- 12 **Focus on Improv**
- 14 **Improv/Technique**
- 19 **ARDT paper due**
- 21 **Begin Combo #4**
- 26 **Combo #4**
- 28 **Review for final -- technique/combo choreography**

DECEMBER

- 3 **Final Exam/Evaluation**
- 5 **Final Exam/Evaluation**

