

DANS-142: CHOREOGRAPHY

Justification for this inactivation request

Course has not been offered in over three years.

Effective Term

Fall 2026

CC Approval

10/03/2025

AS Approval

10/09/2025

BOT Approval

10/16/2025

COCI Approval

02/23/2026

SECTION A - Course Data Elements

CB04 Credit Status

Credit - Degree Applicable

Discipline

Minimum Qualifications	And/Or
Dance (Master's Degree)	

Subject Code

DANS - Dance

Course Number

142

Department

Dance

Division

Kinesiology, Athletics & Dance (KAD)

Full Course Title

Choreography

Short Title

Choreography

CB03 TOP Code

1008.00 - Dance

CB08 Basic Skills Status

NBS - Not Basic Skills

CB09 SAM Code

E - Non-Occupational

SECTION B - Course Description

Catalog Course Description

This course is an introduction to dance composition skills. It views elements of dance from a choreographic perspective. Course addresses space, time, rhythm, form, phrasing, style and thematic content. Students are required to create choreographic studies for critique and analysis.

SECTION C - Conditions on Enrollment**Open Entry/Open Exit**

No

Repeatability

Not Repeatable

Grading Options

Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass

Allow Audit

Yes

Requisites**SECTION D - Course Standards****Is this course variable unit?**

No

Units

2.00

Activity Hours

72.00

Outside of Class Hours

36

Total Contact Hours

72

Total Student Hours

108

Distance Education Approval**Is this course offered through Distance Education?**

Yes

Online Delivery Methods

DE Modalities	Permanent or Emergency Only?
Entirely Online	Permanent
Hybrid	Permanent

SECTION E - Course Content**Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of dance technique/theory required for choreography.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of dance terminology required for course.

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Construct short dance compositions.
2. Select accompaniment.
3. Demonstrate practical use of reading and lecture concepts.

4. Perform group and solo dance composition studies.
5. Critique dance composition studies.

Course Content

1. Dance as a creative, expressive art form.
2. Examination of historical context of dance composition.
3. Basic choreographic concepts.
 - a. Elements of Dance: space, time, and energy.
 - b. Form, phrasing, style and dynamics.
 - c. Content: theme, message, expression.
4. Movement composition studies.
 - a. Critique of one's own and others' work.
 - b. Evaluation of form.
 - c. Use of space, time and energy.
 - d. Use of narrative or abstract content and/or meaning.
 - e. Use of accompanying sound score or silence.
 - f. Use of site-specific venue.
5. Basic introduction to dance notation.
 - a. Introduction to historical methods of notating and preserving choreography.

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction

Types	Examples of learning activities
Activity	In-class work on composition assignments.
Critique	Critique of peers, analysis and critique of professional choreographic work.

Online Adaptation

Types	Examples of learning activities
Activity	Group share of compositional work.
Directed Study	Online exposure to choreographic works, or interviews with Choreography.
Discussion	Canvas discussion.
Individualized Instruction	One-on-one work with instructor for assessment of composition assignments.

Instructor-Initiated Online Contact Types

Announcements/Bulletin Boards
 Chat Rooms
 Discussion Boards
 E-mail Communication
 Telephone Conversations
 Video or Teleconferencing

Student-Initiated Online Contact Types

Chat Rooms
 Discussions
 Group Work

Course design is accessible

Yes

Methods of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation

Types	Examples of classroom assessments
Exams/Tests	Short composition tests demonstrating key concepts from lecture, lab and reading. short answer exam or test on reading material. Final Exam – Written evaluation of and discussion of personal / groups performance.

Projects	Compose group dances.
Class Participation	Compose and rehearse.
Homework	Compose dance assignments, reading and writing assignments and critique of performances, journaling.
Lab Activities	Rehearsals - group or solo.
Performances	Final Class Performance – dance performance.
Other	<p>1. Written exam Example: Compare and contrast the choreographic styles of Twyla Tharp and Paul Taylor.</p> <p>2. Short Compositions</p> <p>3 Performance Critique Example: Attend a live dance performance and critique the following: Floor pattern, use of musical accompaniment, dynamics and thematic development of the piece.</p>

Assignments

Reading Assignments

Assigned text and classroom handouts.

Example: Article by Murray Lewis entitled "As I See It".

Example: Chapter 1 of "A Big Free Happy Life" by author Nina Wise.

Writing Assignments

Critique dance performances from a composition framework. Map the floor plan using stage terminology for 'theater in the round' and an out-of-doors site-specific location.

Outside-of-Class Assignments

Design a duet emphasizing the use of negative space.

SECTION F - Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Lansley, J.

Title

Choreographies: Tracing the Materials of an Ephemeral Art Form

Edition/Version

1st

Publisher

Intellect Ltd (U.of Chiago Press)

Year

2017

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Cerny Minto, S.

Title

Choreography 4th Edition with Web Resource

Edition/Version

4th

Publisher

Human Kinetics

Year

2018

Material Type

Other required materials/supplies

Description

1. journal
2. means to record and store dance composition assignments

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Pamela Anderson Sofras

Title

Dance Composition Basics

Edition/Version

2nd Edition

Publisher

Human Kinetics

Year

2019

Rationale

Most contemporary text that provides a great online proponet.

ISBN #

978-1492571254

SECTION G - Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity**Course Codes (Admin Only)****CB00 State ID**

CCC000526486

CB10 Cooperative Work Experience Status

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

CB11 Course Classification Status

Y - Credit Course

CB13 Special Class Status

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

CB23 Funding Agency Category

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

CB24 Program Course Status

Program Applicable

Allow Pass/No Pass

Yes

Only Pass/No Pass

No