Social Dancing Syllabus
College of Charleston
PEHD 120-1: MWF 1-1:50

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Course Objective: To aid students in developing a lifetime enjoyment of dance and physical movement through the introduction and mastery of basic steps of such partnered dances as the Swing, Waltz, Cha Cha, Salsa, Rumba, and others. Students will also explore the history and music pertaining to the different dances. Most importantly, students should have fun and gain self-confidence.

Grading: Grading Scale
- Participation/Attendance: 50%  A 93-100  B- 80-82  D+ 70-71
- Group Presentations: 20%  A- 90-92  C+ 78-79  D 68-69
- Exam assessing Skill and Knowledge of Dances: 30%  B+ 88-89  C 74-77  D- 66-67

Participation & Attendance: Attendance in class is mandatory and counts as part of the participation grade along with effort and preparedness for each class. Attendance at two approved out-of-class dance events will be required for full participation credit for the course. More than four absences will result in the loss of 3 points for each excessive absence from one’s participation and attendance grade, in addition to one’s final grade dropping a letter grade per each unexcused absence. Each student is responsible for verifying his attendance by signing in for every class and providing written documentation for all absences. Tardiness is inexcusable and will result in half participation credit, as it is inconsiderate to the rest of the class.

Group Presentations: Group presentations will consist of creative projects highlighting the history, music, and cultural significance of one of several dances. Grading will be based on originality, content, organization, and effort via peer and instructor evaluation.

Exams: There will be one exam at the conclusion of the course. The final exam will be held during the scheduled exam period Friday, December 9 from 12-3 p.m. All students must complete a written evaluation and participate in the performance segment.

Required Materials: No textbooks are necessary, although one may wish to bring paper and a writing utensil for note taking. Students are asked to dress appropriately in order to participate in each class; failure to do so will result in loss of participation credit that day. Preferably leather-soled shoes should be worn daily (no new athletic or rubber soled shoes, bare feet, or socks, please). Ladies may wear heels or flats. Please do not wear slides, flip-flops, or other sandals that do not have a heel strap, for they frequently slip off while dancing. Loose, comfortable clothing that allows for freedom of movement should be worn.

Please remember that dancing is a physical activity from which injury may result. Always be aware of this possibility, and dance safely and correctly in order to protect yourself and your partners.