AFRICAN DANCE

FALL, 2015  2 SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS

TIME: T TH 3 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

PLACE: Exercise Deck (F. Mitchell Johnson Physical Education Center Rm. 201)

INSTRUCTOR: Ms. Linda Jean Harvey

OFFICE: F. Mitchell Johnson Physical Education Center, Rm. 201

OFFICE HOURS: W 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. by appointment

OFFICE PHONE: 953-3397

PREREQUISITES: None


COURSE DESCRIPTION: African Dance is a course that broadens and enhances the cultural scope of African Dance as far as origin, performing arts techniques, suggested realism and expressionism of the art form are concerned.

REQUIRED TEXT: N/A

REQUIRED MATERIAL: Course handouts

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
1. Exhibit a picturesque image of African Dance as it depicts authenticity, originality, and diversity through its art form.
2. Provide students an opportunity to explore the art of African Dance and relate its technique, origin, and expressionism to any medium of dance.
3. Engage the students through improvisational choreography, study groups and lecture demonstrations to create a culminating experience that will result in a performance involving all class participants.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: 27% Skill objectives recorded, performed and documented
20% Class participation and pop quizzes
28% Examinations
25% Final choreographed work per each study group

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECTS: 1. Completion of the skill objectives properly recorded, performed, and documented
Students will earn these points by regular participation in the skilled objectives whether physical (choreographed or improvisational movements) or documented.
2. Class participation and pop quizzes
Students will be responsible for all reading materials and assignments which are expected to be prepared for each class and to take pop quizzes when deemed necessary by the Instructor.
3. Examinations
Exam #1 (14%) will encompass everything learned (physical and documented) through first phase of course.
Exam #2 (14%) will entail everything learned (physical and documented) through second phase of course.

4. Final choreographed work per each study group
Students will be divided into small groups and will display before an audience a learned improvisational choreographed dance as well as perform a work they themselves have choreographed.

ATTENDENCE POLICY: This instructor does feel that because this is an activity class, students should attend every class. However, the instructor will allow two unexcused absences during the semester for which the student will not be penalized. After the second cut, the student will lose two points from the final grade for each additional cut. Illness will be excused at the discretion of the instructor and verification may be required. Three unexcused tardies (after 5 minutes after the hour) will result in a cut. The student is responsible to make-up all work immediately.

EXAMINATION POLICY: Exams must be taken on the day assigned unless arrangements are made prior to the test date. If a student is absent on the day of the exam, he/she will receive a zero if the professor is not notified before class time. If an emergency arises, call 953-3397 and leave a message between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

MAKE-UP POLICY: Exams must be made up within one week of the original exam date. This is the student’s responsibility, provided prior notification had been received by the instructor.

HONOR SYSTEM: See the 2013-2014 Student Handbook (Academic Honor System)

BONUS POINT OPPORTUNITIES: The student may earn three (3) points by attending all classes. There could be other extra credit assignments throughout the semester.
AUGUST
25 T  Introduction to Course
27 TH  History (Background and Overview) of the Continent as it relates to the Art of Dance

SEPTEMBER
01 T  Techniques of African Dance
03 TH  Lecture and Demonstration
08 T  Lecture and Demonstration
10 TH  Lecture and Demonstration
15 T  Lecture and Demonstration
17 TH  Trace the Origin of African Dance ~ Lecture and Demonstration
22 T  Trace the Origin of African Dance as it relates to Stagecraft (Blocking) ~ Lecture and Demonstration
24 TH  Breakdown of Study Groups to incorporate techniques of the art through Improvisational dance
29 T  Lecture and Demonstration

OCTOBER
01 TH  Lecture and Demonstration
06 T  Lecture and Demonstration
08 TH  Lecture and Demonstration
13 T  Lecture and Examination
15 TH  Lecture and Demonstration ~ Choreography per each study group
22 TH  Lecture and Demonstration
27 T  Lecture and Demonstration
29 TH  Lecture and Demonstration ~ Discussions per costumes to be used for final performance

NOVEMBER
03 T  Lecture and Demonstration ~ Improvisational choreography per each study group
05 TH  Lecture and Demonstration ~ Improvisational choreography per each study group
10 T  Lecture and Demonstration ~ Improvisational choreography per each study group
12 TH  Lecture and Demonstration with emphasis on improvisational study groups
17 T  Lecture and Demonstration
19 TH  Lecture and Demonstration
24 T  Lecture and Demonstration

DECEMBER
01 T  Lecture and Demonstration ~ Preparation for Staged presentation
03 TH  Lecture and Demonstration
07 M  Final Presentation (tentative)