Instructor: Mrs. Lisa McQuade
Office: Silcox 223
Office hours: Wednesday & Friday noon – 1:00 pm and by appointment
Phone: CofC: 953-5558 (Dept. Office); 843-277-587 (CELL)
Email: mcquadelm@cofc.edu
Course meeting: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10:00-10:50 am - Silcox Gym on George Street

CofC Course Description: PEAC 120 Beginning Contra Dance Course-
A course designed to present the basic history and philosophy of Contra dance. Contra dance refers to a folk dance, similar to a Square Dance, except instead of the square formation, it is danced in lines of couples, with every other couple facing up or down the hall. It has mixed origins from English country dance, Scottish, French dance styles in the 17th century, with strong African influence from Appalachia. Emphasis is also placed on the positive aspects of social dance as a means to reduce stress and improve wellness.

Instructor’s Intention:
After completion the student will have basic knowledge and skills that will allow him/her to enjoy partner Contra dancing.

Textbook- none. HOWEVER OAKs will have videos, and readings that you will be required to view.

As a result of participating in PEAC 120: Contra Dance, students will be able to:
- Relate the general history and background of Contra Dance.
- Recognize the benefits of social dance.
- Employ basic contra dance principles.
- Differentiate between basic contra dance vocabularies.
- Perform dances adhering to caller directions.
- Recognize the proper use of timing and rhythmic patterns for each dance.
- Utilize partner dance positions, posture and lead/follow cues.
- Show the ability to “give weight”.
- Demonstrate the ability to work effectively with individuals of varied personality, style and dance ability.
- Adhere to basic Contra Dance etiquette.
- Distinguish the styles of music used for Contra Dance.
- Demonstrate ability to join in when other dance styles are brought to class by community instructors.
Evaluation:

- Attendance & Participation – 40% ~ you are expected to participate in the class activity
- Written & Practical Exam Mid-Term- 20%– History & terms and Formation & movement.
- FINAL Group Presentation-20%– Various kinds will be accepted, instructors approval required.
  
  THEME FROM: Sustainability Literacy: A Bridge to Addressing 21st-Century Problems- How Can Dance contribute to this?
- Community Dance Activity – 20%- 750 word write up of experience.

Grading Scale:

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<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93+</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-83</td>
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<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89%</td>
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ATTENDANCE:
Each student is allowed four (4) absences without final grade penalty. On the fifth (5th) absence and each absence after that the final grade will be dropped five (5) grade points per absence. If you are late for class three (3) times this will count as an absence.

- If you are late, it is your responsibility to come to me after class to mark you as such, otherwise you may be marked absent.
- If you are on a CofC team leaving for a game or are participating in a CofC function this will be excused. **YOU MUST PROVIDE A NOTE FROM THE COACH OR TEACHER. HOWEVER, if you are ill, this will count toward the excused absences; anything beyond this will be reflected in the attendance grade. NO EXCEPTIONS.** Student may be dropped from this course for excessive absences or tardiness as determined by the Instructor.

Making up Absences & Exams

Absences make-up: Students can make up a maximum of three classes.

Contra Dance 1st & 3rd Friday of the month, go to web site: [http://charlestonfolk.weebly.com/contra-dancing.html](http://charlestonfolk.weebly.com/contra-dancing.html), $8.00 admission. You must take a photo of you at the dance, dancing and write about your experience. This must be separate from you Community Dance Activity.

EXAMS You must contact me via cell phone or text message if you find you are ill that morning, before noon. If you do not, you will receive a zero (0) on the exam/practicum. If you know of a conflict such as a CofC team competition, you must make arrangements prior to the exam/practicum date, otherwise you will receive a zero (0). Make-ups will be arranged primarily during my office hours. I will NOT accept CofC absence forms as a means of communicating your absence, I will however, confirm them.

Dress Code: Dancing will take place during class period. Student are asked to dress appropriately in order to participate, failure to do so will result in loss of participation credit that day. Comfortable dance shoes should be worn (no sticky soled shoes, bare feet, socks, slides, flip-flops or sandals w/o a strap). 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. An electronic
Release of Liability (RoL) and Health History Questionnaire (HHQ) must be completed online by the end of the drop/add period in order to participate.

**Comfort Level:** We will be interacting with each other physically in this class. All manner of respect for each other will be the baseline standard. If you do not like to be touched, this may not be an appropriate class for you. However, we are willing to work with your comfort level to encourage the joy of dance!

**Policies**

**College of Charleston Student Handbook:** This is a guide to your responsibilities and rights as a student. If you are not familiar with this document, please take the time to review the information contained within the handbook. [www.cofc.edu/studentaffairs/general_info/studenthandbook.html](http://www.cofc.edu/studentaffairs/general_info/studenthandbook.html).

**Classroom Behavior:** Students at the College of Charleston are expected to be at all times in compliance with the Honor Code. Failure to abide with this code will not be tolerated in this course. Examples of inappropriate classroom behavior include behaviors that disrupt instruction by the professor and/or learning of classmates and behaviors that threaten, harass, or discriminate against others. Students who engage in inappropriate classroom behavior will be asked to leave the classroom, will receive no credit for attendance and in-class activities for that day, and must meet with the instructor prior to returning to the next class meeting. Severe cases of inappropriate behavior will be referred to the Dean of Students for appropriate disciplinary action. **Please take a moment to use the bathroom before the start of class. Students leaving class can be disrupting.**

**Center for Student Learning:** I encourage you to utilize the Center for Student Learning’s (CSL) academic support services for assistance in study strategies, speaking & writing skills, and course content. They offer tutoring, Supplemental Instruction, study skills appointments, and workshops. Students of all abilities have become more successful using these programs throughout their academic career and the services are available to you at no additional cost. For more information regarding these services please visit the CSL website at [http://csl.cofc.edu](http://csl.cofc.edu) or call (843) 953-5635.

**Electronic Device Policy:** Please turn off all electronic devices during class. Texting is not permitted in class. Students caught texting will be warned (first time), dismissed and marked absent (second time), and receive a 10 point reduction on their final grade (third time).

**Disability:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), all qualified students enrolled in this course are entitled to “reasonable accommodations.” Please notify the instructor during the first week of class of any accommodations needed for the course.

**Reserve clause:** As we progress through the semester we may find we are ahead of the class outline or behind. This has to do with the knowledge the students bring to the class as well as the time allotted for the class. The instructor may make changes to this syllabus. Students will be informed promptly of any changes as they occur.