



El Camino College
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD – Official

Course Acronym:	DANC
Course Number:	165
Descriptive Title:	African Dance
Division:	Fine Arts
Department:	Dance
Course Disciplines:	Dance
Catalog Description:	This course introduces selected dances of Africa through the practice of steps and choreography. The music and artifacts of the dances are covered, as well as their social or religious significance in African cultures. The coordination of polyrhythmic body movements with the music is emphasized. Attendance at selected dance events is required.
Prerequisite:	
Co-requisite:	
Recommended Preparation:	
Enrollment Limitation:	
Hours Lecture (per week):	0
Hours Laboratory (per week):	3
Outside Study Hours:	0
Total Course Hours:	54
Course Units:	1
Grading Method:	Letter Grade and Pass/No Pass
Credit Status:	Credit, degree applicable
Transfer CSU:	Yes
Effective Date:	04/09/1990
Transfer UC:	Yes
Effective Date:	
General Education: ECC	Area 5 - Health and Physical Education
Term:	
Other:	
CSU GE:	
Term:	
Other:	
IGETC:	
Term:	
Other:	

<p>Student Learning Outcomes:</p>	<p>SLO #1 Polyrhythmic Body Movements</p> <p>Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to demonstrate the coordination of polyrhythmic body movement sequences of the African Dance music.</p> <p>SLO #2 Social and Religious Significance</p> <p>Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to recognize and demonstrate the social and religious significance in the African Dance cultures at a basic level.</p> <p>SLO #3 Regional Customs</p> <p>Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to distinguish and give examples of various music, art, costumes, and regional customs of African Dance from a cultural perspective.</p>
<p>Course Objectives:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the names of dances from selected cultural groups representing different regions of Africa including the Yoruba, Urhobos, Dogon and Akan of West Africa; The Masai of East Africa; the Zulu of South Africa and The Ethiopians of Northeast Africa. 2. Demonstrate essential techniques to facilitate accurate performance of traditional dances including specific African postures, symbolic gestures, and the use of the whole body in response to polyrhythmic music. 3. Perform dances from different regional or cultural areas of Africa including the Igbe Izimize (traditional dance of the Urhobos of Nigeria) and Dounddomba (the dance of the strong man of West Africa). 4. Compare and contrast principles of African Dance and styles through observation of videos. 5. Analyze the relationship of African Dance and Spirituality according to region and identify spiritual context and the meaning of choreography performed. 6. Explain the use of art, masks, costumes and music of African dance in relation to spirituality and customs of the different regions of Africa. 7. Compare and contrast African Dance with contemporary American social, vernacular and concert dance styles. 8. Perform a contemporary social dance such as - The Nigerian Highlife - a traditional initiation rite from Nigeria. 9. Distinguish the customs of dances to their specific society such as the Yoruba, Fon, Gan, or Hausa of West Africa.
<p>Major Topics:</p>	<p>I. Orientation and Overview (8 hours, lab)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Identify influences of African religion and philosophy on ritual and traditional dances in selected cultures B. Identify the significance of African dance postures and gestures <p>II. Organization of Traditional Dance (12 hours, lab)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Explain the traditional context of gestures B. Describe relationships of dancers to each other, to musicians and to observers during performance C. Demonstrate the whole body in polyrhythmic response to the music <p>III. Continuation of Traditional and Contemporary Functions of Dance in African Cultures (12 hours, lab)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Explain the initiation of rites and ceremonial occasions B. Review body stance, gesture and attitude C. Perform specific dance steps in the context of these functions <p>IV. Formation of Group Dances Using Specific Steps (12 hours, lab)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Differentiate the male and female roles in the dances

	<p>B. Explain and perform the rhythms, gestures and attitudes of the dances</p> <p>V. Polyhythmic Body Actions and Their Link to African Music (10 hours, lab)</p> <p>A. Explain the integration of live percussion music in the African Dance Class</p> <p>B. Explore the notion of dancers as musicians and musicians as dancers as part of the African culture in the arts</p> <p>C. Perform and practice how polyhythmic body actions compliment specific African Drumming rhythms and the techniques to move in and out of time within a phrase of dance</p>
Total Lecture Hours:	0
Total Laboratory Hours:	54
Total Hours:	54
Primary Method of Evaluation:	3) Skills demonstration
Typical Assignment Using Primary Method of Evaluation:	Practice and perform a girls' or boys' initiation dance from the Yoruba society.
Critical Thinking Assignment 1:	In a written report of 4 - 5 pages, research one ethnic group's dance and its function in African society. Discuss the importance of posture, symbolic gesture, mask, and costumes as they relate to the dance style. Include bibliographical references.
Critical Thinking Assignment 2:	Demonstrate appropriate use of a mask or hand-held artifact while performing a traditional African dance and explore what masks might be used in these dances. At the same time explore any artifacts or masks used in Westernized dances that may or may not hold similar symbolic meaning. Compare and contrast the two worlds.
Other Evaluation Methods:	Class Performance, Completion, Matching Items, Multiple Choice, Other (specify), Performance Exams, Quizzes, True/False
Instructional Methods:	Demonstration, Discussion, Group Activities, Lab, Lecture, Multimedia presentations, Other (specify)
If other:	Master classes
Work Outside of Class:	Observation of or participation in an activity related to course content (such as theatre event, museum, concert, debate, meeting), Other (specify), Required reading, Skill practice, Written work (such as essay/composition/report/analysis/research)
If Other:	Observation of or participation in an activity related to course content Course is lab only - minimum required hours satisfied by scheduled lab time and estimated student hours outside of class per week is zero.
Up-To-Date Representative Textbooks:	Elizabeth A. Handley, <u>African Dance</u> , 2nd edition, Chelsea House Publications, 2010.
Alternative Textbooks:	
Required Supplementary Readings:	John Chernoff, <u>African Rhythm and African Sensibility: Aesthetics and Social Action in African Musical Idioms</u> , University of Chicago Press. (Discipline Standard)
Other Required Materials:	Fabric for skirt wrap, scarves Leotard and footless tights
Requisite:	
Category:	

Requisite course(s): List both prerequisites and corequisites in this box.	
Requisite and Matching skill(s):Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s).	
Requisite Skill:	
Requisite Skill and Matching Skill(s): Bold the requisite skill(s). If applicable	
Requisite course:	
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Requisite Skill and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s). If applicable	
Enrollment Limitations and Category:	
Enrollment Limitations Impact:	
Course Created by:	Elizabeth Oberstein
Date:	01/01/1990
Original Board Approval Date:	04/09/1990
Last Reviewed and/or Revised by:	Elizabeth Adamis
Date:	04/19/2022
Last Board Approval Date:	06/20/2022