

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY A&M COLLEGE (SUBR)
CURRICULUM GUIDE/COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
DANCE MINOR
College of Humanities and Interdisciplinary Studies
Department of Fine and Performing Arts



Dance minors choose eighteen (18) hours from the listed courses with approval from the dance faculty advisor.					
Course Number	Course Name	Prerequisite	Catalog Description	Full Course Description	Credit Hours
TECHNIQUE COURSES: Students must complete a total of ten (10) hours from the courses listed below, guided by the Dance faculty /advisor.					
DANC 101	BALLET I	Dance Minors must take Ballet I unless granted exemption based on audition or instructor permission.	Beginning Ballet I introduces students to the fundamentals of classical ballet technique. In class, students participate in conditioning, movement exercises, and dance phrases designed to increase knowledge and improve the execution of beginning Ballet technique.	Ballet I introduces students to classical and contemporary ballet aesthetics in three parts) traditional class structure and applications with an emphasis on technical development, vocabulary, and musicality, 2) a modified class structure with a focus on contemporary ballet aesthetics and explorations, ballet, and storytelling, and the relationships between ballet, other dance forms and non-traditional music, and 3) the history and origins of ballet with an emphasis on present-day conversations within the field, and the Africanist/Black dance aesthetic in American Ballet.	2 HOURS
DANCE 201	BALLET II	DANC 101	Technique class for experienced dancers at the Intermediate level. Students study detailed barre work and center work, including pirouettes, adagio, petit allegro, simple grand allegro, terminology, musicality, and theory.	Ballet II - Intermediate Ballet II builds on Ballet I and strengthens Ballet II intermediate-level techniques. in three parts) traditional class structure and applications with an emphasis on technical development, vocabulary, and musicality, 2) a modified class structure with a focus on contemporary ballet aesthetics and explorations, ballet, and storytelling, and the relationships between ballet, other dance forms and non-traditional music, and 3) the history and origins of ballet with an emphasis on present-day conversations within the field, and the Africanist/Black dance aesthetic in American Ballet. Through research and critical thinking processes, students explore dancers of color who have significantly contributed to the art form.	2 HOURS

DANC 301	BALLET III	DANC 101 DANC 201	Intermediate/Advanced Ballet III techniques. Introduces		2 HOURS
DANC 102	MODERN I		Introduction to modern dance technique, emphasizing alignment and essential elements of space, shape, time, and motion. Includes the theory and application of dance as an art form.	This is an introductory dance technique course that examines spatial awareness and body connections such as weight, breath, and alignment to provide efficiency in movement study and performance of modern dance forms. The course examines the relationship between modern dance pioneers, Africanist aesthetics, and contemporary dance expressions. Notable artists studied: Primus, Dunham, Limon, Horton, and Graham. Theoretical focus: Black womanist creative methodologies.	2 HOURS
DANC 202	MODERN II (Contemporary Modern)	DANC 102	An intermediate-level course that centers Horton and Graham's modern dance techniques and modern dance compositions for the concert stage.	Builds on the technical skills introduced in Modern I. Explores Lester Horton Technique and Dunham technique extensively.	2 HOURS
DANC 302	MODERN III	DANC 102 DANC 202	An advanced-level course that centers Post modern dance movements and techniques.	a	2 HOURS
DANC 103	JAZZ I		Beginning Jazz introduces students to the fundamentals of classical Jazz technique. In class, students participate in conditioning, movement exercises, and dance phrases designed to increase their knowledge and improve their execution of basic Jazz steps.	Beginning Jazz Dance I explores the history of Jazz Dance, technique, and choreography in the twenty-first century, affirming its roots in Africanist aesthetics and Black American culture. The class explores the relationships between Jazz dance and social dance. It offers students an entry point into the origins of jazz dance and contemporary jazz technique. Further, it introduces students to multiple iterations of the genre, including Jazz Funk, Afro Jazz, Competition Jazz, Field-show Jazz, and Musical Theater Jazz Traditions.	2 HOURS
DANC 203	JAZZ II	DANC 103	A continuation of the development of movement skills with emphasis on alignment and expanded jazz dance vocabulary.	A continuation of the development of movement skills covered in Jazz I, rooted in jazz tradition and technique with emphasis on expanded jazz dance vocabulary and choreography.	2 HOURS
DANC 303	JAZZ III	DANC 103 DANC 203	Advanced level Jazz course. A continuation of the movement skills covered in Jazz II. Emphasis on choreography, commercial and concert jazz performance.	Advanced level Jazz course. A continuation of the movement skills covered in Jazz II. Emphasis on choreography, commercial and concert jazz performance.	2 HOURS

DANC 104	HIP HOP I		Elements of Hip-Hop dance, including technique, movement, musical rhythm, tempo and phrasing required to develop the skills needed to perform this unique dance form.	This course introduces and surveys the BEATS approach to learning and understanding foundational principles of body movement, form, and community-building practices present in Black social dance practices with interrelated and interdependent Hip Hop/Street dance styles. Study includes the foundational elements, vocabulary, musical connection, culture, and history of the styles and their development.	2 HOURS
DANC 204	HIP HOP II	DANC 104	Elements of Hip-Hop dance, including technique, movement, musical rhythm, tempo, and phrasing. Emphasis on choreography, interdisciplinary hip-hop performance works for the stage, and commercial hip-hop performance and employment.	Elements of Hip-Hop dance, including technique, movement, musical rhythm, tempo, and phrasing. Emphasis on choreography, interdisciplinary hip-hop performance works for the stage, and commercial hip-hop performance and employment.	2 HOURS
DANCE 304	HIP HOP III	DANC 104 DANC 204	This course offers professional development in Hip-Hop dance, choreography, and teaching. It covers effective methods for teaching Hip-Hop dance while honoring its cultural traditions and staying current within the evolving genre. The course also explores the impact of social media on commercial Hip-Hop culture, examining how digital platforms shape trends and influence both performance and pedagogy.	This course offers professional development in Hip-Hop dance, choreography, and teaching. It covers effective methods for teaching Hip-Hop dance while honoring its cultural traditions and staying current within the evolving genre. The course also explores the impact of social media on commercial Hip-Hop culture, examining how digital platforms shape trends and influence both performance and pedagogy.	2 HOURS
DANC 105	TAP I		A beginning course in tap introducing basic rhythmic movement skills necessary for various tap styles.	A beginning course in tap introducing basic rhythmic movement skills necessary for various tap styles. Explores the contributions and dance styles of notable African American tap artists, hoofing, and its significance in the 21st century,	2 HOURS
DANC 205	TAP II	DANC 105	An intermediate-level tap course that builds on the skills and techniques developed in level one.	An intermediate-level tap course that builds on the skills and techniques developed in level one.	2 HOURS
DANC 305	TAP III	DANC 105 DANC 205	Advanced level tap course, focuses on hoofing, commercial tap dance, and	Advanced level tap course, focuses on hoofing, commercial tap dance, and notable contemporary	2 HOURS

			notable contemporary tap dancers and styles..	tap dancers and styles..	
DANC 106	DANCES OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA I		Introduction to basic technique and African dance forms, including three traditional dances. Introduction to Contemporary African Dance explorations and notable dance elders in the field. Includes master classes and guest lectures.	This course provides an introduction to African Diaspora Dance techniques rooted in both traditional and contemporary styles. Students will learn steps from various cultural dances that reflect the lifestyles, folklore, and communal practices of people of the African diaspora. Emphasis will be placed on technique, style, and increased sensitivity to music through intensive work with accompanying musicians. The course’s goals are to develop an awareness of African Diaspora dance techniques and styles to learn steps from specific African-rooted dances; to increase versatility; to increase listening skills by working with live music using signals instead of counting, to increase cardiovascular conditioning, and to increase cultural awareness and familiarity with specific nonwestern dance styles	2 HOURS
DANC 206	DANCES OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA II	DANC 106	Building on the foundations of Level I, this course deepens the study of African Diaspora dance techniques with a focus on complex rhythms and intricate choreography. Students will engage more intensively with live musicians, honing their responsiveness to musical signals and further developing their versatility and endurance.	Building on the foundations of Level I, this course deepens the study of African Diaspora dance techniques, focusing on complex rhythms and intricate choreography. Students will engage more intensively with live musicians, honing their responsiveness to musical signals and further developing their versatility and endurance.	2 HOURS
DANC 306	DANCES OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA III	DANC 106 DANC 206	Level III advances proficiency in African Diaspora dance through challenging choreography, improvisation, and teaching. Emphasis is on mastering rhythm, movement, and collaboration with live music, preparing students for leadership in dance practices.	This course advances students' proficiency in African Diaspora dance by challenging them with advanced choreography and improvisation. Emphasis will be placed on mastery of rhythm, movement quality, and seamless integration with live musical accompaniment, preparing students for performance and leadership in community dance practices.	2 HOURS
ELECTIVES					

DANC 200B	DANCE APPRECIATION		Dance appreciation is designed to inform students about dance as a performing art form. The focus is on developing a critical framework for viewing various dance performance styles. By attending performances, tracing the development of the particular form, and studying the demands the art form makes upon its performers, discussing critics' views, and evaluating the experience, students are exposed to a broad representation of dance experiences.	Dance Appreciation is designed to inform students about dance as a performing art form. Students develop a critical framework for viewing various dance performance styles and critically evaluating choreographic works and dance forms within cultural and historical contexts. By attending performances and viewing choreographic works via YouTube and other mediums, students improve their ability to speak and write critically as informed spectators. The course aims to promote an appreciation for dance practices, forms, and traditions globally, both within and outside of the United States.	3 HOURS
DANC 210	INTRO TO DANCE		Introduction to Dance surveys dance styles and forms worldwide. This course explores Western dance styles (ballet, jazz, tap, modern, musical theatre, and contemporary) and cultural dances, folk dances, and performance traditions from around the globe.	A non-technical course open to all interested persons. A study of the art and language of dance. Through lectures, observations, and discussions. The course is designed to develop appreciation, awareness, and insight into dance as an art form and movement point of view. Opportunities are provided to attend concerts and demonstrations. (Fall Only) Students explore the field of dance broadly, including professional pathways within the discipline and notable choreographers in a contemporary and historical context.	3 HOURS
PRESCRIBED ELECTIVES (Theory, Performance, & History) Choose six (6) hours from the following.					
DANC 300	DANCE COMPOSITION	Jazz I Modern I (Contemporary Modern) Dance Minors Only unless approved by faculty Dance Advisor.	Beginning/Intermediate level choreography course continues exploring the choreographic process, emphasizing more complex tools used in choreography. Students will explore the art of making and producing concert and commercial dance works. Students investigate choreographic processes as they develop their artistic voice in somatic dance movements. Students serve as choreographers, performance creatives, and company dancers – casting student work and developing rehearsal schedules and plans to build	Beginning/Intermediate level choreography. The course continues exploring the choreographic process, emphasizing more complex tools used in choreography. Students will explore the art of making and producing concert and commercial dance works. Students investigate choreographic processes as they develop their artistic voice in somatic dance movements. Students serve as both choreographers, performance creatives, and company dancers – casting student work, developing rehearsal schedules and plans to build and produce creative works for performance.	3 HOURS

			<p>creative works toward performance.</p> <p>Students learn through improvisations, assignments, class discussions, and completing a final piece presented at the end of the term.</p>		
	DANCE COMP II		<p>Dance Composition II is an intermediate-level choreography course that delves deeper into the choreographic process, focusing on more advanced tools and techniques used in dance creation. Students will explore the art of producing both concert and commercial dance works, particularly developing their artistic voice through somatic dance movements. This course empowers students to take on multiple roles within the creative process, including choreographer, performance creative, and company dancer. Students will be responsible for casting student works, developing rehearsal schedules, and crafting creative works for performance.</p>	<p>Dance Composition II is an intermediate-level choreography course that delves deeper into the choreographic process, focusing on more advanced tools and techniques used in dance creation. Students will explore the art of producing both concert and commercial dance works, particularly developing their artistic voice through somatic dance movements. This course empowers students to take on multiple roles within the creative process, including choreographer, performance creative, and company dancer. Students will be responsible for casting student works, developing rehearsal schedules, and crafting creative works for performance.</p>	3 HOURS
DANC 400	ANATOMY OF THE BODY FOR DANCE		<p>An introduction to human anatomy emphasizing the musculoskeletal system and movement principles. It is designed to provide basic knowledge of the function of the human body as a means to facilitate the art of dancing.</p>	<p>An introduction to human anatomy emphasizing the musculoskeletal system and movement principles. It is designed to provide basic knowledge of the function of the human body as a means to facilitate the art of dancing. The course emphasizes and understanding of the body that supports contemporary safe practices in dance for practitioners and instructors.</p>	3 HOURS
DANC 401 (Performance)	PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT FOR DANCERS		<p>Provides a survey of dance styles and forms from around the world, and opportunities to create, learn, and</p>	<p>Production Management for Dancers centers business practices for concert and commercial dance. Students develop a portfolio of professional</p>	3 HOURS

			perform dance choreography in a live performance venue. The experience of producing a dance concert with skills and techniques learned in all classes comes alive on stage. This course explores Western dance styles (ballet, jazz, tap, modern, musical theatre, and contemporary) and cultural dances, folk dances, and performance traditions from around the globe.	skills outside of the studio, including management/representation, commercial and concert auditions, program development, commercial and concert dance performances, costume design and fundraising, and community dance support.	
DANC 402 (Performance)	DANCE ENSEMBLE (Dance Minors Only)	Audition	Required for the dance minor. Performing experience, advanced-level dance techniques, and practical experience in dance production. The course may be repeated eight times as credit.	Required for the dance minor. Performing experience, advanced-level dance techniques, and practical experience in dance production. Provides students with opportunities to create, learn, and perform dance choreography in a live performance venue. The experience of producing a dance concert with skills and techniques learned in all classes comes alive on stage. The course explores Western dance styles (ballet, jazz, tap, modern, musical theatre, and contemporary) and cultural dances, folk dances, and performance traditions from around the globe. Course may be repeated up to eight (8) times for credit.	3 HOURS
DANCE 403 (Theory)	Intro to Teaching Dance: DANCE PEDAGOGY FOR A DIVERSE WORLD <i>(Can be offered as an Independent Study for Certificate students and dance minors teaching in the K-12 or studio setting)</i>	N/A	"Introduction to Teaching Dance" comprehensively explores pedagogical principles and best practices for teaching dance as an art form in K12 settings. Students will be introduced to essential teaching methodologies and practices in the studio class; the utilization course centers on culturally relevant pedagogies for diverse communities. The course will cover various topics, including lesson planning, curriculum development, assessment strategies, and classroom management techniques specific to dance education. Additionally, students will examine cultural, historical, and	A seminar and practicum course providing opportunities for dance students to acquire skills in dance teaching methodologies and strategies. Topics include organization of subject matter, weekly and unit lesson planning, development of assessments, the utilization of information technology for instruction, and working with diverse populations of students. Activities include observation in college classrooms (shadowing), seminars and conferences with teachers in the field, in-class/micro/peer teaching, and 20 hours of fieldwork, including observation and consultation with dance field professors and field-experience teaching of assistant teaching in discipline-based or curriculum-based programs. Course centers Culturally Relevant/Responsive teaching pedagogy for	3 HOURS

			<p>global perspectives on dance, fostering an understanding of the diverse cultural expressions and traditions that shape dance education. Through theoretical discussions, practical applications, and hands-on teaching experiences, students will develop the knowledge, skills, and confidence necessary to effectively teach dance and inspire creativity in students of all ages. The course is designed for students in the dance minor and certificate programs. It equips them with sound resources and support for entering the classroom as first-time dance instructors and seasoned teachers looking to stay current in dance education.</p>	<p>engaging communities of color and curriculum development for EBRPSS K-12.</p>	
DANCE 404	BLACK DANCE IN AMERICA	N/A	<p>"Black Dance in America" offers a comprehensive survey of the Africanist aesthetic and the profound contributions of black dance artists to the evolution of modern and contemporary dance forms in the United States. Through lectures, discussions, and multimedia presentations, students explore the rich tapestry of black dance traditions, from their origins in African diasporic cultures to their impact on American dance history.</p>	<p>"Black Dance in America" offers a comprehensive survey of the Africanist aesthetic and the profound contributions of black dance artists to the evolution of modern and contemporary dance forms in the United States. Through lectures, discussions, and multimedia presentations, students explore the rich tapestry of black dance traditions, from their origins in African diasporic cultures to their impact on American dance history. The course examines key figures, seminal works, and critical movements, illuminating the intersection of race, culture, and artistry in shaping the landscape of American dance. By analyzing choreographic innovations, sociopolitical contexts, and cultural influences, students gain a deeper understanding of the significance of Black dance in shaping artistic expression, social change, and identity in America.</p>	3 HOURS