Course Syllabus

Instructor on Record: Jennifer Pontius  
Tutor: Olney Edmondson  
Office: AB3, Room 215  
Phone: 936-294-4752  
Office Hours: MW 11-12pm and by appointment  
Email: omednc2@shsu.edu (Please include your name and class when emailing)

Course Description:
Hip Hop is an art that has developed over the years and now is not only a dance style but a culture. In this course we will be dealing with different styles of Hip Hop not just from certain eras but different areas of the country. From East Coast to West Coast, Krumping, Poppin and Lockin, and Old school Hip Hop, you will experience a taste of each.

Course Objectives:
1. To introduce the basic principles of Hip Hop and have an understanding of different styles of Hip Hop
2. To increase and strengthen the student’s body alignment, strength, endurance and flexibility
3. To gain and develop the qualities of musical awareness and apply them to different body movement.

Required Attire:
Students should wear clothing that allows them to move freely meaning NO JEANS and BAGGY SHIRTS OR PANTS. These articles of clothing are inappropriate. If you show up to class with inappropriate attire, you will be considered unprepared and asked to observe class. Three instances of that nature will equal ONE Tardy. Ladies it is suggested you wear jazz pants, sports shorts or a light fabric sweatpants. Gentlemen sports shorts are fine. Just note that we will be sliding onto the floor so long pants are encouraged. Knee pads as well.

Required jazz shoes can be purchased from any dance supply store. Discountdancesupply.com is a good place to check!

Participation:
Dance is an art form that must be practiced daily to master. Students are expected to fully participate in each class. It is recommended that any student who is ill attend class and observe unless confined to bed. Any student who opts to not participate will receive partial credit for that class. Lack of participation for any sustained period of time due to illness or injury must be accompanied by a doctor’s note.

Attendance:
3 absences are allowed for any reason (3 individual class days). Each additional absence will drop your grade by 1 full letter grade. **3 tardies = 1 (ONE) absence.** Any student who is more then 10 minutes late will be counted tardy. Tardies will also be given to students who leave class prior to dismissal. It is the students’ responsibility to notify the instructor when late. (Please do this at the end of class.) **Attendance will be strictly enforced.**

Example of attendance policy: Starting out with an A.....
3 absences = A
4 absences = B
5 absences = C
6 absences = D
7 absences = F

Grading Policy:
- Technical Demonstration #1: 10 points
- Technical Demonstration #2: 10 points
- Midterm: 20 points
- Final: 25 points
- Critiques/Reports: 10 points
- Attendance, Attitude, Effort and Improvement: 25 points

Grading Scale:
90-100 points = A
80-89 points = B
70-79 points = C
60-69 points = D
Below 60 = F

Make-ups:
**THERE ARE NO MAKE-UPS FOR MISSED CLASSES.** If you missed it… IT’S GONE! If a student misses a Technical Demonstration (TD) and/or the Midterm and there was no prior notification given, THEY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO MAKE IT UP. If prior notification was given, the TD and/or Midterm must be made up within 1 week of the original
date given. It is the students’ responsibility to set up a time with the instructor outside of class. Written assignments will be accepted late, however 1 letter grade will be deducted for each day the assignment is late.

**Schedule**

(Subject to change)

September 12, 2007  Technical Demonstration #1
October 10, 2007  Midterm
November 7, 2006  Technical Demonstration #2
November 28, 2007  Paper Due on dance concert attended with proof of attendance** see below
December 3, 2007  Final: Non-Majors Workshop

**Paper due on dance concert attended with proof of attendance.** Students will attend a dance concert and write at least a 2 page paper (not including title page) on their experience of the performance. This paper should include: Title page with your name and class time, the title of the performance, the date, the place, the type of performance (genre), and what the student brought away from the experience of the performance. The paper should discuss the idea and/or meaning behind the performance. Each idea or opinion the student presents in his/her paper should be backed up with specific examples from the dance itself. The student should use vivid language to create a visual picture in the reader’s mind. The PRESENT verb tense should be used, unless the student is making a historical reference. The paper should be written in Times New Roman font, 12 point, and double spaced. Proof of attendance should be attached to the paper. This could be a ticket stub or program. (For examples of reviews of dance concerts, visit [www.newyorktimes.com](http://www.newyorktimes.com) or [www.villagevoice.com](http://www.villagevoice.com).) **Unstapled papers will NOT be accepted!**
Academic Honesty
The university expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action.

“Plagiarism” means the appropriation of another’s work or idea and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work or idea into one’s own work offered for credit.

Proper Classroom Demeanor
In compliance with the University Code of Conduct, students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Please turn off or mute your cellular phone and/or page before class begins. Students are prohibited from eating in class, chewing gum, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, using inappropriate language, talking among each other at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in, minimally, a directive to leave class or being reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy
Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself
from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s)
shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning
the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first
fifteen days of the semester of the first seven days of a summer session
in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form
notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed
assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

**Disabled Student Policy**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise
qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her
handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits
of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic or Student Life
program or activity. Disabled students may request help with
academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities by
contacting their instructors, school/department chair, or by contacting
the Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled
Students and Director of the Counseling Center at SHSU (which is located
on the north side of the Lee Drain Annex, or by calling (936) 294-1720.

A student with a disability is encouraged to register with the SHSU
Counseling Center Office, as well as personally contacting their
instructor about assistance needs. Please note that accommodation cannot
be made until the student has contacted the Counseling Center to request
assistance. A student may rest assured that confidentiality procedures
are followed in handling a request for assistance.

**Visitors in the Classroom**

Please make prior arrangements with instructor.

The instructor reserves the right to change this syllabus at any time.

**SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY Dance Program**

Dept. of Theatre and Dance Spring 2006