Hip-hop Dance Forms 2

High Impact Diverse Perspectives Course
DANCE 244.1 – 42062 – 2cr
BG 213
2-3:30pm- MON./WED./FRI.

Instructor: Jennifer Meckley (she/they)
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Office: Ball Gym 207
Office Hours: Mon/Weds 12-2pm, Thurs 3:30-4:30pm or by appointment

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY, in Muncie Indiana, is located on the traditional and ancestral territory of the Miami, Delaware, Potawatomi and Shawnee people. We pay respect to elders both past and present, we thank them for their hospitality, and hope we honor their historic and contemporary work.

COURSE CONTENT:
This course will emphasize Hip-hop dance as a culture and universal technique by providing foundational & complex movement for a variety of African American vernacular dance styles that have inspired current 20th Century Hip-hop dance. The dance forms this course will focus on includes street dance styles such as breaking, and contemporary hip-hop through a commercial dance lens.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
By the end of the course, the student will:

- Develop basic skills essential to breaking and contemporary hip-hop.
- Demonstrate advanced understanding of rhythm and musicality as it relates to groove within the learned styles.
- Discover body awareness in the vertical and horizontal spaces through floorwork, footwork, and coordination of complex isolations.
- Gain a greater appreciation of hip-hop dance through participation and analytic observation.
- Develop a deeper awareness of personal practice through workshopping and training.
- Develop skills that aid in freestyling and learning choreography.

DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES (HIP) STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students will explain (a) new or different perspective(s) as a result of learning from or with diverse communities or cultures.

- Students will create conclusions by combining examples, facts, or theories from more than one field of study or perspective.

COURSE MATERIALS:

- Although you are not required to purchase a textbook, you may be assigned to read articles provided by the instructor.

ASSIGNMENTS:

Attendance/Participation 41%

Participation includes daily attendance, physical in class participation, positive attitude towards peers and the instructor, and effort towards learning and improving. Daily notes will be taken by the instructor to determine the final participation score. Students are allotted 3 free absences without it affecting your grade. This includes excused and unexcused absences unless there is an emergency or long term illness/injury to be discussed by the instructor. You will earn 10 points for each class equaling 410 points.

If a student is physically in class but does not contribute to discussions or execute required movement exercises, they will receive partial participation points. Partial participation points will also be given if a student refuses to interact with other students, has a bad attitude, and shows little effort to improve.

Class Observations/Sitting out: If a student is unable to physically participate, they may sit and observe, but must take notes and hand them in at the end of the class. Students will receive partial participation points for observations. The student should not sit out for more than an accumulative 2 weeks of classes.

Lateness: Lateness is unacceptable. Students should arrive 5-10 minutes early to change and be ready to start class at the given time. Students may notify instructor via email if there is an emergency. If a student is more than 10 minutes late, they will need to warm up on their own before joining class. Students will be deducted points depending on the amount of time they are late.

Technical Assessments – 10%

Students will be assessed on their technical abilities through 2 technique evaluations over the course of the semester. These evaluations are conducted through teacher feedback utilizing the course rubrics. If you miss an assessment, you can only make it up if the instructor is notified not later than 24hrs **prior** to the evaluation date (unless it is a documented emergency). These assessments are in line with the BSU DoTD technique

benchmarks required by NASD available for your reference on Canvas. Technique #1 = 50pts and Technique #2 = 50pts.

Freestyle Vlog – 20%

Throughout the course, you will be asked to practice and track your growth in freestyling in the styles of breaking and hip-hop. You will provide a 2-minute video of continuous play and freestyle AND submit an audio recording or written explanation on what you learned in that particular session. You can either provide a youtube link or upload the video directly to Canvas. This is analyzed under the HIP Student Learning Outcomes. There will be a total of 10 submissions at 20pts each.

Discussion Board Posts – 9%

You will complete 2 discussion board posts responding to questions, videos, and/or readings. Your initial responses should be at least 4 sentences in length. You will also response to two other students' posts in no less than 4 sentences each. Your responses should be thorough, thoughtful, and detailed. This is analyzed under the HIP Student Learning Outcomes. Initial posts are worth 30pts and peer responses are worth 15pts equaling 45pts per discussion board assignment.

Midterm Group Project – 8%

Students will choreograph a group piece collaborating with classmates for their midterm project. Groups and songs will be assigned by the instructor. This piece will include movement from the style of Breaking and should consider the battling aspect as part of their narrative and performance. The piece must be 2-3 minutes in length with consideration for costuming. It must incorporate movement, concepts, and ideas from class, but can include other movement applicable to the style. All students are responsible for choreographic and conceptual contribution. This is worth 80pts.

Final Group Choreography Project- 12%

Students are required to create two versions of one hip-hop dance piece collaborating with classmates for the final project. Groups will be assigned by the instructor. The first portion of the project will be a 2-3 minute music video and the second will be 2-3 minutes of a live performance of the same song that will be in the style of contemporary hip-hop utilizing movement from class. The music video should consider camera angles, the relationship between movement and music, and performing for and to the camera. The live version should translate the same concepts to the stage in a new way and can consist of the same choreography, but should include change of formation and a clear relationship between dancers on stage. They both must incorporate movement, concepts, and ideas from class, but can include other movement applicable to the style. The dance must also have a title, costumes, and demonstrate concepts provided in the movement

rubric found on canvas. All students are responsible for choreographic and conceptual contribution. Students will present their dance to the class the last day of classes. This is worth 120pts.

Grading

Points Scale
1000-940 pts = A
939-900 pts = A-
899 – 870 = B+
869-830 = B
829 – 800 = B-
799 -770= C+
769 – 730 = C
729 – 700 = C-
699 – 670 = D+
669– 630 = D
629 – 600 = D-
599 > = F

Percentage Scale
100 – 94% = A
93.9 -90% = A-
89.9 – 87% = B+
86.9 – 83% = B
82.9 -80% = B-
79.9 – 77% = C+
76.9 -73% = C
72.9 – 70% = C-
69.9 – 67% = D+
66.9 -63% = D
62.9 – 60% = D-
59.9 – 0% = F

Instructor Specific Policies and Expectations

Attire/Etiquette

- https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eHwtFQPsq8KauSvUxHrZqZODveqU_72AEs7Kv_RHXsY/edit

Clothing: Students are required to wear comfortable, athletic or dance clothing. Students may wear a leotard, tights, shorts, pants, t-shirts, and tank tops. However, clothing must be appropriate, non-distracting, and a tighter fit for the instructor to have proper view of body alignment. No jeans or baggy clothing are allowed. Specific attire requests can be present to the instructor on an individual basis if needed.

If the student is not properly dressed, the student will be asked to observe class and take notes. This will result in partial participation points for the day.

Footwear: Clean, supportive footwear such as running shoes or sneakers. No socks or outside sneakers are allowed.

Jewelry: No dangly jewelry such as necklaces, earrings, or bracelets. You may wear studded earrings.

Hair: All hair must be pulled back and out of the face to avoid distraction.

Cellphone/Smart Watches: All cellphones must be on silent and put away for the ENTIRE class. You should not check your phone during water breaks or stretching periods. If the instructor notices cellphone use any time during class, she will deduct participation points and may ask student to leave or sit out of class.

Food: There is no food allowed in class. You may bring water.

Assignments

Written assignments must be typed 12pt font in times new roman and double-spaced MLA format. Please include a header on the top left with your name, date, and class info. Students must submit ALL written assignments via BSU Canvas on the due dates specified in the topical outline in .doc or docx format. **If you have trouble submitting your assignment on Canvas, e-mail it to me!!**

All written assignments are due by 11:59pm unless otherwise specified.

Late written submissions will be accepted after the due date **except any assignment due during finals week.** There will be a .5pt deduction for each day the assignment is late. There are no make-up assignments for midterms, finals, or technical evaluations.

Injuries

It is the student's responsibility to notify instructor of any existing injuries or injuries that occur throughout the semester. The instructor will help the student modify and adapt class depending

on injury. Arrangements between the instructor and students can be made for long term injuries, if the student provides documentation of doctor recommended limitations. If the student sits out for more than 2 weeks of class, they will be asked to drop the course.

Physical Interaction
As a part of the dance culture, students may be required to physically interact with other classmates for partnering exercises or a kinesthetic experience. The instructor may also find it necessary to apply physical touch to correct an individual. If a student is uncomfortable with this style of interaction, they should immediately notify the instructor to make proper adjustments.

Weekly Expectations/Time
The amount of requirements to complete this class meet the in-class and out-of-class time expectations set by the university standard of 170 minutes of work per week per credit hour.

You will spend 180 minutes per week in class and **approximately 2.5 hours of work outside** of the classroom. Outside work consists of working on writing assignments, assigned readings, choreographing, attending performances, and practicing physical material from class.

University Policies and Statements

University Statement
We are committed to ensuring that all members of the community are welcome, through valuing the various experiences and worldviews represented at Ball State and among those we serve. We promote a culture of respect and civil discourse. If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact the instructor of record as soon as possible. Ball State's Disability Services Office coordinates services for students with disabilities; documentation of a disability needs to be on file in that office before any accommodations can be provided. Disability Services can be contacted at 765-285-5293 or dsd@bsu.edu.

Freedom of Expression
In this course, we are committed to fostering a learning environment that values intellectual diversity, encourages free expression, and promotes open inquiry. As members of the Ball State Community, we treat each person in the Ball State community with civility, courtesy, compassion, and dignity and respect and learn from differences in people, ideas, and opinions. Please review Ball State University's Statement on Freedom of Expression, the resources on Ball State's Freedom of Expression webpage, and Ball State's Beneficence Pledge.

College/Department Specified Policies

Class Attendance and withdrawal

No student can miss more than three classes. If you miss more than three, you will be asked to withdraw from the class. Absences are ONLY allowed for the following: *religious holiday; pregnancy, jury duty, death in the family (amount of days per University handbook); and an EXTENDED and DOCUMENTED absence related to illness or health issues (mono, broken leg, pneumonia, etc.).* Colds, flu bugs, and other common illness issues are not excused. Rather, they are part of your allotted absences for each course. In addition, no grade of "W" will be given to a student after midterm, unless he/she is earning a grade of "C" at the time of withdrawal. No grade of "I" will be given to a student who is flunking.

Dance Placement Policy

Dance faculty work diligently to ensure that students are placed in appropriate technique levels that balance a student's current abilities with their potential for growth. Department policy dictates that all dance technique classes (ballet, jazz, modern, hip-hop, West African, and tap) conduct a placement test prior to the semester. This allows faculty to evaluate each student's abilities at the start of a period of instruction. Students are evaluated against a standardized list of genre specific skills (which the department is required to maintain per the National Association of Schools of Dance accreditation process) and then placed in the appropriate level of technique for that genre.

These placements are carefully considered each semester by dance faculty, taking into account student work in the technique classroom, the amount of time away from a particular discipline a student may have had, as well as performance in juries, production assignments, and other instances where faculty interface with the students.

Academic Honesty Policy

Academic dishonesty – both intentional and unintentional – is an offense that the university takes very seriously, as do I. The penalties for academic dishonesty in this course will <u>begin</u> at a minimum of a deduction of 100 points (with no points awarded for the assignment in question) and can be as severe as suspension or expulsion from the university. It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to know what constitutes academic dishonesty. The university, the department, and I have provided numerous resources to help you with this. If you want to check something with me personally, don't hesitate. Just don't say, after the fact, "I didn't know that counted as plagiarism." That's unacceptable.

<u>Legitimate Scholarly Sources</u>: All sources used for all assignments in this class must be legitimate, vetted, published scholarly resources that you find using Bracken library resources. You MAY use

- Books found in the library

- Electronic journal or reference articles found using library databases, e-journals, subject guides, or OneSearch

AND THAT IS ALL. There are potential exceptions to this list, and I encourage you to ask me about those exceptions (newspaper websites, etc.). Generally, though this rule applies: If you got to it in the library building or through library website, you can use it. An incomplete list of things you MAY NOT USE OR CITE:

- Anything found on the internet at large.
- My lectures.
- Any .edu website or a professor's personal website
- Any course textbooks except when quoting a play (see me if you want to request an exception to this)
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Any exceptions to this policy will be noted in individual assignment prompts. If you're not sure about a source, ask me.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: The use of artificial intelligence for any official written assignment is prohibited. This includes any text- generating software (such as ChatGPT, Marmot or Botowski). *Using AI will be treated as plagiarism. You may use AI to help generate ideas, but direct text from any AI source should not be used in official submission of written assignments. If AI use is detected, the student will receive 0 credit for that assignment and will not be provided with an opportunity to re-do the assignment.*

Disability statement

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Title IX

Ball State University is committed to providing a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. If you or someone you know has experienced sexual harassment—including sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking, please know that you are not alone. The University offers support services and resources. For more information or to report an incident, please visit ***www.bsu.edu/titleix*** or contact the Title IX Coordinator at 765-285-1545 or at ***titleix@bsu.edu***.

As your instructor, I am a mandatory reporter under the Title IX policy and required to report any information I receive about possible sexual harassment. This includes information shared in class discussions, assignments, or private conversations.

Counseling Center
The Ball State University Counseling Center offers free and confidential services to all students. The Counseling Center is located in Lucina Hall, Room 320. To schedule an appointment, you can contact us at 765-285-1736. Ball State also offers a 24/7 Crisis Line, which can be reached at 765-285-HOPE (4673). The Crisis Line is a mental health resource for those who are struggling with any mental health concerns, including thoughts of self-harm and/or suicide.

At the Ball State Counseling Center, we see students for a variety of reasons, some of which include homesickness, relationship concerns, anxiety, and depression. At your first appointment, you will work with a therapist to create a plan that will connect you with resources that best fit your needs. We assist students with getting connected to therapy at our Center as well as connecting students to self-help resources, other on-campus resources, and community-based resources. All Ball State students also have access to several on-demand, self-help resources through a variety of different platforms. All of these resources, including a direct link to our website, can be found ***here***.

Sexually Explicit / Violent Material in Performance Courses
Content, movement, and costumes for student choreography assignments must be appropriate. Any work that is sexually explicit, violent, disrespectful, or makes fellow students uncomfortable will not be taken lightly. This behavior will result in a failing grade and possibly more drastic measure will be taken.

FERPA and Privacy
As a student, your educational records are considered confidential. Under FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act), your records are confidential and protected. Under most circumstances, your records will not be released without your written and signed consent. However, some directory information may be released to third parties without your prior consent unless a written request to restrict this is on file. You can learn more about student rights to privacy by reading Ball State's FERPA and Privacy and Protection.

***Communication is the key to a productive learning relationship. Please do not hesitate to speak with the instructors regarding an issue that may arise.**

Please note: *This syllabus is meant to serve as a guide and is subject to change without notice. Alterations may be made, and additional readings may be assigned to accommodate guest speakers, compensate for school closures due to inclement weather, supplement course materials and encourage student discussion.*

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