

Beginning Swing Dance

RECR _____

COURSE INFORMATION:

Title: Beginning Swing Dance

Department/Number: RECR F193P

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: None.

Location: TBA

Meeting Dates/Time: MW 2:30-4:00 p.m.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:

David Leslie

Office Location: Instruction location

Office Hours: by appointment.

Telephone/Email: (907) 799-3364, dblestie@alaska.edu

COURSE READINGS/MATERIALS:

Course Textbook: none.

Supplementary Readings: required supplementary readings will be provided.

Supplies Required: comfortable street clothing, water bottle (if desired), and comfortable, smooth-soled shoes with clean bottoms.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Introduction to several forms of swing dance. Learn swing dance principles, techniques and steps to start having fun with swing dance right away and to build a foundation for future learning and enjoyment. We will progress from easy footwork and movements to more complex dance through the semester. Dances will include Four Count (Country) Swing, East Coast Swing, West Coast Swing, and Hustle.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF GOALS:

To teach dance principles, techniques and steps as they apply to swing dance in order to learn all the types of swing dance and to build a foundation for learning and performing all styles of social dance in the future.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES/OBJECTIVES:

You will learn: the basics of several different types of swing dance so that you can go to any social dance venue and dance to a variety of genres and tempos of music with grace and ease, while having fun.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:

Dance instruction will be given by both physical demonstration and oral explanation. Time will be allotted to check students individually and make corrections to insure students are learning correctly. Videos will be presented in class to illustrate or demonstrate concepts. Reading material may be assigned to cover theoretical knowledge such as terminology, dance step annotation, dance rhythm counting, or the evolution of swing dance.

COURSE CALENDAR:

- Week 1: Review syllabus, fundamentals of dance, music, and partnering.
- Week 2: Four Count Swing basic moves.
- Week 3: Four Count Swing basic moves.
- Week 4: Four Count Swing intermediate moves, review.
- Week 5: East Coast Swing basic moves.
- Week 6: East Coast Swing basic moves.
- Week 7: East Coast Swing intermediate moves.
- Week 8: East Coast Swing intermediate moves, review.
- Week 9: West Coast Swing basic moves, assign 2-page Swing Dance History essay.
- Week 10: West Coast Swing basic moves, continued.
- Week 11: West Coast Swing intermediate moves.
- Week 12: West Coast Swing intermediate moves, review, Swing Dance History essay due.
- Week 13: Hustle basic moves.
- Week 14: Hustle basic moves.
- Week 15: Hustle intermediate moves.
- Week 16: Final class: Hustle intermediate moves, review.

Course Calendar is tentative and subject to change during the semester.

CLASS ASSIGNMENT:

Write a 2-page, double-spaced essay about the history of a selected swing dance. Due Week 12. Potential subjects: East Coast Swing, West Coast Swing, Charleston, Lindy Hop, Jive, Jitterbug, Hustle, Four Count Swing, Shag, Balboa, etc.

COURSE POLICIES:

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory for all classes. Students with 7 or more unexcused absences will receive a failing grade for the semester. Students may receive an excused absence if they contact the instructors before class time with a valid reason.

Tardiness: Students need to be ready to dance at the time class starts (shoes on and warmed up). Students are encouraged to arrive early to prepare. Students who arrive more than 10 minutes late will receive half credit for the day. As this is a partnering class, arriving late negatively impacts the other dancers.

Participation: Students are expected to dance every day of class. If students are physically unable to dance, they may observe the class and take notes for that day's credit.

EVALUATION:

Attendance/Participation: 85

Written Assignment: 15

Total Points: 100

The course is graded Pass/Fail. A minimum of 70 points is required to pass the course.

Students will receive 3 points per class attended toward the 85 attendance/participation portion of the grade. Students more than 10 minutes will late receive 1.5 points for that class.

SUPPORT SERVICES:

We will make reasonable accommodations for individuals with documented disabilities. Campus Disability Services will provide you with documentation indicating what kind of assistance you need, and we will work with you to the best of our abilities. Let us know about any concerns within the first two weeks of class. We will work with the Office of Disabilities Services (208 WHITAKER BLDG, 474-5655) to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities.