

**University of Texas at El Paso
Department of Theatre & Dance
DANC 3348, American Dance Forms-Jazz**

Spring Semester

Instructor: Kasey Church Brown, Lecturer

Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays, 1:30pm-3:00pm

Location: Fox Fine Arts, Music Building, Room 211

Appointments Available:

Please e-mail kcbrown2@utep.edu



Photo Credit: Luigi

“Dance is the hidden language of the soul.”

~Martha Graham

Jazz Dance Course Syllabus

Spring 2024

DANC 3348

Wednesday, January 17, 2024– Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Class Meets: Monday & Wednesday from 1:30pm-2:50pm

Location: Fox Fine Arts Center – Art Building, Room 452

The DANC 3348 course will be taught in a synchronous, in-person format. All students are required to attend class on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:00pm-4:20 pm MT.

Attendance will be taken at the start of each class. Please see the course calendars below for more information. There might also be a few class meetings held synchronously online during the semester. I will give you advance notice of any class that will be held synchronously online and provide a Zoom link for students to attend class.

Credit Hours: 3.0 Units

Prerequisites: None

Required Attendance In-Person:

Monday & Wednesday Classes: All students are required to attend class in-person from 1:30-2:50pm MT. If a student should leave class before the class period has ended, they will only receive partial credit for that class period.

Dear Jazz Students,

I am excited for us to embark on a new semester together in the UTEP Theatre & Dance Department. I look forward to us working together to support, encourage, learn, and create with an eye for kindness and understanding. I believe with the right attitude we will accomplish all our goals. To begin with I have taken this opportunity to set forward the course objectives, which you will find listed below. If you have additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to schedule a time to speak with me during my office hours or during another time that is convenient.

Finally, please be respectful of the Intellectual Property Rules provided below. Thank you for your time, effort, and interest in the wonderful art form of dance.

Sincerely,
Kasey Brown

Important Dates:

- Critical Analysis Paper: Due Monday, May 6, 2024 (11:00 pm MT)
- Final Exam: Due Wednesday, May 1, 2024 during class time (3:00-4:20pm)
- School Holidays (No Class): Monday, February 19, 2024 (President's Day); Monday, March 11 – Friday, March 15, 2024 (Spring Break); Friday, March 29, 2024 (Cesar Chavez Holiday)
- Last Day to Add: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 by 5:00pm MT.
- Last Day to Drop: Friday, March 28, 2024
- EXTRA CREDIT: UTEP Dance Department presents PERSON(HOOD) this semester from April 12-April 28, 2024. See below for details.

Note: Student-initiated drops are permitted after this date, but the student is not guaranteed a grade of W. The faculty member of record will issue a grade of either "W" or an "F."

Contact Method:

Please email me at kcbrown2@utep.edu with any questions or concerns. For messages sent Monday-Friday, you can expect a reply within 24 hours. Due to family responsibilities (I have two young children at home), I will not be able to reply in a timely manner to messages sent on Saturday or Sunday.

You are also welcome to email me to schedule a meeting with me during my office hours on Mondays & Wednesdays from 1:30-3:00pm.

Required Course Materials:

1. Most course material will be available through Blackboard, except for the course textbook. The course textbook listed below is available for purchase through the UTEP Bookstore:

Technical Manual and Dictionary of Classical Ballet by Gail Grant, Third Revised Edition (ISBN# 0-486-21843-0). This text is available in the UTEP Bookstore.

2. Proper attire is required to participate in the DANC 3347 course. Please dress appropriately for the jazz technique class.
 - You are **required** to purchase and wear the proper jazz shoes. This requirement exists for safety reasons. Jazz shoes can be purchased online through Discount Dance: www.discountdance.com
 - Proper attire is **required** to participate in class. Please dress appropriately for the jazz technique class. Leotard, t-shirt, or tank top, tights, leggings, or athletic shorts.
 - No bare legs
 - No denim
 - No jewelry

- No hats

Course Calendar(s):

TBA

Etiquette:

My hope is that you will find our jazz dance practice helpful not only physically and mentally, but also for the generosity and appreciation it helps cultivate for each other. I welcome you to share with me your experience throughout the semester. Diversity and inclusivity are not only welcomed but encouraged. Derogatory language or bullying will not be tolerated. I expect we will treat each other with appreciation for our uniqueness and respect for our differences. Our class meetings will be held in a synchronous format in person. It is expected that everyone will treat each other respectfully.

Grading Policy:

Participation- UTEP Absence Policy (80 Points):

Four courses that meet twice a week (F2F and/or synchronously), the maximum amount of absences allowed without failing the course is 4. The 3rd and 4th absences will result in a drop of ½ letter each in the student's overall grade. At the 5th absence, regardless of the student's current course standing or grade, the student automatically fails the course. Three tardies (over 10 minutes late) count as one absence.

Exceptions:

- If a student is quarantining or is not present F2F *because of COVID or COVID symptoms*, as long as the student contacts the instructor and attends class remotely (via Zoom with their camera on), that does not count as an absence provided that the student submit a summary of the class via email to the instructor by 11pm MT on the day of observation.
- In the event of international bridge closures, exceptions may be made, and make-up course work assigned. Please email the instructor to discuss.
- In case of an injury or extended illness, it is the student's responsibility to meet with his or her instructor to discuss possible solutions for course continuation or to consider dropping the class.
- In the event of highly unusual or extenuating circumstances, a student may petition the course instructor and department chair for permission to continue in a course.

Extra Credit Policy: No more than 2 EXTRA CREDIT assignments will be accepted for classes that have been marked as an Unexcused Absence.

Please also keep in mind the following criteria used to determine exemplary participation:

- Remaining engaged throughout the entire class.
- Applying corrections and responding with a positive attitude.
- Practicing course material.
- Asking questions.
- Making every effort to improve one's technique.
- Wearing the proper attire and required shoes.
- Demonstrating responsibility for your technique, assignments, and attitude.

Critical Analysis (10 Points):

The critical analysis will consist of viewing an approved professional dance concert and writing a detailed critical analysis and critique. Please see the list below of "Approved Dance Concerts for Critical Analysis and Critique." Please remember that viewing one of the dances listed below, as well as writing a critical analysis and critique is a required part of this course. **Papers can be submitted anytime during the semester with the last day to submit the Critical Analysis being Monday, May 6, 2024 (11:00pm MT).**

As part of our dance technique class, you are required to view a dance concert and compose a typed, double-spaced paper detailing your opinion of the dances and experience observing a virtual dance performance. The paper will be composed outside of class time and submitted through the Blackboard site no more than one week after the date of viewing the performance. All papers must be submitted through Blackboard in PDF format. A more detailed description of the expectations for the Critical Analysis and Critique is available in Blackboard (See Dance Concert Critical Analysis and Critique Instructions). Please remember to review the observation and review guidelines prior to viewing the concert.

Final Exam (10 Points):

The final exam will be a jazz dance "Choreographic Project" will be held at the end of the semester and is worth 10 points. This is the culmination of the student's jazz dance experience for the course. It is intended to serve as an opportunity for the student to demonstrate their understanding of the jazz dance technique in a performance setting. The project will consist of a jazz dance phrase choreographed by the students in small groups. Time will be allotted during class over the last 3-4 weeks of the quarter for the students to work together to choreograph their project. The students will then perform with their group in the dance studio during our last class of the semester.

Final Exam Date: In class on Wednesday, May 1, 2024 from 3:00-4:20pm. Should a student be absent from class on the day of the Final Exam Project, they will not be able to make-up the Final Exam Project.

DANC 3347 Course Grading Breakdown:

100 Points Possible

90-100 Points = A- to A+

80-89 Points = B- to B+
70-79 Points = C- to C+
60-69 Points = D- to D+
Below 60 Points = F

Approved Dance Concerts to Attend/View for the Critical Analysis and Critique:

***Please remember that viewing one of the concerts below, as well as writing a critical analysis and critique is a required part of this course.**

If you cannot afford a ticket, there are ushering opportunities for departmental performances. Students can sign up to usher all departmental productions via the Theatre and Dance Audience Development office. Ushering opportunities open one month before opening night. Ushers will see the production for free and must commit to the full time they are needed. If an usher does not show up or leaves early, they will not receive credit for seeing the show and will not be allowed to usher for future events.

*Use links provided below to sign up:

Los Empeños USHER LINK

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1HZ4I5HdTVbrMJ0y9ddGDWwc4UdNGZC2SUXzXtKg7NWk/edit?usp=sharing>

PERSONHOOD USHER LINK

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/16eJ50efcSvtKPWQRCYJSirc8bhp0rlhHP6n85OT1RwQ/edit?usp=sharing>

Also keep your emails checked for **Tickets in Kind** opportunities. Tickets in Kind are free tickets for students, donated by audience members and faculty.

UTEP Theatre Department presents

Los Empeños de Una Casa

Directed by: Adriana Dominguez

Wise Family Theatre:

February 23, 24, March 1, & 2 at 7:30 PM

February 25 & March 3 at 2:00 PM

EXTRA CREDIT Performance:

UTEP Dance presents

PERSON(HOOD)

Artistic Director: Chawanda Tabikwa

June Sadowski Kruszewski Studio Theatre:

April 12 & 13 at 7:30 PM

April 14 at 2:00 PM

And Wise Family Theatre:

April 25, 26, & 27 at 7:30 PM

April 28 at 2:30 PM

Chicago

Choreographed by Bob Fosse, 1979

"All That Jazz"

<https://youtu.be/IM9H1eYz-lc>

Chorus Line

Choreographed by Michael Bennett, 1985

"Opening Scene"

<https://youtu.be/EHPdVnUour4>

"One"

<https://youtu.be/2WWFWvKdZnc>

Movin' Out

Choreographed by Twyla Tharp, 2002

<https://youtu.be/7hgzw5spUxc>

Sinatra Suite

Choreographed by Twyla Tharp, 1983

Performed by Mikhail Baryshnikov & Elaine Kudo

<https://youtu.be/GhupPBoqQSY>

Sweet Charity

Choreographed by Bob Fosse, 1969

"Big Spender" and *"The Rich Man's Frug"*

https://youtu.be/b_W1tapG_g4

West Side Story

Choreographed by Jerome Robbins, 1961

"Dance at the Gym:"

<https://youtu.be/vkOLqmwGPx4>

"Cool"

<https://youtu.be/wugWGhItaQA>

42nd Street

Choreographed by Busby Berkeley, 1933

"The Audition"

<https://youtu.be/NtWuubxO-yk>

"We're In the Money"

<https://youtu.be/ZXdsR764ij4>

LATE or Missing Course Work/Assignments:

Late assignments are not accepted (No Exceptions). It is your responsibility to turn in your assignments via Blackboard in PDF format by the due date. This is a college course, and you are responsible for assignments and required participation.

Subject Matter:

The performing arts have a power to stir strong emotions, or touch on subjects you might not feel comfortable seeing on stage. If you have concerns about viewing or discussing specific subjects, please see the person in charge of your section as soon as possible to discuss possible accommodation. As we will respect your individual rights to choose what shows you want to see, we expect all our discussions- including any that may occur outside of class- to be conducted in a respectful and professional matter.

Helpful Websites:

UTEP Theatre & Dance Website: <https://www.utep.edu/liberalarts/theatre-dance/>

UTEP Dance Degree Requirements: <https://www.utep.edu/liberalarts/theatre-dance/academic-programs/bachelor-program.html>

American Ballet Theatre Ballet Dictionary (many dance terms originate from Ballet vocabulary): <http://www.abt.org/education/dictionary/index.html>

Discount Dance Supply (for jazz shoes and other dance attire):

<https://www.discountdance.com/>

1.Course Description:

DANC 3348 – Jazz & Other Stage Dance Forms

Dance techniques are introduced through various popular stage dance forms such as jazz, hip-hop, folk, and social dance genres.

2. Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Students will develop and demonstrate a progression of individual skills pertinent to the level of the individual student within the discipline of jazz dance.
- Students will understand and integrate an understanding of alignment, placement, centering, timing, rhythm, and coordination.
- Students will apply beginning level jazz dance technique to sequences and combinations.

- Students will employ basic anatomy and kinesthetic understanding to the production of correct biomechanics in motion.
- Students will recognize, identify, and appreciate the basic historical and cultural context of jazz dance as an art form.

3. Classroom Expectations:

Please be advised that the DANC 3348 course is an academic course and not a recreational course. The following classroom expectations are designed to create a supportive, creative, and respectful learning environment.

1. Arrive to class **ON TIME** and ready to learn. Do not be late! If you are more than 10 minutes late to class, you will NOT be allowed to participate that day and will be asked to observe instead. This is to protect you from possible injury, as well as to teach proper dance etiquette.
2. If a student leaves class prior to the end of the class period, they will not receive full credit for their participation that day.
3. Students will not receive credit for observing class more than 2 times. Students observing class are required to take notes on their observations and submit those notes to the instructor at the end of class. Failure to take notes and submit those notes to the instructor at the end of the class period will result in the student not receiving credit for that day.
4. If you miss class role at the beginning of class, it is your responsibility to let your instructor know you are in attendance after class is over. If you fail to let your instructor know of your attendance that day, you will be marked as not participating. Please be responsible and arrive at class on time.
5. You must check your UTEP email account regularly. If you do not use your UTEP email account, then you must link it to your primary email account. I will use Blackboard to communicate important information such as directions for the critical analysis paper, information about the final exam, and any class changes.
6. Proper attire is required to participate in class. Please dress appropriately for the jazz dance technique class (Leotard, t-shirt, or tank top and leggings, shorts, tights, and jazz dance shoes are required to participate. No bare legs. No denim. No hats).
7. You are required to purchase and wear the proper jazz dance shoes. Jazz dance shoes can be purchased online through Discount Dance: www.discountdance.com
8. Hair must be secured off the neck and away from the face. You will be asked to put your hair up if you come to class without it properly secured.
9. No hats. Minimal jewelry is expected.
10. You may wear warm-up clothes if they are approved, but they should be removed after warm-ups. This enables me to see your placement and offer valuable corrections. What I cannot see, I cannot correct.

11. No gum! No gum! No gum! If you are chewing gum during class, you will be required to spit it out in the trash can outside. This rule exists for safety reasons.
12. It is expected that each student will work hard, challenge their personal best, and remain attentive throughout the class.
13. Participate physically and mentally in a safe manner. It is important to listen to your body! We will discuss this throughout the semester.
14. Exhibit the ability to spontaneously respond to auditory and visual cues.
15. This is a physically active course. I will use visual and auditory cues to teach the technique. I also use physical adjustments to correct anatomical mistakes to help prevent injury. If you are uncomfortable having me correct you in a physical manner, please let me know with a simple, “No thank you” in person or via email.
16. I hope that any student who does not understand the material presented will ask for a further explanation at an appropriate time.
17. Please be responsible. This is an academic class. Please feel free to schedule a meeting with me during my office hours should you need additional support (Mondays & Wednesdays from 1:30-3:00pm, M211).
18. Conduct yourself in a manner that is respectful and supportive of yourself, your instructor, and your fellow students.
19. It is **YOUR** responsibility to drop the class if you are no longer attending.
20. It is expected that students will follow the Intellectual Property Rules as they apply to this course.
21. Finally, last but not least, enjoy your jazz dance practice. This is your time to learn, enjoy and cultivate your appreciation and understanding of the art of jazz dance.

Performance Opportunities:

Desert Dance, is the dance student organization at UTEP. Please contact Gabriela Munoz if you are interested in joining. For info: desertdanceutep@gmail.com

Intellectual Property Rules:

*Please note that all course materials, provided by the instructor and/or other sources, are covered by copyright protections. Students are **not** authorized to record, share, repost, and/or redistribute these materials in any form(s) (such as, but not limited to, hard copy and electronic forms) in any venue(s) (such as, but not limited to, social media platforms and online study material sites). In some cases, sharing, reposting, recording, and/or redistributing course materials constitutes a violation of University of Texas at El Paso academic integrity policies, while in other cases such actions constitute a violation of copyright protections. In all cases, such actions shall have serious consequences. All the materials—written, audio, and visual—shared within this course are required to remain within this course. You can only share your social media your own materials if the only person that appears, or the only author, is you. If you*

want to share content that includes or is co-authored with other classmates, then you are required to write to them AND the instructor to discuss the authorization.

UTEP Policies:

[UTEP Academic Integrity and Scholastic Dishonesty Policy](#)

This course will adhere to UTEP's Academic Integrity and Scholastic Dishonesty Policy. A link is provided below.

From: <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/osccr/student-conduct/academic-integrity.html>

Disability Statement:

From: <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/cass/>

- If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible.
- If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are required to contact both your instructor and the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services at Union East Building, Room 106, by email at cass@utep.edu or by phone at (915) 747-5148.
- Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the instructor during office hours to discuss their disability related needs. Use of the Center for Accommodations and Support Services, including testing accommodations, requires prior authorization by the CASS office and compliance with approved procedures.
- It is University policy to provide, on a flexible and individualized basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact their instructor to discuss their individual needs for accommodation.
- If CASS determines a student needs accommodation, the CASS office will notify me via e-mail.

UTEP Title IX Information:

“The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Students who become pregnant or have parenting responsibilities may also request reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations

will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. The UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) will process requests for accommodations based on a disability, pregnancy, or parenting. Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal.”

For more information, please visit: <https://www.utep.edu/titleix/pregnancy-and-parenting.html>

UTEP Campus Support Information for Students:
[Campus Support Information for Students](#)

UTEP Counseling Center Information:
[Counseling Center Information](#)

UTEP Tech Support:
[Technical Support](#)

UTEP Student Success Resource Hub:

https://www.utep.edu/advising/student_resources/student-success-resource-hub.html



***Please note:** This syllabus and schedule are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances. If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to check for announcements made while you were absent. Thank you.