Professor: Michelle Shear  
Voice Mail: (562) 938-4949 x6708  
Office Hours: by appointment  
E-mail: Mshear@lbcc.edu  
Course Number: Dance 14-Modern 1 & Dance 15-Modern 2  
Classroom: LAC-Q110  
Day: Friday 8-10:50 a.m.

Long Beach City College  
Modern 1 & 2

Course Description:  
Modern 1: This course emphasizes dance technique, musicality, improvisation and  
composition within the Modern dance idiom. Full body warm-ups, technical exercises,  
and dance combinations will be explored as way to build skill, kinesthetic awareness,  
physical strength, and artistry.

Upon completion of the course the student should be able to:  
Student Learning Outcomes:  
1. Demonstrate fundamental modern dance technique, performance technique and  
alignment principles in the performance of elementary modern dance  
combinations.  
2. Identify and recognize basic terminology in modern dance technique and  
anatomy as it pertains to dance technique.  
3. Employ basic improvisational skills in a basic dance performance.  
4. Identify major choreographer, performers, and choreographic works and  
historical development in modern dance.

Upon completion of the course the student should be able to:  
Objectives:  
1. Demonstrate dynamic body alignment while performing fundamental movement  
   skills.  
2. Demonstrate improved flexibility, strength, coordination, and rhythmic ability.  
3. Execute the technical skills listed in the course outline.  
4. Memorize and perform simple modern dance combinations.  
5. Apply performance skills including stage presence, confidence and interpretation.  
6. Apply musical skills as a means to interpret dance and express the inner self  
   through rhythm, tempo, and phrasing.
Modern 2: This course continues to focus on building technical skill in Modern dance including more challenging combination and patterns, syncopation, and variation in tempo. Musicality, improvisation, and composition skills will be further developed with more challenging exercises and assignments.

Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon completion of the course the student should be able to:
1. Demonstrate beginning modern dance technique, performance technique and alignment principles in the performance of beginning modern dance combinations.
2. Identify and recognize basic terminology in beginning modern dance technique such as lateral tilt, flat back and contraction, as well as basic anatomy.
3. Create a dance composition utilizing skills such as partnering, positive/negative space, movement initiation and improvisation.

Objectives:
Upon completion of the course the student should be able to:
1. Demonstrate dynamic body alignment while performing beginning movement skills.
2. Demonstrate the necessary strength and flexibility to physically work at a higher level (suppleness and articulation of torso, flexibility and strength in pliés, stamina).
3. Execute the technical skills listed in the course outline with more precision and clarity of movement.
4. Interpret and solve creative movement problems through improvisation.
5. Apply performance skills including stage presence, confidence and interpretation.
6. Apply musical skills as a means to interpret dance and express the inner self through rhythm, tempo, and phrasing as well as the ability to move at faster speeds.
7. Demonstrate a consistent understanding of classroom etiquette (i.e. dress code, respect for instructor, peers and institution) as well as the work ethic and maturity to progress at a more advanced level.

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<th>Grading</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
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<td>Dress Code</td>
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<td>Vocabulary Quiz</td>
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<td>Mid-term</td>
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<td>Warm-up</td>
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<td>Dance Concert Critique</td>
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<td>Final</td>
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<td>Extra Credit</td>
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**Attendance:**
Attendance is 30% of your grade, which is equivalent to 300 points. Being tardy three times is equivalent to one absence. If by chance you are late, come in quietly, sit and stretch and I will place you in the space to join in on the next warm-up exercise. Please remember to not intrude on someone else’s space that was here on time. **If you are more that 15 minutes late you may not take class.** You may sit and observe, which then I will direct you on a focus to take notes but you will not receive full credit for the day, only ¼ of credit will be earned. If you are more than 30 minutes late, it counts as an absence. Being on time is stretching on the dance floor and ready to start class at 8:00 a.m. **Early is on time, on time is late, late is really late!**

Journals are recommended for personal class notes and monitoring your improvement. This is a five-week course, which meets four days per week.

**Testing:**
Any student arriving after a written exam has began, and a student has already turned in a completed exam, you be given a different exam and still need to complete it during the allowed time. Students are not allowed to leave the classroom once the exam has started. You may leave once the exam is completed. If you arrive late and are disruptive to the class, you will not be given the exam and no makeup exam will be given. No make-ups if you miss the mid-term or final exam. If you have an official school function which conflicts with the mid-term or final exam, for example a game in another city, I need an official email from your coach/professor asking to have your mid-term or final given on another date, well ahead of time. Plan ahead, I need an official email sent to me with-in two weeks of the school event. The only exception for a make-up is a death in the family/funeral, major medical emergency, car accident or court subpoena. An email stating your absence and situation stated from above, then we will arrange a make-up test date. You will receive a different test. If I do not receive an email and you return to class asking to take it, you will not be given the exam. Communication is key, no email, no make-up exam. Your mid-term and final exam will consist of a combination/dance that will be danced in small groups that I choose. The vocabulary quiz will be multiple choice. Your in class warm-ups/combinations will be looked at daily.

**Dress Code:**
Students are required to wear form-fitting clothing that allows the body to move without limitations. Leotards and footless tights for women, or yoga pants with a fitted tank which covers your stomach. A solid t-shirt or tank top (no logos) and form fiting biker shorts, yoga pants, fitted sweats for men. No shoes are worn, due to the class is danced with bare feet. You may wear Dance Paws, but no socks. No pajama pants, boxer shorts, basketball shorts or jeans. This allows the dancer and professor to monitor corrections for improvement on placement and alignment. Hair is to be pulled back and tightly secured, preferably in a bun for ladies. Appropriate dress is mandatory or you may not participate. The room does get chilly at times so bring fitted dance sweaters/zip ups/solid long sleeves if needed. Keep in your dance bag sports tape and bandaides to keep all open wounds covered at all times. Lastly, no dangly jewelry.
**LBCC Dance Concert Critique:**
The LBCC Spring Dance Concert will be held on April 24th & 25th at 8 p.m. and 26th at 2 p.m. Please plan ahead to attend and purchase your tickets. There will be a sign up sheet in Q-113 the week before the concert asking for volunteer ushers. If you decide to usher the concert you will need to sign up and show up at the call-time the House Manager requests. A dress code for ushering is also required and will be listed on the sign up sheet. Appropriate dress code for ushers is mandatory or the House Manager will not let you usher. Ushering the Dance Concert is an excellent way to support the Dance Department and receive your entry to view the show.

A 3-4 page typed, double spaced, **stapled**, critique paper is due no later than May 22nd. The paper should be written as if you are a Dance Critic/Journalist reviewing a show. Include, lighting, costumes, music selection, genre or style of dance, did it tell a story etc. **No electronic copies, all papers are to be handed in and printed.**

**Emails/Attendance:**
Only formal emails will be responded to. Include your full name, class day/time in the subject. Use proper English, complete sentences, no text slang, and I will respond to your email with in 48 hours. If you email me on the weekend it will be with in 72 hours. If you are absent on a regular class day, there is no need to email me. I only need an email if you missed the mid-term for one of the reasons stated earlier in the syllabus. The best way to reach me is through email, not voicemail. If you miss class, it is your responsibly to obtain the material from a classmate. My lecture/class combinations are not available online or through email. Being tardy 3 times is equivalent to one absence.

**Dance Etiquette/Policies:**
**No video recording of class combinations. No uploading of class combinations.** Be aware of your personal dance space and the space around you. This will prevent a possible injury due to lack of paying attention to space. If you have a prior injury please inform the professor so modifications can be made. Try not to block another student’s view of the professor or themselves in the mirror. No chewing of gum, food, drinks other than water. Do not place anything on the piano. No guests/children/spectators, video recording of class or combinations. Bring water, sports tape, bandaides, paper, pen or pencil and paper to take notes. Cell phones must be turned off. If you decide to text message during class you will be asked to leave and will receive an absence. Exiting the class and slamming the door is disruptive to the class. Use the restroom before class. Any student that is disruptive to the class will be asked to leave, if you refuse you will be removed by Long Beach PD.

Welcome to Modern!!!