

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS
Department of Dance & Theatre
Spring 2025

Social Club Dance I

DANC 3710

Tuesday/Thursday, 3:00 - 4:20 pm

DATH 111

Faculty Information

Instructor: Hadley Voss, MFA (she/her)
Contact: Hadley.Voss@unt.edu
Office: 103G
Office Hours: By Appointment
You may email me at any time. I typically respond within 24 hours except over the weekends.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to Ballroom and Latin dancing typical in social settings, the course typically covers American and International styles such as Swing, Lindy Hop, Cha Cha, Waltz, Rumba, Quickstep, Foxtrot, Samba, Mambo, Merengue, Tango, and Salsa. Students will learn proper execution of movements and basic partnering techniques.

Prerequisite(s): None

REQUIRED TEXTS

No required texts. Supplemental readings from other sources may be assigned during the course and provided by the instructor.

Recommended Texts

Julie Malnig, ed. *Ballroom, Boogie, Shimmy Sham, Shake: A Social and Popular Dance Reader*. Urbana and Chicago, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2009.

Ralph G. Giofdano, *Social Dancing in America: A History and Reference, Volume 1, Fair Terpsichore to the Ghost Dance, 1607 – 1900*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2007.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Perform basic steps and patterns of social dance technique with a focus on the elements of rhythm, partnering, coordination, sequencing, and musicality.
- Articulate a basic understanding of social dance history through movement and resources (such as text and videos).
- Generate compositional movement phrases that demonstrate comprehension of social dance elements.
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills by engaging with textual resources and creating dialogue with peers in class meetings.
- Identify, analyze, and evaluate individual work as well as peers' work through oral, written, and physical communication skills.
- Demonstrate proficiency in written skills through observing and describing movement and dance from viewing the required full-length performances.

Professionalism: Positive Class Participation/Attitude

- Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner both in appearance and behavior while in class and with professional correspondence (e.g., phone, email, guest speakers). Professionalism aids in expediency of tasks and helps to establish a safe environment that is conducive to excellence and creativity.
- Demonstrate punctuality and come prepared to be present in the studio as an active participant in all daily movement activities. Arrive 5-10 minutes early to warmup on your own in the space as soon as you enter the room.
- Students are expected to come to class prepared, eager to learn and participate with a positive spirit and energetic attitude. You are expected to give yourself fully to classroom exercises, bringing your whole self to the experiences, and pushing yourself to grow.
- Students need to be respectful to the professor and other students by being quiet and attentive in class when the professor or another student is speaking or performing. This is a vital part of being professional.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS & INSTRUCTIONAL POLICIES

- Check campus email and Canvas regularly to keep up with assignments and course announcements.
- Turn in all assignments on time; late work is not accepted. If you have difficulties, contact me prior to the due date so arrangements can be made.
- Daily positive participation is essential to your grade in this course (see grade break-down). Your full involvement in the exercises is expected whether you are acting as a mover, observer, speaker, or listener.
- No food or drink during class. Water bottles are permitted.

- Cell phones must be put away in backpacks/bags on silent or powered off unless given permission to use in class for a specified assignment.
- Students are expected to submit quality work and writing.
- Please review the syllabus and calendar throughout the semester to ensure that you thoroughly understand the requirements. It is your responsibility to contact the professor if you are confused or having difficulty.

Attire for Studio Work

Wear clothing that permits freedom of movement. No bulky or significantly revealing clothing is allowed that inhibits effective performance or assessment of physical practice. No jeans or pajamas permitted. Secure hair out of the face. Gum chewing, baseball caps and jewelry are not allowed in dance class for safety reasons.

Examples of acceptable attire: athletic wear, tank top, T-shirt, leggings, stretch pants, shorts of appropriate length, leotard and tights, barefoot, ballroom shoes, or clean soled tennis shoes.

Etiquette

Practice empathy and kindness in the classroom (live or virtual). We will be giving constructive critiques and will help each other on progress in the movement analysis journey.

Be prepared with your assignments for each class. You will be expected to work on your own and in groups. Recognize the pace in which you work and allot the necessary time to complete your assignments.

If interpersonal issues arise between peers or with a professor, please address the issue so we may move to an expedient resolve. This will ensure accountability and responsibility to and for the community.

ACTIVITIES, ASSIGNMENTS, & GRADING POLICY

Rubrics for each of the following activities will be supplied by the instructor.

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| 1. Daily In-Class Participation/Attendance | 70% |
| 2. Supplemental Assignments | 10% |
| ● Readings, concerts, reflections | |
| 3. Assessments | 20% |
| ● Midterm Assessment | |
| ● Final Assessment | |

*Additional directions will be provided by the instructor prior to due dates.

An “A” student accomplishes consistently excellent work and demonstrates outstanding improvement. They are at the top of the class, always demonstrating strong technical execution of movement and expressive artistry. They are always on time, always focused and attentive

throughout the class, and always take responsibility for making corrections even if given generally or specifically to another student. They accomplish assigned reading and writing at their highest possible level.

A “B” student accomplishes consistently good work and demonstrates significant improvement. They are not at the top of the class, but are consistently trying to reach that level. They may struggle to learn new movement but can achieve a capable and expressive execution of the material after working on it. They accept and utilize both general and personal feedback and demonstrate a willingness to be open to new ways of thinking and moving.

A “C” student accomplishes consistently average work, demonstrating improvement throughout the semester. This student keeps up with the class and his/her technique is “coming along”. They can pick up movement, but not with enough ease and depth to embody technical proficiency and expressivity at the same time. They must be given the same correction multiple times.

A “D” student accomplishes consistently below average work, demonstrating minimal improvement. They struggle to keep up with the class and fail to demonstrate the kind of personal commitment that will allow them to move forward in technical execution and artistry.

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend class regularly and participate fully in activities and discussion. Per the [UNT Student Attendance and Authorized Absences Policy](#), an absence may be excused for the following reasons: (1) a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose; (2) active military service, including travel for that purpose; (3) participation in an official university function; (4) illness or other extenuating circumstances; (5) pregnancy and parenting under Title IX; and (6) when the University is officially closed by the President.

Each excused absence must be addressed with the submission of a note from your doctor, coach/appropriate faculty, or college official. If you anticipate an absence, inform your instructor in advance. It is the responsibility of the student to make up any missed assignments, even if an absence is excused. **Documentation of excused absences must be turned in to the instructor within one week of absence.**

Because this is a movement-based course, one must be in class to acquire the information. You are permitted **TWO (2)** absences for this course. On the third absence your overall grade will be lowered by 5%; for example, a 90% becomes an 85%. On the fourth absence, you will earn a failing grade for the course. (UNT allows the instructor to ask the registrar to drop a student with a “WF” upon accumulation of the stated number of absences).

Lateness & Early Departures: Students should not arrive late to class or ask to leave early. Typically, (2) tardies and/or early departures will equal one absence. Students arriving 5 minutes late to class will be deducted 3 points from their daily (10) participation points. 10 minutes late and onward, 5 points will be deducted. In order to ensure all students are properly warmed up and prevent injuries, students arriving 10 minutes late for class may not be allowed to take class.

Tardiness Policy

If a student is 5 or more minutes late to class, they will be considered tardy. If a student accumulates **3 tardies**, it will count as an additional absence, which could lower their grade as stated in the above attendance policies.

Sickness & Injury Policy

If a student has a contagious infection, he or she should not come to class. With the submission of documentation of such illness, an absence will be excused. In the event of an injury or serious illness that prevents a student from engaging in any activity for more than two weeks, the student should drop the course rather than risk receiving a failing grade. However, students may continue enrollment in a class by fulfilling minimal participation requirements agreed upon with the teacher until recovery from the injury or illness allows for return to full participation. (A period of minimal or adapted activity due to injury or illness should not exceed a total of four (4) weeks during any long semester).

- Minimal or adapted participation may be in the form of substituting floor work for standing work, working the upper body while sitting in a chair, adapting choreography assignments to accommodate physical limitations, refraining from jumping, or working with a reduced range of motion. In addition, an extended Pilates or training program may be the appropriate course of action during injury recovery. The goal is to maintain physical conditioning and fitness during recovery so that the return to full activity will not compromise health and wellness.
- Observation and writing assignments will be given to compensate for partial participation when necessary; an observation day must be approved by the instructor. TWO (2) Observations equal one absence. (This applies to students who sit out only a portion of a movement class.) If a student is well enough to attend class but not well enough to participate physically, or if a student is injured and cannot participate fully in the physical aspects of the class, they must be in the studio and fully engaged throughout the class to be considered present and receive credit. *Under no circumstances should students study or work on assignments for other courses during an observation. If a student is not actively engaged, they will be asked to leave and will not receive credit for the class day.

If you are sick, are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or have come in contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19, please reach out to the instructor right away so you and the instructor can create a plan of action to support your education and absences. UNT recommends

you follow [CDC guidelines](#) for any COVID 19 related illness. Proof of a positive test will be required.

Attendance Statement

Students are expected to attend class meetings regularly and to abide by the attendance policy established for the course. It is important that you communicate with the professor and the instructional team prior to being absent, so you, the professor, and the instructional team can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals. Please inform the professor and instructional team if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community.

If you are experiencing any [symptoms of COVID-19](#) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Team at COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure.

Late Work

Late work is not permitted in this class. Exceptions will only be considered for extremely extenuating circumstances. Students must speak with the instructor immediately if they foresee a problem in submitting their work on time.

If the student has not amassed at least 30% of their 100% grade by midterm, the student will receive an unsatisfactory progress notice. If the student continues making unsatisfactory progress, they will be asked to drop the course. If a student misses any portion of their final: does not attend and/or submit their written final, it will be an automatic failure of the course.

Observing/Sitting Out

Observations are considered exceptions and require instructor approval. If a student is unable to fully participate in class due to injury or illness, the instructor should be informed ASAP via email and when they arrive at class. The student must articulate how they will modify the content to protect from further injury and inform recovery. If the student elects to observe, they must take notes, describing and articulating what the student learned from observing the class and why (it's not enough to just describe what happened in class).

In the event of an injury or serious illness that prevents a student from engaging in any activity for more than two weeks, the student should drop the course rather than risk receiving a failing grade. However, students may continue enrollment in a class by fulfilling minimal participation requirements agreed upon with the teacher until recovery from the injury or illness allows for return to full participation.

Minimal or adapted participation may be in the form of substituting floor work for standing work, working the upper body while sitting in a chair, adapting choreography assignments to accommodate physical limitations, refraining from jumping, or working with a reduced range of motion. In addition, an extended Pilates program may be the appropriate course of action during injury recovery. The goal is to maintain physical conditioning and fitness during recovery so that the return to full activity will not compromise health and wellness.

A period of minimal or adapted activity due to injury or illness should not exceed a total of four (4) weeks during any long semester.

IMPORTANT DATES

***These dates are tentative and subject to change.

Guest Artist Residency: Carl Flink & Black Label Movement master classes

- Date: Wednesday 1/29
- Master classes at 9:00-10:20am & 11:00am-12:20pm

Black Label Movement's *Canary, Crimson, then Emerald*

- Date: Thursday 1/30
- Times: 1:00pm or 7:00pm
- Location: University Theatre, RTFP Building
- Bonus: Both shows include a Q&A session
- Free for any UNT student!
- Discount for Guests: Students can bring a friend for just \$5

Spring Dance Concert

- Date/Time: February 6-8 at 7:30pm & February 9 at 2:00pm
- Location: University Theatre, RTFP Building
- Free for any UNT student!

Spring Break – March 10-16

Cabaret

- Date/Time: April 10-12 at 7:30pm & April 12-13 at 2:00pm
- Location: University Theatre, RTFP Building
- Alumni Night: April 12

Finals Week – May 5-9

CLASSROOM POLICIES

No food or drinks in the classroom, besides water in a closed container. Please dress in comfortable, but not baggy or restricting clothing. Turn cell phone sound OFF when entering the classroom. Phones may be utilized for documenting personal and peer performance.

Class Recordings & Student Likenesses

In-class performances of movement material in this course may be recorded for students enrolled in this class section to refer to throughout the semester. Class recordings are the intellectual property of the university or instructor and are reserved for use only by students in this class and only for educational purposes. Students may not post or otherwise share the recordings outside the class, or outside the Canvas Learning Management System, in any form. Failing to follow this restriction is a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct and could lead to disciplinary action.

UNT POLICY STATEMENTS

Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Realiation (Policy 16.004)

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

Academic Dishonesty

UNT's Policy of Academic Dishonesty found in the Student Handbook applies to this course. If caught plagiarizing (meaning copying) published sources or another student you will be referred to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities and you will also fail this course. This policy also applies if you are caught falsifying your attendance or misrepresenting your work in any way. For your own sake please be sure that you are familiar with the rules and regulations regarding Academic Dishonesty. "The term 'plagiarism' includes, but is not limited to: 1. The knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement [or citation] and/or 2. The knowing or

negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.”

[-http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct/misconduct.html](http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct/misconduct.html)

AI, Plagiarism, & Academic Integrity

The “unauthorized” use of any person or technology that assists in a student’s assignment, project, or paper is considered cheating under the UNT Student Academic Integrity Policy (UNT Policy 6.003). Unless a professor or instructor gives explicit “authorization,” AI cannot be used to complete assignments, projects, or papers. Doing so will result in a “cheating” violation.

AI should not be used to assist in writing papers, searching for sources, or creating citations. Citations provided by AI are fabricated by mimicking existing bodies of work. In most cases, AI will pull direct quotes from existing sources to answer queries and make-up information about the source.

AI can be used ethically to help you develop an outline for a paper, generate ideas, and learn a citation style. Talk to your subject librarian or professor about how you can use AI ethically.

Student Behavior in the Classroom

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student’s conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University’s expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT’s [Code of Student Conduct](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) to learn more.

Disabilities Statement-Movement

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by

appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

If you need or think you might need academic accommodations please let me know today after class.

The content of this class requires each student to:

1. Participate physically and mentally in a safe manner
2. Exhibit mastery of specific steps and movement patterns through both visual and verbal cues
3. Process visual and verbal cues spontaneously
4. Exhibit ability to carry their own body weight as well as the weight of others

Student Obligations to Academic/Production Work

DT students are expected to budget and organize their time and efforts in order to meet both their academic and production commitments satisfactorily and on time. The faculty and staff recognize that the academic and production assignments within the Department, as well as outside employment, athletics, and other obligations, sometimes impose conflicting pressures on DT students. One of the principal responsibilities of each student is to carefully identify and monitor the commitments that comprise his/her production work and outside obligations do not constitute an excused absence from DT classes or from the completion of any required class assignments.

Principles of Engagement

PoE refers to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

- While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.
- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
- Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
- Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.

- Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people's ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
- Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as "YELLING!"
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
- Avoid using "text-talk" unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.
- Proofread and fact-check your sources.
- Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.

Technical Assistance

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

UIT Help Desk: <http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm>

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu

Phone: 940-565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130

Walk-In Availability: 8am-9pm

For additional support, visit Canvas Technical Help
(<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328>)

ACADEMIC SUPPORT & STUDENT SERVICES

Mental Health

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- [Student Health and Wellness Center](#)
- [UNT Psychiatric Services](#)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](#)

- [Individual Counseling](#)
- [UNT Care Team](#)

Chosen Names

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.

- [UNT Records](#)
- [UNT Email Address](#)
- [UNT ID Card](#)
- [Legal Name](#)

Pronouns

Pronouns (she/her, they/them, he/him, etc.) are a public way for people to address you, much like your name, and can be shared with a name when making an introduction, both virtually and in-person. Just as we ask and don't assume someone's name, we should also ask and not assume someone's pronouns. You can [add your pronouns to your Canvas account](#) so that they follow your name when posting to discussion boards, submitting assignments, etc. Below is a list of additional resources regarding pronouns and their usage:

- [What are pronouns and why are they important?](#)
- [How do I use pronouns?](#)
- [How do I share my pronouns?](#)
- [How do I ask for another person's pronouns?](#)
- [How do I correct myself or others when the wrong pronoun is used?](#)

Additional Student Support Services

- [Registrar](#)
- [Financial Aid](#)
- [Student Legal Services](#)
- [Career Center](#)
- [Multicultural Center](#)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](#)
- [Pride Alliance](#)
- [UNT Food Pantry](#)

Academic Support Services

- [Academic Resource Center](#)
- [Academic Success Center](#)
- [UNT Libraries](#)
- [Writing Lab](#)