

**University of North Texas  
Department of Dance and Theatre  
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences**

**Fall 2019  
Tuesday and Thursday 12:30-2:20 PM**

**Music for Dancers  
DANC 2060 Section 1**

**Faculty Contact Information:**

Reyna Mondragon: [Reyna.Mondragon@unt.edu](mailto:Reyna.Mondragon@unt.edu)

Office: 103G

Office Hours T/Th 10am-12pm or by appointment.

Class Location: DATH 129

**Course Description**

This course offers the dance student an introduction to music and its relationship to dance. The goal is to increase the student's musical awareness, listening skills, rhythmic skills, communication skills in the language of music, musicality, and repertoire of music selections for choreography.

Organized in three Units, the course introduces dancers to the fundamentals of music (rhythm, harmony, and melody) to equip them with a working musical vocabulary, surveys the history of Western music (medieval to 19th century), and critically engages with contemporary, folk, popular, and Non-western music performance and compositional practice in relation to collaboration with modern dance choreography. Students will listen to a lot of music, journal about their learning process in relation to course lectures and reading, evince their learning through quizzes, and work creatively on choreographic studies based on the musical genres and theories studied in class.

**Course Objectives**

- Gain understanding of Music Fundamentals, including elements such as rhythm, melody, harmony, timbre, tempo, phrasing, dynamics, texture, and formal design.
- Expand the awareness of musicality and created a more vital relationship to music when dancing.
- Acquire historical context and critical perspective on historical and present day popular and folkloric styles from diverse world cultures.
- Explore the formal process of musical composition and apply these concepts to dance.
- Understand the specifics and communication skills one must have to collaborate with a dance musician.

## Learning Outcomes

- Correctly identify meters, musical phrasing, and the form of different styles of music.
- The ability to describe and identify musical terms, style, time period, instrumentation, and composer.
- Identify the importance of classical music and other music styles that are researched during class.
- Explore and identify the importance of music in the choreographic process.
- Identify the different emotions one can experience when exploring different styles of music.

## Required Textbook

- Making Music for Modern Dance: Collaboration in the Formative Years of a New American Art. By: Katherine Teck (you can find it used on AMAZON)
- Other materials will be provided by the instructor via Canvas.

## Tentative Calendar of Classes & Assignments:

See Canvas for a detailed course calendar and list of due dates.

*For a complete UNT academic calendar please go to:*

<https://danceandtheatre.unt.edu/dance/2019-2020-production-calendar>

## Attendance Grading Policy for Department of Dance studio classes:

Since performance in studio classes in particular relies almost entirely on work accomplished during each class any absence from class will impact the grade.

- Students are allowed one (1) absence. There are no excused absences except for personal or family emergencies or a UNT official activity, which the professor needs to approve. On the second absence your overall grade will be lowered by 5%; for example, a 90% becomes an 85%. On the third 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.)
- Students who do not attend the first day of class may be dropped in order to accommodate those who are on the wait list.

**Lateness and 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.** In order to insure all students are properly warmed up and prevent injuries, students arriving more than 5 minutes late for class may not be allowed to take class.

**Observations/Sitting Out:** Students should request to observe a class only in exceptional cases - the expectation is that all students will participate even though the level of activity and kind of

activity may be adjusted to accommodate specific health issues. If an observation is approved by the teacher, the student will take notes following specific directions given by the teacher. These notes will be turned in at the conclusion of class. The quality of these notes will determine the student's grade for that particular day. Under no circumstances should students study for other courses during an observation.

Typically, observations are considered one-half absences, as the student is not fully engaged in the activity or the class.

Should a student need to sit down during class, she or he is expected to remain attentive and engaged with the class. Sitting at the front of the studio, watching and learning through attentive observation, or taking written notes is appropriate. Lying on the floor, sleeping, talking or texting on a cell phone, or engaging in conversation with other students during class is not considered appropriate. No student should be consistently sitting out as it warrants a low class participation grade. **Typically, 'sitting out' two times equals one absence.**

### **Class Etiquette/Dressing Out:**

- There are certain rules of classroom etiquette that include but are not limited to: no leaving class during an exercise unless there is an emergency, no chewing gum, and no food/beverages other than water in the studio during class. Students should dress out for each class in order to comfortably and properly execute exercises.
- Cell phones will not be tolerated unless explicitly used for a research tool when asked to during class. PLEASE SILENCE THEM
- Be kind to your fellow classmates. We will be giving constructive critiques and will help each other on progress in the movement analysis journey.
- 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.

### **University Policies:**

**Academic Dishonesty:** (<http://www.vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.html>): The University takes plagiarism and cheating very seriously. Plagiarized work will earn a zero for the assignment. Students will face action according to University guidelines for academic dishonesty. I reserve the right to submit any paper I suspect of plagiarism to Turnitin.com.

**Academic Ethics:** (<http://www.unt.edu/csrr0>): Acts of academic dishonesty are subject to discipline at UNT. Cheating plagiarism and furnishing false or misleading information are acts of academic dishonesty. The definitions of these terms are clearly described in the Undergraduate Catalog ([www.unt.edu/catalog](http://www.unt.edu/catalog)) and by the Center for Students Rights and Responsibilities.

**Authorized Class Absence:** ([http://www.unt.edu/vpaa\\_fy0708\\_fhb/lll-a.html](http://www.unt.edu/vpaa_fy0708_fhb/lll-a.html)): All travel by students off campus for the purpose of participation in UNT sponsored activities must be authorized by the dean of the school or college of the sponsoring department. Within three days after the absence, students must obtain authorized absence cards from the dean of students for instructors.

**Absence for Religious Holidays:** ([http://www.unt.edu/vpaa\\_fy0708\\_fhb/lll-a.html](http://www.unt.edu/vpaa_fy0708_fhb/lll-a.html)): A student absent due to the observance of a religious holiday may take examinations/ complete assignments scheduled for the day(s) missed within a reasonable time after the absence. Class participants should notify the instructor via email of planned absences for religious holidays.

**Disability Support Services:** (<http://www.unt.edu/oda>) ): ODA Office in Sage Hall, Suite 167.

**Office of Disability Accommodation Statement:** (ODA)- 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 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

To graduate, students majoring in dance are required to have a minimum grade of “B” in dance technique courses that comprise their major.