

Course Syllabus

Course	TAP DANCE 1
Class Times	Friday 4:00pm-6:00pm
Location	Cafe
Instructor	Professor Hiroshi Hamanishi
Email	hhamanishi@icpa-ca.org

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce the foundational techniques of tap dance and cultivate the student's performance skills at the beginning level. Student knowledge and artistic discipline will be broadened through studies of historical and cultural contexts. Attention will be given to practices and styles of 20th Century Tap artists. Emphasis will also be placed on expanding and deepening the dancer's technical and expressive skills. All private school students are required to perform in all ICPA Dance Conservatory scheduled performances each semester.

OBJECTIVES

- To apply beginning level techniques to short sequences and combinations.
- To develop timing and control at varying tempos.
- To be able to vocalize the pulse, rhythm, counts and step patterns.
- To learn and perform at least two Tap dance routines.
- To develop discipline, patience and perseverance towards perfection of techniques.
- To gain an overall understanding of tap dance history and identify prominent tap choreographers and innovators.

COURSE CONTENT

1. Warm up, conditioning and stretch exercises
2. Beginning technique drills involving placement of arms, body and torso
3. Call and response drills
4. Coordination and timing of arms before, during and after turns and jumps
5. Leg and ankle placement before, during and after turns and jumps
6. Spotting for single turns
7. Weight change in axial and locomotor patterns
8. Direction change in axial and locomotor patterns

COURSE CONTENT cont.

9. Spatial awareness in conjunction with changing facings
10. Learn, refine and perform basic techniques and Tap vocabulary including but not limited to: *Shuffle, Flap, Riffs, Cramp Rolls, Waltz Clog, Irish-Time Steps, Paddle and Roll, over the top, Maxifords, Buffalos, Tap turns*
11. Continued study of the relationship between music and tap dance rhythms, accents and phrasing
12. Understand choreomusical qualities inherent within the tap dance genre
13. Introduction to improvisation: self-creation of movement by exploring levels, shapes and dynamics
14. Overview of origins of style including, but not limited to, prominent tap choreographers and innovators, musical theatre, and rhythm tap.

ASSIGNMENTS, ACTIVITIES & ASSESSMENT

- Learn traditional tap dance routines, "Shim Sham Shimmy" and "BS Chorus".
- Watch video clips for informational and inspirational purposes
- The semester mid-term and final exam performances will consist of student's performance in the Fall Dance Conservatory Concert and the Christmas Show.

GRADING

<u>Assignments</u>	<u>Points</u>
Research Project	100
Tap dance vocabulary exam	100
Participation/Attendance	400
Mid-term performance	100
Final performance	100
Total	800

GRADING cont.

<u>Letter Grade Points</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
720 - 800	A
640 - 719	B
560 - 639	C

REQUIREMENTS

Studio Rules

1. With the exception of water, no eating, drinking or chewing gum allowed in the studio.
2. No street shoes allowed in the studio, street shoes must be taken off at the door.
3. Never leave personal belongings unattended outside the dance studios at any time.
4. Please follow proper dress codes assigned for this class.
5. Respect others and their belongings at all times.

Expectations

1. Proper execution and understanding of Tap dance techniques are necessary to be successful in this class and all students must attend each class and be on time.
2. If a student is late to class, points will be taken off their daily participation grade at teacher's discretion.
3. Students are expected to work towards mastery of the material introduced both in and outside of class.
4. Excessive talking and any misbehavior will also lower student's participation grade. **Excused** (unavoidable) absences from class will not be deducted from student's participation grade, however, **unexcused** absences will be deducted from student's participation grade. It is the student's responsibility to turn in a written excuse signed by a parent or guardian for any class missed.
5. It is the student's responsibility to find out what was covered/assigned in the class that was missed.
6. Arrangements must be made with the instructor to make up any missed in-class activity/assignments or tests. Work that is not made up within a week of an absence will receive zero credit.
7. If a student is unable to participate in class because of illness or injury, student must sit against the wall and take notes. Notes must be turned in at the end of class in order to receive attendance/participation credit for that day.

DRESS CODE:

Tap shoes should be full sole at the bottom. For other details refer to Dance Conservatory Welcome Packet.