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Fall 9-1-2017

### DANC 108A.06: Dance Forms - Tap

Heather Adams

*The University Of Montana*

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**The University of Montana School of Theater & Dance**  
**Dance Forms: Tap DANC 108A**  
**Thursdays 1:30 – 2:20 pm**  
SYLLABUS: FALL SEMESTER 2017

- Heather Adams, instructor
- Office: Downtown Dance Collective
- ☎ Telephone: 541-7240
- E-mail: heather@ddcmontana.com
- Office hours: By Appointment
- 📍 Class Location: The Downtown Dance Collective  
121 West Main Street

1) Required for this class

- Properly fitting Tap shoes. The DDC has a shoe library with tap shoes that may be borrowed for class. They must be returned at the end of each class.
- Wear comfortable, moveable and breathable clothing. Tap dance is a technical art form that requires attention to body placement. Please wear clothes that allow for your body to be seen and corrected.
- Personal hygiene is *very* important. You will be dancing next to people for an hour each class. Wear deodorant that works for you. Too much cologne or not enough deodorant can be overwhelming to your class mates.
- Please do not wear jewelry that can be easily pulled off, can fall off or makes its own noise.

2) Course description

The goal of this course is to expose you to the many forms of tap dance and give you a solid foundation in tap dance. Students will develop the skill and understanding of Tap Dance, at the same time as building a sound technique, by developing the physical ability to communicate through movement in an expressive and artistic way. A clearly defined structure allows learning to take place in the context of safe dance practice.

3) Objectives

- Teach correct posture
- Build a secure Tap technique
- Develop an awareness of tone
- Promote the understanding of dance terminology
- Gain a good sense of line through body, arms and head
- Understanding of rhythms and its development
- Appreciation of varying musical styles and their interpretation
- Awareness of space, audience and sense of performance

- Encourage a sense of self-expression
- Encourage creative use of rhythm and movement
- Promote self confidence in the performance of a solo.

3) Recommendations and Expectations

*Readings:* All Theatre & Dance students must have an in-depth knowledge of the practices and procedures outlined in the School of Theatre & Dance Student Handbook. The Handbook is available online at <http://www.umt.edu/theatredance/about/handbook>.

*Safety:* Inherent risk is involved in Theatre and Dance classes because these classes are very physical in nature. Please proceed through class, shop time, or rehearsal with caution. Always be mindful of your personal safety and the safety of others. Students participating in class/shop/rehearsal/performance do so at their own risk.

Due to safety considerations, at no point during a student’s time spent in class or serving on a production (in any capacity) should non-enrolled persons be guests of that student without my consent. Presence of such unauthorized persons in a class, shop, or any backstage/off-stage area will negatively affect a student’s grade.

4) Conduct

From the vice president for student affairs: “All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at [http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student\\_conduct.php](http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php).”

5) For students with disabilities: Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting me or Disability Services for Students (DSS). The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and DSS. “Reasonable” means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications. For more information, please consult <http://www.umt.edu/disability>.

6) Grading: Your grade for the semester will be based *largely* on your attendance. :

Required Attendance Dance Performances (2)	20
End of the Semester Tap Routine (1)	30
<u>Attendance (15 classes – 2 holidays)</u>	<u>150</u>
Total Points	200 points

8) Assignments: You will have two kinds of assignments, to be completed by the end of the semester:

- a) Attend TWO (2) Dance Performances which are listed on the Dance Class Requirements
- b) ONE (1) Tap dance routine. 1 minute or your own tap choreography. Music of your choosing, but it must support your showing the steps learned in class, a sense of rhythm and your musicality.