

Iowa State University – Department of Kinesiology  
Dance 140 Jazz I Spring 2008 Course Syllabus

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## Course Description

The course will provide an overview through actively doing jazz dance techniques and movements from the ancient ancestry to the current vernacular trends of jazz dance.

## Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- Understand the aspects of dance technique and how they apply to efficiency of movement and injury prevention
- Increased ability in memorizing and physically performing movement sequences
- Increase or maintain flexibility and strength in relationship to dance.
- Increase awareness of the diverse nature of music and movement styles that are considered a part of this genre.
- Awareness of the history and multi-cultural derivations of jazz.

## Course and Instructional Format

The course will be taught as an activity course beginning at 12:40pm in room 196 of the Forker Building. The course ends at 1:50pm.

Activity wear is necessary. Leggings, shorts, sweat pants with a t-shirt are adequate. Leotards and tights with bare feet or shoes are recommended. Shoes are not required. Shoes if worn must be clean and only used for dance.

Short mini-lectures will be given after the warm-up during stretching.

**Keeping a journal is expected.** A short time daily will be given to journaling.

Make sure to drink water and have healthy snacks available.

## Suggested Textbook: Jump Into Jazz,

### **Special Needs:**

If you have a documented disability that may affect your ability to participate fully in the course or if you require special accommodations, you are encouraged to speak with the instructors so that appropriate accommodations can be arranged during the first week of class.

**Attendance is important to your success. Please be here and participate.**

**You receive one absence free. After that absence, each absence is a negative 10 points off the total of your 100 points. You can make-up a class by attending another session or going to an additional dance performance, viewing a video, or dance activity. Please write a short paragraph about the experience if it is not a class. There are no excused absences. You can make-up to 4 absences.**

Exam1 (20%)	Evaluation of technique portion of the course
Exam 2 (20%)	Evaluation of historic studies.
Critique (20%)	Students will respond in writing or creatively to a live dance event. One page or 5 minutes.
Group /individual Presentation (20%)	Students will work in pairs to explore the issues in dance and make a presentation to the class during the small group sessions during the second 3 weeks of the class. 5 points and three references. This can be a movement phrase with background presentation..
Exit paper or dance(20%)	A recap of the learning that the student acquired during the semester To be included in the journal. Journals are from recycled paper
All activities are check offs...	.You need all checks to pass the class.

Show up...see a show ... make a book ... give a talk... dance about freely for a lifetime.  
This is a pass-fail course.

#### Syllabus and Schedule – Dance 140 Jazz I

Week	Topics	Tuesday	Thursday	Historic Studies
1 2	Introductions	Authentic movement	Basic class structure	Africa. Broadway, line dance
3	Technique Landings	Back/ Feet/knees		Africa
4	Balancing and Turning			West Side Story
5	Leaping all the varieties			Cats to Chorus Line
6	Begin of presentations one daily..after warm-up			Chicago/ Fosse Charleston
7	Creating a phrase			Salsa/ Dirty Dancing
8	Floor work			Swing Dance
9	Evaluation of technique			

10	Break			
11	Vernacular dance Your signature in movement			
12	Rehearsal and performance techniques			Images of Dance April 20 5pm-7pm Foraker 196
13	What makes a great show?			Street Dance Steppin'
14	Giant Review			
15	Timeline in movement	Historic phrases		
16	Our class show Relaxation			
17	Finals Week		No class	

Yoga will be included in our daily warm-up. Isolations, poly rhythmic movement, turns and traveling across the floor with jumps will also be our daily work out.  
Historic studies and sequences will be reviewed daily with improvisational boogie down circles.  
Journaling and timeline collage will be part of the daily class also.