

## PDP DA 240 Modern, Low Intermediate

Instructor: DeAnna Pellecchia

Email: [deanna@bu.edu](mailto:deanna@bu.edu)

Meets twice per week: 1.0 Credit

**Dance Program Mission:** Our dance program provides students with technical, historical and compositional courses in multiple genres of dance designed to prepare and enhance their skills in communication, critical thinking and self-expression. Our curriculum choices offer multiple ways of investigating dance as a physical, aesthetic, intellectual and cultural practice. As part of *One BU / Recommendations for Accessing the Arts at BU*, we encourage our students to use their imaginative spirit to find opportunities to create innovative cross-discipline research and practice.

**Overview:** High Intermediate-level Modern Dance Technique is a fast-paced, exciting class that will push you to the next level in your dancing. The class focuses on building strength and endurance, working with weight, flow and suspension, exploring the opposing forces of stability/mobility, exertion/recuperation and internal connectivity/external expressivity, and finally developing musicality and artistry. Strong focus on head-tail connection and floor-work training through the practice of Capoeira; and spirals via Bartenieff Fundamentals. The focus of this class is on learning choreography; within that I like to call upon the full range of the dancer's artistry by exploring musicality, timing, performance skills, and concepts of stage presence drawn specifically from my study of Listening Strategies with Pauline Oliveros and One Thousand Voice with Paula Josa-Jones.

*\*Students are required to take at least one semester at the intermediate level before registering for advanced.*

### Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will develop a deeper understanding of proper body alignment in order to move the body in efficient and unique ways.
2. Students will focus on movement quality and nuances, dynamic musicality and initiation techniques to develop a wider range of vocabulary.
3. Students will demonstrate increased confidence in expression while honing in on their artistry.
4. Students will move through space fully with a strong understanding of the relationship between one's core, alignment and gravity.
5. Students will gain a better understanding and appreciation of what it means to be an artist.

## Requirements & Expectations:

**ATTENDANCE:** I will adhere strictly to the BU Dance Department's attendance policy. Students must have 90% attendance and are allowed no more than 3 absences per semester, medical and family emergencies notwithstanding. Full participation for the entire class is expected from all students; injured students may receive credit for observing class. Students who will be missing class, arriving late or leaving early for any reason should please notify me in advance.

### Standard Make-Up Options:

- Attend other credit dance classes taught by your instructor.
- Attend other credit dance classes after receiving permission from instructor.
- Attend dance performances approved by your instructor.
- Attend free End-of-Semester classes.
- Get written permission from Non-Credit Coordinator, Ramelle Adams, to attend non-credit dance class (2 business days' notice; fee required) NOTE: make-ups slips must be signed and provided to instructor or Micki Taylor-Pinney (slips on website).
- Please feel free to ask questions and/or make appointments for consultations with your instructor or with Micki Taylor-Pinney, Director of Dance, at (617) 353-1597 (mtaypin@bu.edu).

**PUNCTUALITY:** Classes begin promptly, typically with a warm-up. Accordingly, arriving more than 10 minutes late jeopardizes full immersion in the lesson. Students entering class beyond that time may not receive credit for the day. Please come on time and ready to dance.

### **ATTIRE:**

- Form fitted clothing requires (dance, aerobic or bike wear); supportive undergarments recommended- sports bras for women and athletic supporters or dance belts for men.
- Please, no gum or dangerous jewelry.
- Hair secured away from face.

**GRADES:** Students are graded Pass/Fail based on attendance, as described above. Incompletes may be given to students who exceed the maximum number of absences but agree to make up the classes during the following semester. Dance Minors will receive a letter grade indicative of their attendance, skill and improvement throughout the semester. (Note that these factors are directly correlated; good attendance leads to improvement and success.)

## Registering for class

All students must be registered for each dance course including audits and classes through the noncredit program.

- **Credit classes:** You register for the credit classes through the Student Link. Make sure you have sufficient credits available. Grade is Pass/Fail. There is an attendance policy.
- **Audited credit classes:** You must be registered through the credit program (Student Link) and your instructor must agree to allow you to audit the class. Make sure you have sufficient credits available. You will need the instructor to sign an Add/Drop slip which you must bring to the University Registrar's office. For your records, request a copy of Audit Form from University Registrar. You cannot change to an audit after the first five weeks of class. There is also a departmental form you need to fill out and either put in Micki Taylor-Pinney's mailbox outside L246 or bring to the 2nd floor PERD Suite. You will not receive a grade. This class will show up on your transcript as an AU. If it doesn't, contact the registrar.
- **Classes through noncredit program:** All the credit classes are cross-registered through the noncredit program. There are also noncredit classes that are not cross-registered. All noncredit classes have a fee; it is determined by the hours per week the class meets. The fee is payable to Boston University by check, cash or credit card. Go to [www.bu.edu/fitrec](http://www.bu.edu/fitrec) for fees and to register. You will not be on the instructor's credit class list. You will not receive a grade.

**Overloading:** If you are taking over 18 credits, you must get approval from the registrar in your college to avoid additional tuition fees.

**Cross-Registering from another University:** You must get permission from the Director of Dance; there is a fee required.

**Dropping a class:** If you drop a class, make sure that change is reflected on your schedule. It should be immediate. Neglecting this paperwork will result in a "MG" on your transcript. (An "MG" turns into a "W" or "F" depending on your college).

**Lockers:** Permanent lockers are available. All lockers are issued on a first come, first serve basis. Members use a Day Locker for free. See the staff at ProShop. Otherwise, bring your valuables into the studio.

**Units: TBD**