

**San José State University  
College of Humanities and the Arts**

**School of Music and Dance**

**Spring 201**

**Danc145A**

**Choreography I**

**Sections #1 (22869) and #2 (22870)**

**Course and Contact Information**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Fred Mathews
<b>Office Location:</b>	WSQ 104D
<b>Telephone:</b>	408-924-5044
<b>Email:</b>	Fred.Mathews@sjsu.edu
<b>Office Hours:</b>	MW 12:30-1:30
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	MW 13:30-15:20
<b>Classroom:</b>	WSQ 201
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	Danc 43, Dance Improvisation, Danc 75 Rhythm/Dynamics and Instructor Approval

**Course Description**

This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of choreography, the art of making dances.

**Textbook**

Blom, Lynne Anne and L. Tarin Chaplin. The Intimate Act of Choreography, PA: University of Pittsburgh Press, 1982.

**Recommended Reading**

Humphrey, Doris. The Art of Making Dances, Rhinehart and Winston, New York, 1960.

## Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

Upon the successful completion of this course the student will have a basic understanding of the following:

- Motif and development; the manipulation of a motif through repetition, retrograde, inversion, embellishment, incorporation, fragmentation, instrumentation and variation in plane, level, tempo, rhythm, force, quality, size, background or staging.
- Understanding of the elements of movement, phrasing, transition, sequencing, contrast climax and resolution
- Compositional forms.
- Sources of movement invention.

### Methods

- A. Lecture.
- B. Reading assignments.
- C. Presentation of movement studies for observations by class and instructor. *Make up assignments must be shown within one week of due date to receive credit. Late assignments lose credit unless reasons are documented.*
- D. Improvisation and other “in class” activities.
- E. Performance of selected movement studies during class on Feb. 22 and April 5.

## Classroom Protocol

No loose fitting attire. Hair must be secured neatly away from face.

All phones or other devices must remain stowed during class. If the class is interrupted by your cell phone, you will be asked to leave class and you will lose credit for that day’s work, which may not be made up.

Tardiness will result in loss of participation credit. A student missing more than two class meetings, for any reason, should meet with the instructor to discuss the viability of continuing the course. Students that are injured or unable to participate in class for other reasons should still attend the entire class if at all possible and take notes to be handed in at the end of the class. Any injured student who cannot participate in class more than twice will begin to lose daily credit. Tardiness will result in loss of credit.

## Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc.

[Information on add/drops are available at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-324.html](http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-324.html) .

[Information about late drop is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/](http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/) . Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.

## Assignments and Grading Policy

Based upon assignment studies (50%)\*, in class work, behavior, participation (10%), final solo (20%), final written exam (10%), performance in showings (5%), written work (5%). You must attend a Friday night performance and forum afterwards and submit a two-page paper on one of the concerts listed and below. Late papers lose 1 point daily.

94-100 = A	74-76 = C
93-90 = A-	70-73 = C-
87-89 = B+	67-69 = D+
84-86 = B	64-66 = D

80-83 = B-                      60-63 = D-  
77-79 = C+                      Below 60 = F

\*Each study is worth 5-10 points. Failure to participate in the incremental development of each study and in a timely way will result in loss of participation credit. Late studies will lose credit. The student has one week after due date to be graded.

Evaluation of classroom studies and the final project are based upon the following criteria:

Demonstrated understanding of principle(s) of theory.

4. Clear and consistent demonstration of understanding of relevant principle(s)
3. Good demonstration of understanding of relevant principle(s) with minimal inconsistencies
2. Fair demonstration of understanding of relevant principle(s)
1. Poor demonstration of understanding of relevant principle(s)

Quality of Performance (applies to classroom and open showings and improvisation)

4. Clear beginning and resolution of study with physical continuity in performance and consistent maintenance of concentration in the spirit of the content of the study or improvisation (appropriate bow in open showings)
3. Minor discrepancy in any one or two areas of the above
2. Major discrepancy in any one of the above
1. Major discrepancy in more than one of the above

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in [University Policy S12-3](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

NOTE that [University policy F69-24](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf> states that “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”

Note that “All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades.” See [University Policy F13-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf> for more details.

## **Outside Requirements**

Attendance of one of these two concerts and submission of a paper is a requirement for this course:

**[sjDANCEco On the Edge on Friday, Feb. 10](#)**

**or**

**[sjDANCEco Choreoproject on Friday, Mar. 17](#)**

You must remain for the forum afterwards.

*Final Project to be shown in class on Monday, May 15.*  
**FINAL EXAM (Written final and self evaluation of final project)**  
**Monday, May 22, from 12:15 – 14:30**

ATTENTION: All dance majors and minors must be formally declared. If you did not declare when you entered the university or have changed your major or minor to dance, you should do so immediately. The form is available at the SJSU web site and is called the “Change of Major/Minor” form.” Write "Registrar forms" in the search box at the top of the SJSU home page to access form.

## **University Policies**

### **Dropping and Adding**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester’s [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic\\_calendars/](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/). The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

### **Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material**

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor’s permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s written permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

### **Academic integrity**

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

### **Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible,

or see me during office hours. [Presidential Directive 97-03](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD\\_1997-03.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

### **Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays**

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See [University Policy S14-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf>.

### **SJSU Writing Center**

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook. (Note: You need to have a QR Reader to



scan this code.)

### **SJSU Counseling Services**

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit [Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

# Danc 145A/Choreography I/ Spring '17

## Course Schedule

List the agenda for the semester including when and where the final exam will be held. Indicate the schedule is subject to change with fair notice and how the notice will be made available.

### Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1		Study #1
2		
3		Study #2
4		
5		Study #3 Showing
6		
7		Study #4
8		
9		Study #5
10		Showing
11		Study #6
12		
13		Final Project
14		
15		
Final Exam	Wednesday May 23	Venue and Time WSQ 201 at 12:15