

Introduction to the Popular Music and Dances of Cuba for Teachers of K-12.

EdF595P-F01

2 credit Pass/ Fail

9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. MTWRF, U Park Gym

2 weeks Summer , 2008

Syllabus:

Instructor: Judy Kreith M.A. Dance Education

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Suggested Reading “ Cuba and It’s Music” by Ned Sublette

Course Description: This class will introduce the students to the popular music and dances of Cuba. These dances will include , Son, Mambo, Cha-cha-cha, Rumba, Salsa (casino style), Rueda de Casino, Salsa Suelta and Conga. These dances are fun and invigorating and offer springboards to teaching history, culture, teamwork, coordination, body awareness and musicality. Students develop respect for each other and gain a deeper respect and understanding of another culture by dancing together. Spanish words and phrases will be used throughout the class.

Course Goals: The students will develop a repertoire of Cuban Popular Dances. They will be able to distinguish the different rhythms for each of the dances. We will learn about the different instruments played in the various styles of music. We will also develop an understanding of the dynamics of dancing with a partner while maintaining the musical awareness of each different dance style. They will gain a historical perspective of the development of Popular Cuban Dances. The students will also incorporate some basic Spanish expressions and words into the dance vocabulary we will use to describe different dance sequences and movements. Developing the skills and methods to present and teach these dances and movements to their students in a clear, safe, fun and energetic manner will be a focus of the second section of the course.

Instructional Method: This is a movement class. We will dance and listen to music throughout most of every class. We will work both separately and with partners. While working with partners, we will rotate frequently to help facilitate the learning process. We will also trade off roles of lead and follow often so the students can feel confident in both these roles. One of our focuses will be on concepts of rhythm and musicality in each of the different dances. Through this class the students will gain a kinesthetic, auditory and intellectual understanding of the history and movement style of these dances. The students will also have the opportunity to teach each other about an element of the dances we will learn. Through teaching what they have learned the students will build skills and confidence in methods for sharing these dances with other students.

Clothing Requirements: A flowing and loose fitting skirt will be useful for sections of this class. For partner dancing clothing that is easy to move in, and that allows the instructor the ability to make body alignment corrections is recommended. Comfortable, light shoes are recommended. Shoes with a slight heel can be ideal for this style of dance.

Grading Policy:

This is designed as a two credit class.

Attendance and positive class participation	65%
Movement Exam	15%
Student Taught class	15%
Journal	5%
Pre- approved Extra Credit	5%

Course Calendar: Tentative

Day One) Introduce the history music and dance of Rumba and Son

Day Two) Review and Introduce Mambo

Day Three) Learn the rhythm and steps of Cha- cha- cha lecture of the history of Salsa Casino Style and Rueda de Casino.

Day Four) Introduce Salsa Suelta and Salsa Casino with partners.

Day Five) See a video of Cuban Style dancing. Introduce Salsa Rueda and Conga.

Journals are due.

Day Six) Focus on dynamics, style and musicality of Partner Dancing for Salsa Casino style and Rueda de Casino.

Day Seven) Review of all dances and styles.

Day Eight) History and Instruments utilized in Cuban Popular Music.

Day Nine) Dance Salsa Casino style and Rueda. Prepare for student instructed classes

Day Ten) Student instructed classes. Watch a short video. Wrap up and discussion.

Support Services: Instructor assistance available upon request.

Disability Services: The Office of Disability Services implements the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and insures that UAF students have equal access to the campus and course materials. We will work with the Office of Disabilities Services (203 WHIT, 474-7043) to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities.