COURSE OUTLINE: DANCE 171: INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Required Text: no text, students are required to enroll on Lynda.com for supplemental online tutorials.

Course Description:

This course serves as an introduction to digital technology. We will explore the elements of digital media and its cross platform applications. The goal is to gain a working knowledge and skill set of various software programs, digital media, and cross platform application and use these to manifest our creative/artistic aims. This class requires is a “learning by doing” attitude.

1. Objectives
At the successful completion of the course the student will understand, apply, and digitally manifest the following:

- Understand the concepts and terms related to digital media.
- Gain a working knowledge of various software tools. Among these are Adobe Photoshop, Adobe AfterEffects, Final Cut X, iWeb, iDVD.
- Maintain a commitment to learning by observing carefully, listening actively, asking pertinent questions, and providing peer feedback
- Maintain a sense of personal responsibility for learning by completing assignments on time and with thoroughness and clarity.
- Use “Blackboard” to stay current with class activities, learning tools, communications.

2. Teaching Strategies:

To enable student achievement of the learning goals, I will:

- Demonstrate, explain, analyze, and lead course assignments designed specifically to develop the skills required for achievement of learning goals;
- Observe your daily work in class and (a) orally assess your achievement of learning goals and (b) make recommendations for improvement in achieving learning goals;
- Provide opportunities for individual appointments in which we may discuss your learning efforts;
- Provide opportunities for you to assess your progress toward the actual achievement of the learning goals;
• Not every student will receive individual feedback during each class, but all students will receive individual feedback regularly throughout the course of the semester. Please remember-the way feedback is received has a direct relation to further attention: if the student demonstrates an aversion to feedback the odds of gaining further feedback are somewhat lessened.

3. **Grading and Evaluation:**

*Grading in this course is based, in part, on the visual evaluation of the students work; further, grading includes the successful completion of the following:*

The fundamental and ongoing assignments in this class are to:

• Attend to material presented, as well as to explanations and analyses of its specific components;
• Listen carefully to and apply all corrections and recommendations for improvement that I provide in class;
• Complete assignments on time and with thoroughness and clarity
• Artistic application of concepts and skills
• Use lab time in conjunction with tutorials to build additional skill sets.

4. **Subjects to be Covered**

• Creation and capture of digital “assets.”
• Manipulation of created and captured assets across various media
• Creation of original works using created and captured assets
• “Re-tasking” of assets across various media.

**Grading:**

I will assess your progress toward and your actual achievement of the learning goals through the assessment of skills as evidenced through course assignments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Photo Collage</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photo Col. Animation</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poster</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movie</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Project: Website</td>
<td>40</td>
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</tbody>
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**Attendance Policy:**

Attendance is expected in every class. There are only 2 allowed absences for the entire semester, regardless of the reason. The relationship between attendance and your final letter grade is as follows: 1/2 of a letter grade will be deducted for each absence incurred.
over the 2 maximum absences allowed for this class. IE: If your grade is a "B" at the end of the semester, but you have a total of 4 absences, your final grade will be a "C+". Students missing a total of more than 6 classes will receive a grade of no credit.

- A tardy arrival or early departure over 10 minutes will equate to 1/2 absence. Accruing two of these will equal one absence. Timely class arrival is strongly encouraged, and is critical to your participation, technical development, and professionalism and ability to complete the required coursework.
- Situations such as serious illness, long-term injury, or family emergencies may be dealt with on an individual basis. In some cases, students will be given an Incomplete to be made up within the next semester. In other cases, I may recommend withdrawal from the course.

**Additional Requirements and Information:**

I encourage you to ask relevant questions during class, but will not tolerate excessive chatting, socializing, or other distracting behavior. Class time needs to be reserved for refining and improving our craft and skills. **Please turn off or silence all cellular phones and other electronic devices. NO WEBBROWSING OR EMAIL DURING CLASS.**

**160 GB external hard drive: this will be used for all of your digital technology classes**

**Expectations of you as a Student:**
In addition to maintaining the above outlined expectations, I also request the following:

- To actively participate in class, work on corrections, practice and apply concepts and theories. Always strive to reach new capacities and discoveries!
- To ask questions if anything is unclear.
- To come to class and prepared to begin

**Expectations of me as your Instructor:**
To also maintain the above guidelines while sharing with you my knowledge and experiences as clearly as possible.
To be prepared for class and to provide you with clear and respectful feedback in verbal and visual forms.
To be available for you to approach me with any questions or concerns you might have regarding any aspects of this course, my teaching, or your progress.

**Instructors note:**
Although there are many ideas and skills to be learned in this class it should primarily be fun/playful/creative/exciting. A sense of personal aesthetic is strongly encouraged as are questions. Communication is desirable and essential.