TULANE
School of Liberal Arts
Department of Theatre & Dance

SPRING 2027 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

DANC 1920 Brazilian Dance

Experience Brazilian dance through movement, rhythm, live drumming, and Carnival culture. Students explore Samba, Samba Reggae, Capoeira, Afro-Brazilian dance, percussion, and other traditions while discovering their African diasporic roots. Connecting Brazilian Carnaval with New Orleans Mardi Gras, students examine shared traditions of rhythm, dance, procession, costuming, and community celebration. A highlight is the opportunity to participate in a New Orleans Mardi Gras parade, transforming the streets into a living laboratory for intercultural learning and cultural discovery.

DANC 1930 Ballet I

Ballet I is for beginners! No dance experience is required.

DANC 2010 Performance I

Performance I is an ensemble-based course (art as a team sport) around building community, collaboration, creative problem solving, and exploring your own identity and aesthetic. Become more comfortable speaking in public, moving your body, and exploring your creativity while getting to know your peers in a meaningful and fun way. If you want to be a lawyer, doctor, businessman , or educator sign up for Performance I because you will need command of your voice, creativity, and an understanding of yourself and body to be successful in many different fields. E-mail instructor for approval to register (Professor Jeffrey Gunshol: jgunshol@tulane.edu).

DANC 2100 Special Topics | Stepping & Body Percussion

An interdisciplinary movement course exploring rhythm, music, culture, and community through Stepping, body percussion, and House dance. Students develop coordination, musicality, improvisation, spatial awareness, and collaborative skills while engaging the cultural histories and contemporary practices of these forms. Through physical practice and creative exploration, students experience how rhythm and movement can cultivate communication, creativity, connection, and embodied expression. No prior dance experience required.

DANC 2520 Dance Composition II

This class is a continuation of Performance I and places an emphasis on movement invention and constructing solo and group choreography. It is all about diving deeply into creativity, expanding beliefs about what is possible, and finding new pathways to create.

DANC 2810 Tap Dance II

Tap II is a two-credit dance course that combines movement, rhythm, and musicality to deepen students' understanding of the rich legacy of American Vernacular Percussive Dance. Tap II engages the entire body--from head to toe--creating an exciting movement experience that strengthens coordination, musical awareness, physical expression, and cognitive development. Through rhythm, movement, and

creative exploration, students will develop a deeper appreciation for tap dance as both an art form and a powerful way of connecting body and brain.

DANC 2930 Ballet II
Did you take ballet when you were younger but need to brush up on the fundamentals? Are you accomplished in another style of dance, but your ballet technique needs refinement? Ballet II is for you!

DANC 2950 Jazz Dance II
Musical theatre emphasis.

DANC 2970 Contemporary Dance II
Contact Improvisation introduces students to a dynamic movement practice built around a thrilling proposition: learning how to fly, together. Grounded in weight-sharing, momentum, and kinesthetic listening, students learn to move safely and responsively with others, discovering new possibilities for lifting, falling, supporting, and being supported. Along the way, they build powerful tools for choreography and improvisation while experiencing the sheer joy of moving together. We'll also encounter Contact's theoretical and political dimensions, asking how gender, power, consent, embodied knowledge, and social interaction shape the ways we move collectively. By semester's end, students leave with a new physical vocabulary, and a different relationship to trust, risk, and their own body's capacity.

DANC 3240 US/Caribe Social Dance
Afro-Caribbean Social and Vernacular Dance is a vibrant 3-credit course where music, movement, culture, and learning come alive! Explore the rhythms and expressive dances of Haiti, Cuba, and New Orleans while discovering how Afro-Caribbean traditions have shaped music and dance in New Orleans and the United States. Dance your way into Culture!

DANC 3550 Laban Movement Studies
Movement is life! Study your personal movement style and preferences. Through movement experiences, observations, and theoretical discussions you will learn a system of analyzing human movement. The goal is to become a more expressive person and to access your maximum movement potential. Laban is a standard course for dance and theatre but has also been used in business, brain study research, and animation. Students must enjoy moving!

DANC 3800 Contemporary Dance III
Fall and Flow is an intermediate/advanced contemporary dance technique class built around moving with intention, curiosity, and momentum. Dancers develop strength, flexibility, coordination, and spatial awareness while expanding their capacity to move bigger, faster, softer, and more fluidly. The course builds physical and intellectual tools for engaging the complexity, rigor, and demands of contemporary dance practice.

DANC 3800 Contemporary Dance III
Our contemporary classes offer a wide range of techniques and styles influenced by the instructor's area of expertise. This section places an emphasis on release-based technique and floorwork. Each class culminates in music-driven, fluid, and athletic movement combinations.

DANC 3820 Ballet III
Intermediate classical ballet technique

DANC 4580 Dance Company
This class is for students who are cast in the dance concert. Students must also be registered in a technique class (any style of dance) during the semester.

DANC 4800 Contemporary Dance IV
Our contemporary classes offer a wide range of techniques and styles influenced by the instructor's area of expertise. This section places an emphasis on release-based technique and floorwork. Each class culminates in music-driven, fluid, and athletic movement combinations.

DANC 4800 Contemporary Dance IV
Fall and Flow is an intermediate/advanced contemporary dance technique class built around moving with intention, curiosity, and momentum. Dancers develop strength, flexibility, coordination, and spatial awareness while expanding their capacity to move bigger, faster, softer, and more fluidly. The course builds physical and intellectual tools for engaging the complexity, rigor, and demands of contemporary dance practice.

DANC 4810 Special Topics | Dance Condition. and Body Lab
Cross-training workouts for dancers combined with basic anatomy.

DANC 4811 Special Topics | Yoga of Action
This course offers an exploration of several aspects of yoga, including the physical asana practice, breathing techniques, meditation, mindfulness, and yoga philosophy. This class is best suited for students who have taken DANC 2500: Yoga: Fundamentals and Beyond, TIDES 1035: Intro to Yoga, or have previous yoga experience and are ready to dive deeper into yoga philosophy and desire to put the principles of yoga into action through service. For registration approval contact mcannon@tulane.edu.

DANC 4812 Special Topics | Black Dance in Popular Culture
Black Dance in Popular Culture: Rhythm, Movement & American Identity traces the history and evolution of Black American dance through rhythm, movement, and percussive practice, from the Ring Shout and Congo Square to vernacular jazz, tap dance, Stepping, Broadway, television, film, and concert dance. Students examine how Black dance traditions have preserved history, shaped popular culture, and influenced generations of artists. Through performance, music, film, and archival materials, students explore dance as both artistic expression and a living archive of Black American history.

DANC 4820 Ballet IV
Advanced classical ballet with optional pointe work.

DANC 6553 Philanthropy/Soc. Change
Through real-time, experiential grantmaking with New Orleans performing arts organizations, students collectively award $10,000 over the semester, first as grant seekers, then as grant makers. Paired with a community partner for 20 hours of service-learning, students explore nonprofit management, the ethics of resource allocation, and the sector's role in civil society, developing practical skills in complex problem-solving, advocacy, and community engagement. Due to the high volume of interest, registration

for this course is by application only. Please complete this form for consideration - https://forms.gle/fkEJsFdvQdKtJ7sE6

THEA 1020 Theatre in Contemporary Society

This class surveys the history of theatre and develops an appreciation for live performance. Students attend productions and engage with both how theatre is created and how it affects society. The focus will be on the various collaborative disciplines of theatrical production--acting, directing, and design--and readings will introduce the historical contexts of theatre from ancient traditions to contemporary genres. Students will attend live performances and write responses applying course concepts.

THEA 1090 Voice I

Use your voice more sustainably and easily. The class explores the elementals of breath, movement and connection in performance - either on stage, a studio, in a courtroom or in front of a class. A perfect class for singers, dancers, actors, athletes, lawyers, doctors, teachers and business leaders to develop greater presence and connection to self and others.

THEA 2010 Performance I

Performance I is an ensemble-based course (art as a team sport) around building community, collaboration, creative problem solving, and exploring your own identity and aesthetic. Become more comfortable speaking in public, moving your body, and exploring your creativity while getting to know your peers in a meaningful and fun way. If you want to be a lawyer, doctor, businessman , or educator sign up for Performance I because you will need command of your voice, creativity, and an understanding of yourself and body to be successful in many different fields. E-mail instructor for approval to register (Professor Jeffrey Gunshol: jgunshol@tulane.edu).

THEA 2090 Voice II

Pre-requisite(s): THEA 1090, or instructor permission. Building on the vocabulary and exercises explored in Voice 1, Voice 2 explores more complex text, scene work, and group performance. This class will give you greater confidence and competence with rhetorical forms, approaching a speech or text, greater physical partner and group work, and will help you prepare for auditions, interviews and presentations. Excellent for anyone working in a leadership role.

THEA 2100 Fundamentals of Acting

What makes someone compelling to watch- and how do you learn to do it? Fundamentals of Acting is a hands-on introduction to acting built around playing, experimenting, and learning by doing. Through theatre games, improvisation, scenes, and monologues, you'll explore how actors create believable characters, respond in the moment, and tell stories for an audience. Along the way, you'll practice life skills such as public speaking, communication, collaboration, creativity, confidence, and being fully present with other people. Come ready to participate, take some risks, and most importantly- play.

THEA 2110 Acting I

For students with some previous performance experience or pre-majors. This class helps students develop and expand their potential as actors with exercises and assignments designed to tap into the actors' intuition and hone their ability to act on impulse. Individual and group work will include physical and vocal exercises to increase expressive capabilities and presence, improvisation exercises designed

to enhance imagination and spontaneity, as well as an introduction to text analysis. Students will learn a working vocabulary of theatre terms and apply fundamental acting skills in individual performance and scene study using contemporary dramatic texts. This course is the first in a progression including Acting II, Acting III, and Acting IV.

THEA 2910 Special Topics | Stage Makeup

Discover how makeup can completely change the way a face is perceived. Learn the fundamentals of makeup design, contouring, color, and application while experimenting with techniques that create everything from subtle character changes to dramatic theatrical illusions!

THEA 3030 Suzuki Method of Acting

What does it take to truly command the stage--with your entire body and voice?
The Suzuki Method of Acting offers rigorous, physically demanding training designed to develop presence, concentration, grounded-ness, and expressive power.
Through the internationally renowned method developed by theatre director Tadashi Suzuki, you'll explore a precise movement vocabulary centered on the lower body, physical energy, balance, breath, voice, and text.
Your instructor, a former member of Tadashi Suzuki's theatre company, brings direct experience with the training and its theatrical practice.
Through intensive ensemble training, physical and vocal exercises, text work, performance, and reflection, you'll challenge yourself to move and speak with greater specificity, clarity, and intention, and discover new possibilities for how an actor can inhabit and command the stage.

THEA 3110 Text Analysis - Dir & Actors

This course guides students through practical, structural, and interpretive text analyses. Students will apply techniques to analyze plays in preparation for performance and production. Through creative and analytic assignments, they will demonstrate effective methods for building characters and developing directorial concepts.

THEA 3311 Scene Shop Practicum

Students must complete 4 hours of Scene Shop Practicum per week. Students will coordinate their weekly schedule directly with the instructor based on their availability and production needs. Hours may be scheduled on different days and at different times throughout the term. Contact the department for further details.

THEA 3312 Costume Shop Practicum

Costume Practicum will be working on Wardrobe for a department production. You must be available for the entire tech/dress period and all performances. This typically entails evenings and weekends for a period of 10-12 days. See department for more details.

THEA 3313 Running Crew Practicum

If you wish to be on a running crew (set, light board, sound board) you must be available for the entire tech/dress period and all performances. This typically entails evenings and weekends for a period of 10-

12 days depending upon the production. Times and dates have yet to be set. See department for further details.

THEA 3314 Box Office Practicum
Box Office Practicum requires flexible evening and weekend time commitments to meet the required number of hours. Register for course in department.

THEA 3315 Acting Practicum
Students cast in the upcoming musical may register for this course in the department.

THEA 3315 Acting Practicum
For students cast in department production of "Numb" for Spring 2027. Once cast, students can come to the main office to receive enrollment approval.

THEA 3910 Special Topics | Act Like a Doctor
This course introduces you to techniques and processes from the world of theatre which will serve you in your future career as a medical professional. The course will expand your expressive capabilities, hone your listening skills, enhance your ability to respond in the moment and work collaboratively with others- all key skills for health care providers. You will learn to identify your communication style strengths and mitigate challenges. Theatre games, team building exercises, scripted and improvised scenarios, mock interviews and patient interactions, will serve to enhance your communication skills and prepare you for the medical school application process and your future career as a health care provider.

THEA 3911 Special Topics in Theatre | Entry to Creative Industries
This is strictly for upper division students - rising and graduating seniors only. This class helps students create their own path and enter the creative industries. Using several models for career building, group exercises, guest speakers, & journaling assignments, each student develops their own plan for their creative career journey. Bring your open heart, curiosity, your favorite things to do, and your strongest creative mindset to start forging your post-graduation life.

THEA 3920 Special Topics | Act Like a Lawyer
This class provides theatre techniques that provide skills to follow the logic of an argument, tell a better story, use rhetoric effectively, have dynamic presence in the room, and engage with audiences effectively. These skills translate into a job interview, a courtroom, a hearing, a pitch session and in your writing and test taking. Using theatre and somatic training, connect more to others and yourself.

THEA 3921 Special Topics | Fashion Styling
Celebrities on red carpets and models in fashion spreads look effortlessly stunning. But have you ever wondered what work goes in to making them look that way? How do teams of people come together to make a person look perfect? In this class, you will explore the world of the fashion stylist: how to research and present style ideas and how to realize those ideas through fittings and alterations. You will participate in a mix of research and hands on projects and learn some sewing skills in the process.

THEA 4010 Acting III
Pre-requisite: THEA 3010. This advanced acting class focuses on developing creativity, connection, and "actor instincts" within the boundaries and confines of a particular period or style. This semester we will

focus on Shakespeare on Stage. Our goal is to demystify and decode Shakespeare's text and language. We will explore and discover how to use scansion, verse, and prose, and then use and apply those tools to individual monologue work and partnered scene study. This course centers on making Shakespeare make sense to the actor - so that Shakespeare makes sense to an audience. We will read and watch a lot of Shakespeare plays/performances. We will discuss and articulate great performances and then analyze why we think they are great. We are going to discuss dramaturgy and context. We are also going to retain and expand upon the acting craft and skills developed and built upon in Acting 1 and 2.

THEA 4210 Documentary Theatre

Mandatory 20-hour service learning component THEA 4890-01. No prior performance experience required. Class meets in both 104 and 301 McWilliams. How do we turn real interviews with brain and spinal cord injury survivors into live performance with care, creativity, and respect? In Documentary Theatre, you'll work with classmates from across disciplines to create an original performance piece based on interviews with people living within the brain injury community - including caregivers, clinicians, and survivors. You'll interview, research, select and shape material, devise and rehearse an original work, and perform it at the Brain Injury Association of Louisiana's annual conference. Students must be available for performance on the first Saturday of Spring Break (March 20, 2027).

THEA 4750 African American Theatre History

This course is a chronological examination of African American theater history from 1821 to the present. We begin by looking at the ideological construction of the ideas of both "America" and who qualifies (or counts as) "American." Then we will consider the construction of the idea "Blackness" within America. And then we will place those ideas within the framework of "performance" and theatre as a money-making capital industry.

We will recontextualize and rediscover Black American playwrights who have been erased from traditional (and non-traditional) American education canons and then explore the motivations and politics behind those absences. We will read plays and examine the contestation for the writing and performance of Black identity in America, and then we will ask who separated African American Theatre History from American Theatre History, how that happened, and why such a separation exists.

THEA 4900 Special Topics | Advanced Character Design

What do Mermaids, Warriors, and a Royal Court have in common? They're all part of the creative worlds you'll bring to life in Advanced Character Design! This semester, you'll take your design skills to the next level by creating imaginative and evocative characters.

THEA 6110 Acting For Other Media

This course introduces the basics of acting on camera, preparing the student for entry level work in television and film. Professional discipline, collaboration, and on-camera skills are emphasized.

THEA 6552 Performing Arts Management

Want a career in the performing arts without being the one in the spotlight? Discover the people and careers that make theatre, dance, music, and live entertainment happen. Explore artist management and representation, producing, marketing, touring, venues, ticketing, budgets, contracts, and more. Learn

how agents and managers build artists' careers, how shows get produced and promoted, and how arts organizations thrive. Whether you want to manage talent, produce shows, or run an organization, discover where you fit behind the scenes.

THEA 6910 Special Topics | Video Design

Projections, LED screens, TVs, and live feed cameras have become favorite tools of theatre and dance artists around the world. This course is an introduction to the world of video design for theatre in all its forms. Half of the class periods will be focused on the artistry of storytelling through video - when it can enhance, and when it can detract. The other half will focus on technology and building the basic skills to incorporate video into your projects. There will be plenty of opportunities for hands-on experience with video tools including projection mapping, live video feed routing, and much more.