Hello Prospective Students!

This orientation letter provides basic information about the above online sections. They begin Monday, February 9 and end Thursday, June 4. Students enrolling for the sections will need to check in by 11:00 PM on the first day of class, February 9 and complete the first day and first week of assignments in order not to be dropped from the class.

I. Pertinent Information

A. An online class is time intensive. Students must be able to check in a minimum of daily or every other day for updates and new assignments. Students should also have the time to spend one to two hours per assignment as well as time to thoroughly read the text. Typically, there will be three to five or more assignments per week not including the reading.

B. Please also note also that these sections of Dance Appreciation include mandatory attendance at a live professional dance concert and reading the entire text of Appreciating Dance by Harriet Lihs (4th edition). Without completing these requirements, it may be difficult to succeed in the class.

C. The course uses 90% = A as a grading scale and students are graded based upon their individual work and participation in the class rather than on a class curve.

D. Students who enroll for these sections should ensure that their device utilized to access Blackboard provides consistent access to the Internet. Students should have access to mycanyons email and be able to submit simple Microsoft Word attachments. Zip files and other formats will not be accepted.
E. It is assumed that students enrolled in the sections are comfortable using the Internet, can attach files and can also find and research information online and note references.

F. Students who need technical assistance as opposed to class content assistance should access the tutorial section on the College of the Canyons Distance Learning Webpage www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/ and look under Student Support.

II. **Dance Appreciation**

**Student Learning Outcome:**

A. Analyze the contributions of important choreographers and choreographies which had a specific influence on the development of ballet, modern, jazz, cultural, musical theatre and tap styles of dance.

**Course Objectives:**

Define ballet, modern and jazz dance terminology utilized in dance technique.

Compare and contrast different dance styles.

Trace the development of ballet, modern dance, jazz, social and musical theatre, and tap style of dance.

Explain the key elements of different styles of cultural dance.

Explain current trends in dance.

Text: *Appreciating Dance* by Harriet R. Lihs (4th edition)

The book is available for purchase at the COC Bookstore. It can also be rented from the bookstore. Please make sure you have access to the book by the end of the first week (February 13)

III. **CLASS REQUIREMENTS**

A. Once the session has started, students should contact me through the Blackboard Website Messaging Center. To send Messages, Go to your Course Tools. Under Course tools, you should see Course Messages. Please
click on Course Messages to send a message. I will try to answer Messages as soon as possible. If there are questions about an assignment, please contact me well in advance of the assignment due date.

B. Most of the assignments for our class will be posted either in the Assignment Page or on the Discussion Board. Students should make sure they know how to use these features.

C. There are always a large number of students in class. Given this, student assignment grades are posted much later after assignment due dates.

D. In case there is a need to re-submit assignments, it is best for students to keep all of their assignments with their name and the dates written on them so that they have proof of assignment completion.

IV. SPECIFIC ASSIGNMENTS
All assignments disappear after the due dates. No late assignments are accepted therefore it is important that students note assignment submission dates.

Assignment Overview (Subject to Change)

1. Check In/Hello- Discussion Board Response to Classmates
2. Syllabus Test
3. Chapter 1 (Appreciating Dance Textbook)
4. What does dance mean to me?
5. Ballet
   - Chapter 4
   - Boys in Ballet
   - Ballet and Basketball

I. Modern
   - Chapter 5
   - Chapter 8
   - Jordy’s Locker

II. Social Dance/Tap
   - Chapter 3
   - Chapter 6

III. Cultural Dance
   - Chapter 2
   - Cultural Dance Videos

IV. Hip-hop Dance
V.  Friend/Family Interview

VI.  Dance Performance Critique Paper/Summary Assignment

V.  FINAL EXAM

The Final Exam includes attendance at a professional live dance concert. You must attend the COC Dance concert which will take place in the Black Box Theatre in the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center May 14-16. If for some reason, you cannot attend this concert, it is your responsibility to attend another dance concert between the dates of May 7-16 and get it approved in advance of attending.

Critique questions and guidelines for writing the Concert paper will be provided in the assignment page and more information regarding the Concert requirement will appear in the official syllabus for the class. Students that have questions about the class prior to the beginning of the class may contact me through campus mail. However once class begins, students should use the Blackboard Message Link. Please be aware The Dance Concert Critique represents 100 points and students not attending the COC dance will forfeit these points.

VI.  EVALUATION

Again as noted, this class utilizes a grading score of 90% = A. Below 50% = Fail.
All assignments are awarded points. Points are based upon quality and detail in completing the assignment.

To receive the maximum points for an assignments,
1. Students must answer questions correctly from the text.
2. Students must follow instructions and if noted in the assignment instructions, provide references and documentation.
3. For Discussion Board and Blog Assignments, students must post and respond to classmates as instructed in the assignments.

Also assignments that answer the questions in detail, use complete sentences and correct spelling, answer the addressed question and show participation in the class will receive the highest points. Assignments should not appear to be completed at the last minute.
Although students may work with family and friends who are also enrolled in the course, copying verbatim from a student or directly from a book or Internet source without providing references is considered cheating and or plagiarism.

Also when answering from online sources, please do not paste in the answers.

DSP&S

DSP&S provides accommodations to its students’ contingent upon documentation on the type of disability the student has. The purpose of accommodations is to provide "otherwise qualified" students with disabilities the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge in their studies. If you need assistance please contact the DSPS office or website:

I look forward to introducing you to Dance Appreciation. See you in class!!!!