

## **Undergraduate Teaching Assistants for Lecture or Studio classes Syllabus**

### **Pre-Requisites**

#### **Dance 100/Lecture Course:**

- must be of Senior standing in the Dance Department Curriculum.
- Must have taken Teaching Workshop.

#### **Studio Courses:**

- Must be Junior or Senior Standing in the Dance Department.
- Must have taken Teaching Workshop.
- demonstrate advanced level skills in the area they will assist.

### **Rationale**

Working as a Teaching Assistant in Dance Department courses, allows undergraduate students to experience and practice many aspects of teaching while under close supervision by a faculty member.

### **Description**

Teaching Assistants assist the teacher with class set up – taking attendance, setting up media equipment, arranging classroom, etc. The Teaching Assistant will serve as a role model for engaged learning - leading exercises, fully demonstrating and providing corrections and comments in studio classes and assisting in discussions in lecture classes. The Teaching Assistant will also prepare and present small portions of the lecture and or movement activities under close supervision of the teacher. Studio TAs will teach a minimum of one full class, and maximum of 2 classes under the supervision of the teacher.

### **Objectives**

By the end of this course you will be able to:

#### **Studio Courses:**

- present demonstrations of movement exercises with clarity and confidence,
- deliver verbal and hands on corrections based on in-depth observation of individual alignment/movement issues,
- Present movement material/improvisation scores accurately and efficiently,
- Sequence movement activities effectively to create a safe and dynamic warm-up,
- Invent and present movement activities (improvisation or technical exercises) based on concepts such as performance, alignment, use of space, time, energy, musicality, etc.

#### **Non-Studio Courses:**

- Present portions of lectures
- Conduct group discussions on a topic – prepare questions, spontaneously respond to the class, develop in-class writing assignments

## **Grading**

Criteria for grading of the Teaching Assistant are based on the level of achievement of the objectives of the Teaching Assistantship. Absences will lower the final grade accordingly.

## **Attendance**

As a role model, daily, concentrated participation as a Teaching Assistant is expected. Excessive absences will be reflected in the final grade. The maximum number of absences that will be permitted without the grade being lowered is as follows:

Classes meeting 3 days per week - 3 absences

Classes meeting 2 days per week - 2 absences

Classes meeting 1 day per week - 1 absence

This includes absences due to illness and injuries.

## **Grading/Attendance Policy**

- In 2/3 time per week classes, every third absence will lower the student's earned grade one full letter (A- to B-, C to D, etc.). A grade may be lowered a partial step (B to B-, B- to C+, etc.) for absences in between every third absence at the discretion of the teacher,
- In once weekly classes, the second absence, and each and every subsequent individual absence, will each lower the earned grade one full letter (A- to B-, C to D, etc.)

## **Tardy**

The Teaching Assistant serves as a role model so arriving late for class or leaving early is not tolerated. This will be considered 1 absence.