

UMBC UGC Change in Existing Course: DANC 290 Independent Projects in Choreography

Date Submitted: 3/4/20

Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2020

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COURSE INFORMATION: (please provide all information in the “current” column, and only the information changing in the “proposed” column)

change		current	proposed
X	Course Number(s)	DANC 290	DANC 335
X	Formal Title	Independent Projects in Choreography	Projects in Choreography
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transcript Title (≤30c)	Indep Projects Choreography	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recommended Course Preparation		
X	Prerequisite NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a “D” or better.	DANC 230	DANC 310 and DANC 330
<input type="checkbox"/>	# of Credits Must adhere to the UMBC Credit Hour Policy	1	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeatable?	X Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	X Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	Max. Total Credits	3	3 Max. Total Credits: This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a third time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grading Method(s)	X Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail	X Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail

CURRENT CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

DANC 290 - Independent Projects in Choreography

(1.00)

Required for dance majors. Students will choreograph an original group work, usually 3-5 minutes in length, for public presentation. This course is repeatable for a maximum of 3 credits or 3 attempts.

Course ID: 53158

Consent: No Special Consent Required

Components: Independent Study

Prerequisite/Corequisite: You must complete [DANC 230](#) with a C or better

PROPOSED CATALOG

DESCRIPTION (Approximately 75 words in length. Please use full sentences): leave blank if no changes are being proposed to the catalog description. NOTE: information about prerequisites should NOT appear in the catalog description.)

DANC 335 - Projects in Choreography

(1.00)

Required for dance majors. Each student will choreograph an original group work, usually 5-8 minutes in length, for an informal public presentation. Students complete the process of creating a dance piece from formulating a proposal for the work, conducting an audition, scheduling, preparing for, and conducting rehearsals, choosing music, and formulating a costume concept. This course is repeatable for a maximum of 3 credits or 3 attempts.

Course ID: 53158

Consent: Consent Required

Components: Independent Study

Prerequisite/Corequisite: You must complete DANC 230, DANC 330 and DANC 310 with a C or better.

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE:

Course Number Change: The proposed change in prerequisite (DANC 310 and DANC 330) warrants a change in course number. Both the new prerequisites and the course number communicate the intended rigor of the course. See Prerequisites and Corequisites below.

Formal Title Change: Years ago DANC 290 was a lower level independent study course requiring minimal meetings with a faculty mentor. Over the years, the format has shifted to be part classroom lecture and discussion, and part independent work. Students meet as a class to learn about, to discuss, and to critique their work in progress. Students do their choreographic work independently in their own scheduled rehearsals.

Prerequisites and Corequisites: The dance faculty find that the current prerequisite (DANC 230 Improvisation) is not sufficiently rigorous for students who are engaging in the process of choreographing an independent work. Without a first course in dance composition, students do not yet have the choreographic tools to be able to create work that shows some sophistication in both concept and process. Some students decide to wait until they have completed DANC 330 Dance Composition I before they take DANC 290, and we have observed that these students create better work than those who enter the course with only the current prerequisite. Listing DANC 230 and DANC 310 Intermediate Contemporary Dance Techniques I as prerequisites seems unnecessary because DANC 230 and 310 already are required for DANC 330. We list it here, too, because transfer students sometimes enter UMBC with a Dance Composition course on their transcript, but may not have taken an Improvisation course, nor risen to the Intermediate level of Contemporary Dance Technique.

The new course number, DANC 335, reflects the increased rigor that can be required when all students enter the course with a higher level of skill and a strong background in both physical practice and creative practice. We are committed to raising expectations regarding the level of work in DANC 335 in order to better prepare students for the even more rigorous choreography component of the capstone course, DANC 475 Senior Projects.

Repeatability: This course is repeatable so that students can have the opportunity to choose to hone their craft further, and would benefit from increased work and exploration. A repeat of this course would result in deeper work, especially for those students who might need additional experience in choreography.