



**ARTS**



World Arts  
and Cultures / Dance



**VERSA-STYLE**  
Performance • Education • Community

## **UCLA Hip Hop/Street Dance Summer Institute: SYLLABUS**

**Course Number: Dance 174A**

**Units: 2**

### **Overview**

The UCLA Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance's Hip Hop/Street Dance Summer Institute is a newly revamped, award-winning seven-day program for dedicated, hard-working students interested in taking their artistic abilities to the next level through an immersive Hip Hop and street dance culture experience. The program integrates multiple focuses in street dance technique, choreography and freestyle, and through a community building framework offers access for students to a college-level Hip Hop and street dance learning environment. The program serves a diverse mix of young artists from Los Angeles, the greater state of California and beyond. It is offered by The UCLA Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance (WACD), in partnership with UCLA Summer Sessions and Versa-Style: Performance • Education • Community, an operating non-profit organization dedicated to empowering young artists through Hip Hop and street dance learning.

This program carries two quarter units of Pass/No Pass UC credit. Students will be officially enrolled into course number Dance 174A in UCLA's Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance. Students will be engaged in a learning process that assists them in taking their street dance technique and choreographic/freestyle abilities to the next level. They will not only be learning from and rehearsing with working professional dancers/artists, but they will be learning how to create their own work with new tools and approaches. We hope that this process helps students make valuable, substantial contributions to their various arts communities now and in the future.

### **Classes**

#### **Popping/Locking**

The first modern-day street dances, Popping/Locking will focus on dance styles from the 1970s. Students will be learning from internationally renowned competitor, Ernesto "Precise" Galarza. Students will learn the technique, foundation and history behind these dances, as well as how they led to what we now know as Hip Hop dance.

### **Composition**

Taught by WACD Lecturer Jackie “Miss Funk” Lopez, this class will prepare students for participation in a college-level dance course. Students will be using their prior dance knowledge to create their own works of movement, while also learning how to watch, analyze and articulate their observations of various dance choreographies.

### **Hip Hop**

This class will be taught by Allison Gray. She is highly experienced in concert dance and dance industry communities, bringing her 10+ years of experience to a course that will explore Hip Hop in all its various forms. From social dances, to choreography to freestyle, this class will expand and strengthen students’ readiness to enter the world of dance after high school.

### **Freestyle**

Led by WACD Lecturer Leigh “Breeze-Lee” Foaad, this course will introduce students to the concept of “freestyle” where dancers move one at a time, creating spontaneously in a “cypher” (dance circle) setting. Scaffolded for first-time freestylers, this course will strengthen students’ improvisation skills within a street dance context.

### **House**

Taught by the program’s Director, Harry “Fullout” Weston, this class educates students on the little known but often misrepresented history and technique of house dance. A multi-layered dance culture that spans decades and stretches across the country, this course will introduce students to what is often a brand new dance style through a community building lens.

### **West African Dance**

Led by acclaimed choreographer and dancer Wilfried “Willy” Souly, this guest class will dive into the roots and origins of Hip Hop and street dance culture. Students will learn cultural dances and even simple songs from West Africa in an across-the-floor format. Students will learn various cultural customs of these dance forms as well, such as call and response.

### **Salsa**

Led by seasoned professional Jannet Galdamez, this class will also dive into the roots and origins of Hip Hop and street dance culture, but from the Latin dance perspective. Students will learn dances such as Salsa, learning about the social aspect of these cultural movements. Steps from this class will also be performed at the program’s culminating performance.

### **Other Courses**

Throughout the week, students will also take a course with WACD Lecturers on Hip Hop history and learn about creative writing through a poetry lens. Additionally, students will participate in community building exercises that will guide students in thinking about dance after high school. Their options, opportunities and possibilities, ranging from the dance industry, to dance in college, to dance for the stage, to the myriad of possibilities in

teaching. Students will hear from seasoned professionals and be given the opportunity to think critically and explore with each other the next steps in their dance careers.

### **Objectives**

- Students learn movement fundamentals, foundation, and vocabulary of Hip Hop dance, as well as street dances such as locking, popping and house
- Students learn the cultural history behind each dance style they learn
- Students are welcomed into global culture of freestyle dance through solo and partner work, as well an introduction to the “cypher” and how it builds community
- Students create community in the classroom setting alongside and in collaboration with Faculty
- Students leave program more prepared for dance after high school, through their technique, critical thinking/creative abilities and in their career knowledge and aspirations
- Students are introduced to various music genres associated with street dance cultures

### **National Core Standards in Dance Addressed:**

- DA:Cr1.1.HS.I
  - a. Explore a variety of stimuli for sourcing movement to develop an improvisational or choreographed dance study. Analyze the process and the relationship between the stimuli and the movement.
  - b. Experiment with the elements of dance to explore personal movement preferences and strengths, and select movements that challenge skills and build on strengths in an original dance study or dance.
- DA:Cr2.1.HS.I
  - a. Collaborate to design a dance using choreographic devices and dance structures to support an artistic intent. Explain how the dance structures clarify the artistic intent.
  - b. Develop an artistic statement for an original dance study or dance. Discuss how the use of movement elements, choreographic devices and dance structures serve to communicate the artistic statement.
- DA:Pr4.1.HS.I
  - a. Develop partner and ensemble skills that enable contrasting level changes through lifts, balances, or other means while maintaining a sense of spatial design and relationship. Use space intentionally during phrases and through transitions between phrases. Establish and break relationships with others as appropriate to the choreography.
  - b. Use syncopation and accent movements related to different tempi. Take rhythmic cues from different aspects of accompaniment. Integrate breath phrasing with metric and kinesthetic phrasing.
  - c. Connect energy and dynamics to movements by applying them in and through all parts of the body. Develop total body awareness so that movement phrases demonstrate variances of energy and dynamics.

- DA:Re9.1.HS.I
  - a. Analyze the artistic expression of a dance. Discuss insights using evaluative criteria and dance terminology.
- DA:Cn11.1.HS.I
  - a. Analyze and discuss dances from selected genres or styles and/or historical time periods, and formulate reasons for the similarities and differences between them in relation to the ideas and perspectives of the peoples from which the dances originate.