



SOUTHWEST UNIVERSITY “NEOPHYT OF RILSKI” – BLAGOEVGRAD

FACULTY OF THE ARTS

DEPARTMENT

“CHOREOGRAPHY”

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INFORMATIONAL PACKAGE

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Community (ECTC)**

SPECIALTY CHOREOGRAPHIC DIRECTION

MASTER'S PROGRAM

**Form on training – regularly 2
semesters**

Direction – Musical and dance art

Professional qualification – Choreographer-director

Qualification characteristic

Graduates of the master's degree program "*Choreographic Directing*" are prepared for:

- artistic and creative activity in the realization of productions and choreographic performances;
- management of specialized institutions for dance art – professional and amateur ensembles, schools and dance academies, clubs, etc.;
- teaching activity at different levels of the educational system in Bulgaria;
- expert, supervisory, and administrative activity related to the art of dance in the fields of culture and education;
- professional work in modern conditions in the field of choreography.

Graduates of the master's degree program "*Choreographic Directing*" acquire professional skills for:

- creation of choreographic works and performances;
- application of theoretically and practically mastered knowledge and skills in specific artistic, creative, and managerial activities;
- adaptability in accordance with the dynamics of changes in the professional realization of the choreographer-director;
- creative application of modern ideas and trends in the work of the choreographer-director.

Those who have acquired the professional qualification "*choreographer-director*" possess established competencies related to:

- mastery of achievements in modern theory and practice in the field of choreographic directing;
- practical skills that contribute to building an effective directing technique;
- professional skills for creative realization and leadership of artistic and creative ensembles.

The training of the specialist is structured on several levels:

a) **Scientific-theoretical preparation**, which includes:

- mastering the methods of choreographic directing;
- acquiring knowledge in the field of choreography dramaturgy and music;
- acquiring knowledge of traditional ritual practices;
- acquiring knowledge of contemporary interpretations.

b) **Specialized preparation**, which includes:

- creation of librettos and scenario plans for stage performances;
- collaboration with a composer;
- collaboration with a set designer;

- creation and directing of stage performances.

c) **Practical training**, which includes the preparation and realization of choreographic performances.

Structure of the curriculum

The program builds on the knowledge and skills already acquired in the bachelor's degree and follows modern principles for their intensive development and improvement, with the aim of successful application in practice.

The educational content is developed in three main directions:

1. The first direction provides for expanding and deepening students' knowledge in the field of the studied fundamental choreographic-theoretical disciplines, which form them as specialists in choreographic art.
2. The second direction aims at specialized training in mastering achievements in contemporary theory and practice in the field of choreographic directing, as well as in developing practical skills that contribute to building an optimal directing technique.
3. The third direction involves the development of skills for scientific research, teamwork, and project implementation.

The presented curriculum is based on the principle of consistency in the accumulation of choreographic-theoretical and specialized practical knowledge, skills, and competencies.

STRUCTURE ON EDUCATIONAL PLAN

| First year | | | |
|---|---------------------|---|---------------------|
| First semester | ECTS credits | Second semester | ECTS credits |
| Choreographic directing - I part | 10.0 | Choreographic directing - Part II | 6.0 |
| Interpretation of traditional ritual | 4.0 | Libretto and scripted plan in choreography | 3.0 |
| Principles on the field work | 4.0 | Scenography of the choreographic spectacle | 3.0 |
| Staging and interpretation of a choreographic work | 4.0 | Selectable educational discipline | 3.0 |
| Dramaturgy in the choreography | 4.0 | State exam or thesis defense | 15.0 |
| Selectable educational discipline | 4.0 | | |
| Elective disciplines from I group (the students choose one discipline) | | Elective disciplines from II group (students choose one disciplines) | |
| History on the art of choreography | 4.0 | Styles and genres in choreography | 3.0 |
| Work with folklore sources | 4.0 | Organization and project development | 3.0 |
| | | | |
| Dramaturgy in the music | 4.0 | Choreographic criticism | 3.0 |
| | Total: 30 | | Total: 30 |

TOTAL FOR 1 EDUCATIONAL YEAR: 60 CREDITS

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

CHOREOGRAPHIC DIRECTION (CONTEMPORARY CHOREOGRAPHY) - PART

I

ECTS credits: 10.0

Weekly timetable: 4l+0s+0lu+2pu+r Knowledge assessment form: current assessment

Type on exam: Practical

Semester: I

Methodical guide: Department of Choreography Faculty by The Arts

Lecturers: Prof. Dr. Sci. Anelia Yaneva, department Choreography phone: 073588501, E-mail: art@swu.bg

Abstract: The course CHOREOGRAPHIC DIRECTION (MODERN CHOREOGRAPHY) is aimed at presenting the basic methodological and theoretical principles of choreographic direction and their practical application in story-based works. In the first part of the training, students are encouraged to create a choreographic work based on a literary source – a fable, a story, or a novel. In the second part of the training, students are encouraged to choreograph a work of their own choice.

Contents of the discipline: In the lecture course, students learn how to write a libretto based on a literary work. In the exercises, their ideas are practically realized in choreographic movements. The lecture course covers topics such as: the emergence of the plot idea and its shaping in the libretto as a literary exposition; analysis of the libretto; theme and idea; arrangement of images and characters; choreographic dramaturgical construction; the choreographer's directorial plan, etc. The exercises include practical classes for creating a choreographic text and spatial composition in the most complex plot-dramatic form of dance.

Teaching and assessment technology: The course of study is designed to provide the necessary knowledge for students, to develop their practical skills, and to form professional competencies both in the discipline studied and in the specialty in which the student is trained. The assessment of each educational course has the goal of establishing the level of student achievement in accordance with the goals, objectives, and expected results. The exam consists of a written essay and the practical realization of part of a thematic or plot-based dramaturgical dance.

CHOREOGRAPHIC DIRECTION (BULGARIAN FOLK CHOREOGRAPHY) - I PART

ECTS credits: 10.0

Weekly hours: 4l+0s+0l+2p+p

Form of knowledge assessment: current assessment

Type of exam: practical

Semester: I

Methodical guide: Department of Choreography Faculty by The Arts

Lecturers: prof. N. Tsvetkov, Assoc. Prof. PhD Mr. Garov, department Choreography phone: 073588501, E- mail: art@swu.bg

Abstract: *Choreographic Direction*, as an academic discipline and a creative specialty within the professional field *Musical and Dance Art*, has as its main goal the training and education of students as creative professionals in the field of choreographic direction and the optimal development of their creative abilities.

Contents of the discipline: The course is aimed at presenting the basic methodological and theoretical principles of choreographic direction and their application in practice. Students acquire and creatively realize both small and large, thematic and plot-based forms of dance.

Teaching and assessment technology: The lecture course covers topics such as: the emergence of the plot idea and its shaping in the libretto as a literary exposition; analysis of the libretto; theme and idea; arrangement of characters and images; choreographic dramaturgical construction; the choreographer's directorial plan, etc. The exercises include practical classes for creating a choreographic text and spatial composition in the most complex plot-dramatic forms of dance. The exam consists of a written paper and the practical realization of a part of a thematic or plot-dramatic dance.

INTERPRETATION OF TRADITIONAL RITUALITY

ECTS credits: 4.0

Weekly hours: 2l+0s+0l+1p+p

Form of knowledge assessment: ongoing assessment

Type on exam: Practical

Semester: I

Methodical Management: Department of Choreography Faculty of Arts

Lecturers: prof. N. Tsvetkov, Assoc. Dr. G. Garov, cathedra Choreography tel: 073588501, E-mail: art@swu.bg

Abstract: Students study the principles and rules of form-building in Bulgarian dance folklore. During the learning process, they develop their improvisational and creative abilities. They create choreographic texts and compositional solutions for the interpretation of ritual actions.

Contents of the discipline: The course is aimed at introducing students to the forms and structures of Bulgarian dance folklore and at developing improvisational skills through the creation of variations from different ethnographic regions.

Teaching and assessment technology: The lecture course *Interpretation of Traditional Rituals* includes: the study of the dramaturgy of ritual actions, their interpretation through choreographic solutions, and related topics. In the exercises, students develop their improvisational skills by creating variations and new developments on different dance themes from traditional rituals. The exam consists of a written essay and practical implementation – creating a choreographic text for the interpretation of ritual actions, compositional solutions and choreographic text for ritual symbols, and stage interpretation of a traditional ritual.

PRINCIPLES ON THE FIELD WORK

ECTS credits: 4.0

Weekly hours: 2l+0s+0l+1p+p Form of knowledge assessment: ongoing assessment

Type on exam: Practical

Semester: I

Methodical guide: Department of Choreography Faculty by The Arts Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Georgi Garov, department Choreography phone: 073588501, E-mail: art@swu.bg

Abstract: Field folklore studies are of significant importance for anthropology, ethnology, folklore studies, and related scientific disciplines, as well as for the development of specialized cultural fields connected to folklore (choreography, music, literature, visual arts, etc.). There is a direct relationship between theoretical views on folklore and the material documented in the field. An important role is played by methods of field research – observation (including participant observation), different types of interviews, stationary study, detailed recording, complex expeditions, and visual anthropology (video and photographic documentation).

Contents of the discipline: The course is aimed at providing students with basic knowledge and preparation for fieldwork, which will support them in the search for and adequate interpretation of traditional folklore, as well as in their overall development as specialists.

Teaching and assessment technology: The lecture course includes: the necessity of studying folklore and the goals of its documentation; fieldwork methodology; questionnaires; etc. The exam consists of a written paper based on a proposed synopsis.

STAGE And INTERPRETATION ON CHOREOGRAPHIC PRODUCTION

ECTS credits: 4.0

Weekly hours: 2l+0s+0l+1p+p Form of knowledge assessment: ongoing assessment

Type on exam: Practical

Semester: I

Methodical guide: Department of Choreography Faculty by The Arts

Lecturers: prof. N. Tsvetkov, Assoc. Dr. G. Garov, cathedra Choreography tel: 073588501, E-mail: art@swu.bg

Abstract: Students study the principles, methods, and techniques for staging and interpreting a choreographic work and performance. They master the constructive rules of composition and their application in various dance forms and productions. During the training process, students develop their creative and improvisational abilities for working with performers.

Contents of the discipline: The course is aimed at mastering the principles and methods of staging a choreographic work (dance or performance), developing creative and improvisational skills for working with performers, and mastering the constructive principles of mise-en-scène composition and their application in various dance forms and performances.

Teaching and assessment technology: The lecture course *Performance and Interpretation of a Choreographic Work* includes the study of the main components of the artistic work and the choreographic performance. In the exercises, students prepare and present a choreographic performance. The exam consists of a written paper and the practical staging of a choreographic work.

DRAMATURGY IN THE CHOREOGRAPHY

ECTS credits: 4.0

Weekly hours: 3l+0s+0l+0p+r

Form of knowledge assessment: ongoing assessment

Type of exam: Practical

Semester: I

Methodical guide:

Department of Choreography, Faculty of Arts Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Sci. Anelia Yaneva,
Department of Choreography Phone: 073588501, E-mail: art@swu.bg

Abstract: The discipline *Dramaturgy in Choreography* examines the main components of choreographic art – exposition, connection, development of the action, climax, and denouement. Similar structural units are identified in dramatic theatre and in music, as well as the essential distinctions between their construction and that of choreographic art.

Contents of the discipline:

- Assimilation of the main structural elements of choreographic art: exposition, connection, development, climax, and denouement.
- Identification of similar or distinctive techniques compared to dramatic theatre and music.

Teaching and assessment technology: The lecture course includes the study of the structure of the choreographic work, approaches to dramaturgy in choreography, and the artistic design of the choreographic work. The exam consists of a written paper based on a proposed synopsis.

CHOREOGRAPHIC DIRECTION (CONTEMPORARY CHOREOGRAPHY) – PART II

ECTS credits: 6.0

Weekly hours: 2l+0s+0l+4p+p

Form of knowledge assessment: ongoing assessment

Type of exam: Practical

Semester: II

Methodical guide: Department of Choreography, Faculty of Arts

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Sci. Anelia Yaneva, Department of Choreography Phone: 073588501, E-mail: art@swu.bg

Abstract: The course presents the basic methodological and theoretical principles of

choreographic direction and their practical application in story-based works. In the second part of the training, students are challenged to stage a choreographic work based on a dramatic work – tragedy or comedy.

Teaching and assessment technology: In the lecture course, students learn how to write a libretto based on a literary work. In the exercises, their ideas are practically realized in choreographic movements. The practical classes during this semester are entirely devoted to the preparation and work on the students' diploma thesis. The exam consists of a written paper and the practical implementation of a thematic, plot-based, or story-based dramatic dance as a completed choreographic work.

CHOREOGRAPHIC DIRECTION (Bulgarian folk choreography) - II Part

Knowledge assessment form: ongoing assessment

Type of exam: Practical

Semester: II

Methodical guide: Department of Choreography, Faculty of Arts

Lecturers: Prof. N. Tsvetkov, Assoc. Dr. G. Garov Phone: 073588501, E-mail: art@swu.bg

Abstract: Students acquire the principles of choreographic text composition and spatial composition in the most complex plot-dramatic forms of dance.

Contents of the discipline: The course introduces students to the principles, characteristics, and potential challenges of choreographic composition and direction. It stimulates creative thinking and prepares students for independent development and staging of choreographic performances.

Teaching and assessment technology: The lecture course covers topics related to the composition of story dances and the principles of staging story dance performances. The exercises include practical classes for creating a choreographic text and spatial composition in complex dramatic dance forms. The practical sessions during the semester are fully devoted to the preparation and work on the students' diploma thesis. The exam consists of a written paper and the practical realization of a thematic, plot-based, or story-based dramatic dance as a completed choreographic work.

LIBRETTO AND SCRIPT PLAN IN THE CHOREOGRAPHY

ECTS credits: 3.0

Weekly hours: 3l+0s+0l+0p+r

Form of knowledge assessment: ongoing assessment

Type of exam: Practical

Semester: II

Methodical guide:

Department of Choreography, Faculty of Arts

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Sci. Anelia Yaneva, Department of Choreography

Phone: 073588501, E-mail: art@swu.bg

Abstract: The discipline *Libretto and Script Plan in Choreography* examines the connection of the choreographic work with dramatic theatre. It studies the construction of a choreographic libretto according to the principles of dramatic theatre – exposition, development, climax, and resolution.

Contents of the discipline: The course focuses on the construction of choreographic librettos from different sources.

Teaching and assessment technology: The lecture course includes: building a choreographic libretto according to the principles of dramatic theatre; creating a libretto based on a literary work; creating a libretto without an initial literary source; and the fundamental differences between a libretto and a script. The exam consists of a written paper based on a proposed outline.

SCENERY ON CHOREOGRAPHIC SPECTACLE

ECTS credits: 3.0

Weekly hours: 2l+0s+0l+1p+p

Form of knowledge assessment: ongoing assessment

Type of exam: Practical

Semester: II

Methodical guide: Faculty of Arts, Department of Fine Arts

Lecturer: Senior Lecturer Maria Onteva

Abstract: The discipline includes the study of processes and methods for creating stage, film, and television scenography; the design and realization of stage and film costumes; the design and creation of props, weapons, and other special components that contribute to the overall

visual and spatial-plastic image of scenography, with a focus on choreographic productions.

Contents of the discipline: Students acquire basic knowledge of the design and creation of stage sets, and of the choreographer-director's role in the stages of their realization. The same applies to the design and creation of stage and film costumes.

Teaching and assessment technology: The lecture course covers: the history of costume from Ancient Egypt to the present; the history of Bulgarian costume; a historical overview of the development of scenography in theatre, concert halls, and cinema, etc. The exam consists of a written essay on a pre-set topic.

Electives disciplines:

HISTORY ON THE CHOREOGRAPHIC ART

ECTS credits: 4.0

Weekly hours: 3l+0s+0l+0p+r

Form of knowledge assessment: ongoing assessment

Type of exam: Practical

Semester: I

Methodical guide: Department of Choreography, Faculty of Arts

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Sci. Anelia Yaneva, Department of Choreography

Phone: 073588501, E-mail: art@swu.bg

Abstract: The discipline *History of Choreography* examines the diverse possibilities of choreography. After focusing on the main periods of choreography in ancient civilizations, the lecture course explores in detail 20th-century choreography, highlighting its greater diversity of dance forms and opportunities for innovation.

Contents of the discipline: The course is directed toward the study of the historical stages in the development of choreographic art, discovering similarities and continuities from the history of choreography up to the present day.

Teaching and assessment technology: The lecture course covers topics such as the distinctive features of different dance types, pantomime, ballet, and the principles and differences between choreographic approaches across the centuries. The exam consists of a written paper based on

a proposed synopsis.

WORK With FOLKLORE SOURCES

ECTS credits: 4.0

Weekly hours: 2l+0s+0l+1p+p

Form of knowledge assessment: ongoing assessment

Type of exam: Practical

Semester: I

Methodical guide: Department of Choreography Faculty by The Arts

Lecturers: Prof. N. Tsvetkov, Assoc. Prof. Dr. G. Garov, cathedra Choreography tel: 073588501, E- mail: art@swu.bg

Abstract: The discipline is important for both research and the creative process, serving as a condition for accumulating empirical data that complements personal records and observations. It requires knowledge of existing folklore sources – both archives and living traditional dance patterns – and their stage interpretation, processing, and methods of adaptation.

Contents of the discipline: The course is aimed at acquiring basic knowledge and preparation for working with folklore sources, as well as developing skills in using folklore materials.

Teaching and assessment technology:

The lecture course covers topics on processing, interpreting, and archiving field materials, as well as methods of using and citing archival sources. The exam consists of a written paper based on a proposed synopsis.

DRAMATURGY In THE MUSIC

ECTS credits: 4.0

Weekly hours: 3l+0s+0l+0p+r

Form of knowledge assessment: ongoing assessment

Type of exam: Practical

Semester: I

Methodical guide: Department of Choreography Faculty by The Arts

Lecturers: Prof. Dr. Rumen Poterov, department Music. 073588501, Email: art@swu.bg

Abstract: Students study the principles of the interrelation between music and choreography.

The course examines the main means of expression in music, the structure of musical form, the functions of its parts, and their relationship with choreographic form.

Contents of the discipline: The course provides basic knowledge of the distinctive features of musical art, its means of expression, and the structure and function of musical forms.

Teaching and assessment technology: The lecture course *Dramaturgy in Music* includes a detailed study of large-scale thematic structures in music and their connection with the compositional structure of choreography. The exam consists of a written paper based on a proposed synopsis.

STYLES And GENRES In THE CHOREOGRAPHY

ECTS credits: 3.0

Weekly hours: 3l+0s+0l+0p+r

Form of knowledge assessment: ongoing assessment

Type of exam: Practical

Semester: II

Methodical guide: Department of Choreography, Faculty of Arts

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Sci. Anelia Yaneva, Department of Choreography

Phone: 073588501, E-mail: art@swu.bg

Abstract: The discipline *Styles and Genres in Choreography* analyzes the main stylistic trends in choreographic art. Distinctive features are identified to group developmental stages not chronologically, but according to shared characteristics. Particular attention is given to 20th-century choreography due to its stylistic and genre diversity.

Contents of the discipline: The course is aimed at acquiring basic knowledge for tracing the stages of formation and consolidation of stylistic trends and genre features in dance art, mastering their development, and identifying continuities from historical choreography to the present day.

Teaching and assessment technology: The lecture course covers: synthetic dance forms in antiquity, the Middle Ages and Renaissance; Romantic ballet and classical interpretations of Romantic ballet; Impressionism in choreography; and the relationship between choreography and theatre. The exam consists of a written paper based on a proposed synopsis.

ORGANIZATION And DEVELOPMENT ON PROJECT

ECTS credits: 3.0

Weekly hours: 2l+0s+0l+1p+p

Form of knowledge assessment: ongoing assessment

Type of exam: Practical

Semester: II

Methodical guide: Faculty of Economics

Lecturer: Assoc. Dr. Ivan Todorov

Abstract: The development and implementation of project work is fundamental for modern scientific research, applied science, and civic activities. It is essential for government departments, non-governmental organizations, and for realizing scientific and artistic ideas. Students acquire skills in preparing projects in line with foundation requirements, planning their implementation within deadlines, and reporting results and financial use accurately.

Contents of the discipline: The course provides basic knowledge for project work, preparing students as choreographers to:

- acquire skills to set clear goals, define scope, and structure project stages;
- stimulate proactive artistic development, combining stage creation with the ability to design and secure project funding for their ideas.

Teaching and assessment technology: The lecture course covers the necessity of project development in the modern era, teamwork skills, realistic planning, and accurate reporting of project activities. Students prepare for independent project creation and implementation. The exam consists of a written paper based on a proposed synopsis.

CHOREOGRAPHIC CRITICISM

ECTS credits: 3.0

Weekly hours: 1l+0s+0l+2p+p

Form of knowledge assessment: ongoing assessment

Type of exam: Practical

Semester: II

Methodical guide: Department of Choreography Faculty by The Arts

Lecturers: Prof. Dr. Sci. Anelia Yaneva, department Choreography phone: 073588501, E-mail: art@swu.bg

Abstract: The discipline *Choreographic Criticism* develops students' skills in observing and analyzing: the structure of choreographic performances; the relationship between musical and dance forms; conflict construction; character interactions and their expressiveness; and the artistic shaping of a work. Students conduct both oral and written analyses of selected works.

Contents of the discipline: The course is aimed at mastering the fundamental requirements for writing texts related to choreography, while identifying techniques and principles from different historical stages up to the present day.

Teaching and assessment technology: The lecture course includes the study of varieties and structural units in dance and choreographic works, as well as analysis and comparison of principles, approaches, techniques, and methods used across centuries. The exam consists of a written paper based on a proposed synopsis.