DANC 111 World Dance Observation Sheet

Student Name: _____   **Date:** _____

For these observations, don't "name names." You are not "spying" or "tattling" on peers, you are observing classroom behavior so you can better understand how it contributes to learning and overall atmosphere of learning.

International dance

1. Observe student behavior when a dance is called for review. Identify the types of behaviors you notice. Which are productive to learning?

2. Observe student behavior when dances are taught for the first time, for instances of active engagement during instruction: when students pay attention, when they practice actively and productively (as opposed to listlessly going through the motions). What is productive to learning?

3. Observe for instances when students are **actively engaged in information-gathering**: when they ask questions (of the professor, of each other), answer questions (of the professor, of each other), seek information (looking in the book or cue sheets), or other behavior.

4. Observe for instances when students disengage from class (i.e., talk unnecessarily, doodle, "space out").

5. Observe for instances when students do not seek information when it seems to be needed (are passive, wait for others to figure things out then follow, seem clueless).

6. Identify evidence of students who are **participating in class completely** (mentally, physically, emotionally).

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Social and ballroom dance

1. Observe a few couples on the dance floor and watch for what makes a good couple. Describe the **frames** of the leaders and the followers, including hand, elbow, and shoulder positioning. Identify what is correct and what needs to be corrected (shoulder, upper arm, elbow, forearm, and hand).

2. Watch for **proximity** (distance) in relation to one another (too close or too far apart). What do you notice?

3. Identify whether the **follower shows trust** in the lead, or if the follower seem to be "backleading" or anticipating the next move.

4. Identify whether the **leader** seem to be giving clear non-verbal **direction** to the follower, and how.

5. Describe the **foot positioning** of the leads and follows: are feet pointing straight forward (parallel) and are the leads and follows both using the feet correctly (smooth transfer of weight, weight in ball of foot, etc.)?

6. Identify what you notice about couples who are using correct **rhythm**.