DANCE APPRECIATION
DNCE 1300

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Designed to develop an awareness and appreciation of dance in its artistic, social, and cultural contexts through an overview of the aesthetic and critical dimensions of viewing and creating various dance idioms. Offers a variety of dance experiences, including the viewing of dance in live and video formats, reading and writing about dance, and experiencing selected dance movements from various dance genres. Explores the relationship of dance to other art forms. This course satisfies the University of Texas at Arlington core curriculum requirement in Creative Arts.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
1. Recognize, interpret, and evaluate themes present in dance performances and creative processes.
2. Demonstrate and develop oral and visual communication skills through participation in class activities.
3. Synthesize multiple viewpoints in a collaborative environment to identify diverse themes in dance.
4. Interpret dance in its social and cultural contexts to develop civic-minded and engaged individuals.

THECB CORE CURRICULUM OBJECTIVES:
1. Critical Thinking Skills: to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information;
2. Communication Skills: to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication;
3. Teamwork: to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal;
4. Social Responsibility: to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities.

SAMPLE TEXTBOOK:
Learning about Dance: Dance as an Art Form & Entertainment, 6th Ed. by Nora Ambrosio.

SIGNATURE ASSIGNMENTS:
The following assignments (among others) will be used to assess the student's level of achievement of the THECB Core Curriculum Objectives:
1. Group Presentation: Each student will be a part of a group orally presenting on a contemporary issue in dance chosen from a list provided by the instructor of the course. (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Teamwork, Social Responsibility)
   Assignment Details: In a group of peers, students will curate and orally/visually present a dance concert of recorded professional dance works that represent one contemporary issue in dance. Examples of contemporary issues include but are not limited to: Dance as Activism, Performance
of Gender and Sexuality, Disability and Body Diversity, Dance as Spectacle, Dance with Science and Technology.

**Learning Outcomes:**
- Recognize, interpret, and evaluate themes present in dance performances and creative processes.
- Demonstrate and develop oral and visual communication skills through participation in class activities.
- Synthesize multiple viewpoints in a collaborative environment to identify diverse themes in dance.
- Interpret dance in its social and cultural contexts to develop civic-minded and engaged individuals.

2. **Analysis Paper:** Each student will write a formal essay analyzing her or his group presentation topic in relation to live and recorded viewings of dance performances. *(Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Social Responsibility)*

**Assignment Details:**
Analysis Paper: Students will further analyze assigned contemporary issue in dance through a 2-3 page written reflection. In addition to data collected for group presentations, students are required to view a live dance concert and connect her or his viewing of one live dance work to the theme explored in analysis paper.

**Learning Outcomes:**
- Recognize, interpret, and evaluate themes present in dance performances and creative processes.
- Demonstrate and develop oral and visual communication skills through participation in class activities.
- Interpret dance in its social and cultural contexts to develop civic-minded and engaged individuals.

**Attendance:** At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator in student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I have chosen to take attendance, and all elements cited in the following attendance policy are crucial to student success in this course: Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class, either by the instructor or via a student sign-in sheet. Each student is allowed TWO FREE absences. A large portion of your final grade will be based on attendance and in-class participation. You will be allowed to make up missed work (excluding class participation points) if a doctor’s note or excuse for a university-sponsored activity is presented no later than one week after the absence. An emergency or extended illness will be dealt with on an individual basis. Please contact me with questions or concerns.

However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients “begin attendance in a course.” UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.
**Other Requirements:** You will need regular access to Blackboard via the Internet and will need to make sure your computer is updated regularly; otherwise you may have problems submitting assignments. You will need basic computer skills to access, view, and complete assignments.

**Grading:** Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels; see “Student Support Services” below.

**Grading Scheme:**
A = 90% & above | B = 80-89.9% | C = 70-79.9% | D = 60-69.9% | F = 59%-below

**Method of Evaluation:**
Your grade will be determined by your performance in the following areas:
- Attendance & Participation – 40%
- Essays and Movement Practice – 25%
- Group Presentation (signature assignment) – 15%
- Analysis Paper (signature assignment) – 15%
- Attendance at Maverick Dance Company’s semester concert - 5%

**Grading Scale:** Daily participation grades are on a 10-point scale

**A 9-10** The student demonstrates a clear ability to understand and articulate the concepts presented, has thoroughly mastered the subject, displays marked initiative and exhibits intellectual curiosity. The student shows a full range of skills including knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation.

**B 8-8.9** The student has fulfilled the requirements and has achieved excellence in all aspects of the work including complete attentiveness, accuracy of knowledge, independence, creativity, and critical thought. The student demonstrates most levels of skills including knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation.

**C 7-7.9** The student shows evidence of knowledge about the subjects and is able to analyze concepts. However, this student takes very little initiative or leadership in his or her learning and does not show full attention throughout the entire class.

**D 6-6.9** The student takes very little initiative or leadership in learning and is consistently unprepared or unaware of concepts. She or he is consistently disruptive and shares little energy with the class as a whole.

**F <6** The student has failed to demonstrate knowledge, application, analysis, synthesis and evaluation of any of the class subject matter or concepts. This student has failed to acquire or retain skills specific to class material, takes no initiative or leadership in learning and is closed to the subject matter.

**Expectations:**

1. Participation: To make the course more exciting and to encourage student interaction, we will be utilizing a variety of instructional formats including class discussion, small group discussion and essay, lecture, reading and viewing, and movement experience. You will be expected to be involved with the
class by attentively listening, actively participating in discussions, and exploring short movement exercises.

2. Attendance: Regular attendance in class is required and of primary importance. Class attendance is essential because group discussions and movement practices cannot be replicated outside of class. Films shown in class are NOT in the library. Every three unexcused absences will lower your final grade by 10%. You get two free absences.

3. Class Environment: It is expected that you will be respectful and tolerant of each of your colleagues in this class. A multitude of topics and images will be presented in class that may cause discomfort and may reflect one’s life, familial, cultural, or religious experiences. The topics presented are not meant to offend, but to engage and honor differing viewpoints both in the class and in the art world. When engaging in class discussions, it is important to be mindful of how our words and body language can impact others. This is also a general life skill that will serve you outside of the academic setting.

4. Movement Practice: (during class times, dates to be announced) - You will be expected to actively participate during these times. Advance notice will be given for labs as they may be held in another building. Please dress comfortably. Wear shoes or sandals that will stay on your feet during walking, kicking, jumping. You will be expected to take notes, as essay questions will include reflection on movement practices.

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (http://www.uta.edu/aao/fao/).

Disability Accommodations: UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD): www.uta.edu/disability or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability.
Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS): www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

Non-Discrimination Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos.

Title IX Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or jmhood@uta.edu.

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System Regents’ Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at https://www.uta.edu/conduct/.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php.

Campus Carry: Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/.
**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students’ anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit [http://www.uta.edu/sfs](http://www.uta.edu/sfs).

**Final Review Week:** For semester-long courses, a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located in the classroom space. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

**Student Support Services:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at [http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php).

**The IDEAS Center** (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers free tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email IDEAS@uta.edu or call (817) 272-6593.

**The English Writing Center (411LIBR):** [Optional.] The Writing Center Offers free tutoring in 20-, 40-, or 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Our hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mon.-Thurs., 9 am-3 pm Fri. and Noon-6 pm Sat. and Sun. Register and make appointments online at [http://uta.mywconline.com](http://uta.mywconline.com). Classroom Visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students are also available. Please see [www.uta.edu/owl](http://www.uta.edu/owl) for detailed information on all our programs and services.
The Library’s 2nd floor Academic Plaza offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library’s hours of operation. [http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza](http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza)

**Library & Research Assistance:** University-level research requires university-level sources. Contact the Library for personalized help in navigating research resources and locating the sources you need.

- **Librarian:** Your librarian is Diane Shepelwich, dianec@uta.edu. If you need help getting started with your research or have questions along the way, contact Diane for personalized assistance.
- **Research Coach:** Research Coaches are UTA students trained to help you frame your research questions, develop search strategies, understand citation styles, and select and evaluate relevant resources, [http://libguides.uta.edu/researchcoach](http://libguides.uta.edu/researchcoach)
- **Library Staff:** Find library staff at the Service Zone, Central Library first floor, or at the branch libraries, by phone at (817) 272-3395, by text at (817) 727-8395, email at AskUs@uta.edu, or chat on the library’s homepage, [http://library.uta.edu/](http://library.uta.edu/)
- **Research Consultation:** To set an appointment to meet with your librarian or research coach, [http://library.uta.edu/form/appointment-request-form](http://library.uta.edu/form/appointment-request-form)
- **Research Guides:** For a list of useful guides to help you start your research, visit: [http://libguides.uta.edu/](http://libguides.uta.edu/)

**SAMPLE SEMESTER SCHEDULE:**

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