

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY FACULTY OF ARTS SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS DNCE 205 INTRODUCTION TO CONTEMPORARY DANCE II Winter 2020

Instructor Office Email Office Hours	Heather Ware heather.ware@ucalgary.ca By appointment
Day(s),time(s) and location of Class	Monday & Wednesday 14.00-15.50 KNA AUX March 18,23,30,6,8,& 15 via ZOOM online 14.00-15.50 March 25 & April 1- work on own creative assignments
Learning resources: required readings, textbooks and materials	None required
Supplementary fees	This course requires a mandatory supplementary fee of \$117 payable at registration
Prerequisites	DNCE 201
Course description	Introductory study of the techniques of contemporary dance II.
Out of class activities	 Students are required to attend 2 contemporary dance performances during the session. After March 13, video links of contemporary dance performances will be made available to the students to watch and review (see assessment components for further requirements.) Rehearsal for final assignment as needed.

Course overview

This is an introductory technique class, aiming at building the dancers physical awareness as well as gaining an (experiential) perspective on the possibilities of contemporary dance, and the role which dance can play within today's society.

The class starts with understanding natural human movement patterns, and focuses on the ability to co-ordinate and conversely deconstruct the body's natural co-ordination. The movement combinations are created to trigger the connection between fantasy and body and to understand the different muscle tensions possible within our movement. Anchored in contemporary dance technique there is focus on weight and momentum, moving in and out of the floor, and finding a balance between release and stability. We will progress through a series of simple repetitive exercises into more complex combinations that move upside down and in and out of the floor.

The classwork will aim to awaken our senses, enlivening both internal and external awareness.

Writing and class discussions aim to help students connect the embodied work to the world around them and find practical applications for the class principles in their daily lives.

Since the onset of moving this course online, the class will also include a large component of creative movement assignments, including working in partners and using creativity to find new uses of space. New creative tasks will be brought into the classwork as we together discover how to implement dance technique into a more than ever digital world.

Course learning outcomes

Through completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1.) Move through the world with a developed awareness and understanding of their bodies
- 2.) Demonstrate basic knowledge of contemporary dance technique
- 3.) Have an appreciation of the range of physical and expressive possibilities within the field of contemporary dance
- 4.) Extend their knowledge of contemporary dance through a series of introductory performance analysis and through an introduction to basic creative / choreographic studies
- 5.) Have a wider appreciation of the role dance can play within a functioning society
- 6.) Have a series of tools which can help them implement dance as a form of creativity and self-care into their daily lives

Course schedule Physical classwork: January: 13,15,20,22,27,29 February: 3,5,10,12,24,26 March: 2,4,9,11,25,30 April: 1,6,8 Individual preparation for mid term assignment: assignment: March 16 Mid-term assignment (in-class presentation & self-evaluation): March 18 & 23 Final assignment (in-class presentation): April 13 & 15 Mid-term break (no-classes): February 17,19 **Revised schedule:** Physical classwork: January: 13,15,20,22,27,29 February: 3,5,10,12,24,26 March: 2,4,9,11 Classwork via ZOOM online: March 18,23,30 April 6,8,15 Individual Assignments: March 25 April 1,13 Final assignment (in-class presentation): April 8 Final writing assignment due: April 15 Mid-term break (no-classes): February 17,19

Assessment components

This is a pass/fail course. To achieve a pass you must FULLY complete all of the requirements below:

Assignment 1: Attendance and participation

Assessment Method: Evaluated over the entire course session

<u>Description:</u> FULL participation is required through the entire class time; you must arrive on time, dressed to dance, having reviewed previous class material. Your pre-class preparation should include a warmup of focus, mobilization, and strengthening and stretching activities. All students must bring a water bottle, and working barefoot is recommended. Students are expected to notify the teacher of any injuries which may result in limited (physical) participation and solutions will be sought together with the teacher.

Students are expected to explore all material deeply and intelligently, and join in class discussions, fulfil all class assignments and contribute to the collective learning environment. As the course content is cumulative, more than **four (4)** missed classes will result in failure to pass the course. Non-participation through any part of class can be assessed as 1/2 an absence (this includes late arrivals or early departures); i.e. 2 such classes are equivalent to a full absence.

After March 13, all students are expected to be present and engaged via the online classes, or submit video material on time to meet deadlines of the days in which you are working on own assignments.

Assignment 2: Performance Review

Value: Must be completed to receive a PASS

Due Date: Within 5 days of having attended the performance(s)

<u>Description</u>: All students are required to select and attend 2 contemporary dance performances during the session, submit the ticket stub(s), and write a short (300 word) response to the work(s). Response should include why you selected this performance, why you consider it to be a contemporary dance performance, and should attempt to place the work in relation to today's society. Links will be provided to the students via D2L for online viewing of performance events. Student must submit the ticket stubs for each performance/event via photo in the appropriate D2L drop box, with their names clearly written with each submission. If you watch an online link rather than a performance, take a screen shot of the video screen and submit this as ticket proof. These tickets must be submitted before or in the last week of class.

Performance selection list:

High Performance Rodeo, January 8-26/2020

https://www.hprodeo.ca
To the Awe, February 27/2020
https://totheawe.ca/UPCOMING

University of Calgary, Mainstage, March 12-14/2020

http://arts-tickets.ucalgary.ca/event/e0449e25f68c353269f877754b9020c4

Assignment 3: Self-evaluation

Value: Must be completed to receive a PASS

<u>Description:</u> Students will perform a movement assignment at midterm, and complete a self-evaluation. Details will be discussed in class.

Due Date: March 18 (In-class presentation) - revised to March 11 and connected to assignment 4, self-evaluation postponed to April 15

Assignment 4: Movement Study

Value: Must be completed to receive a PASS

<u>Description:</u> Students will create and perform a one minute movement study utilising elements of the class material and course work. May be created in solo or duet form, structure will be guided by instructor. Details will be discussed in class.

Due Date: April 13 & 15 (In-class presentation)

Revised

<u>Description:</u> Students will create and perform, using both video and zoom, a movement study utilising elements of the class material and course work. To be created in duet form, structure will be guided by instructor. They will also write a written self-evaluation/reflection. Details will be discussed in class.

<u>Due Date:</u> April 8 (In-class presentation) Due Date written assignment: April 15

Assignment 5: Class journal

<u>Value:</u> Optional

<u>Description:</u> Students are encouraged to bring a writing book to class, to reflect and absorb their dance experiences. Teacher will not ask to see this journal.

Assessment expectations

Expectations for Writing:

Writing skills are important to academic study across all disciplines. Consequently, instructors may use their assessment of writing quality as a factor in the evaluation of student work. Please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar E.2 Writing Across the Curriculum policy for details.

Expectations for Attendance and Participation:

Please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar E.3 Attendance for details.

Guidelines for submitting Assignments:

Written assignments will be posted on D2L. Performance assignments must be completed in class.

<u>Division of Dance Attendance Policy</u>

Due to the experiential nature of this course, classes are equivalent to assignments. Therefore, classes missed will be detrimental to the final grade. More than four missed classes will result in failure to pass the course. Non-participation through any part of class can be assessed as 1/2 an absence (this includes late arrivals or early departures); i.e. 2 such classes are equivalent to a full absence.

If for some reason you are feeling unwell during class time, a substitute form of participation may be arranged; however, you may not obtain this privilege more than once and you will receive half an absence. For studio courses, if you opt out of full participation and choose to sit for a portion of the class, this will be counted as non-participation and will be marked as half an absence.

Students are responsible for any and all material missed during an absence.

Grading scale	For the course as a whole, letter grades should be understood as follows, as outlined in the section F.1.1 Undergraduate Grading System of the Undergraduate Calendar for 2019-2020 OR as outlined in the section H.1 Distribution of Grades of the Graduate Calendar for 2019-2020: Grade Grade Point Value Description A+ 4.00 Outstanding performance A 4.00 Excellent performance A- 3.70 Approaching excellent performance B+ 3.30 Exceeding good performance B- 3.00 Good performance B- 2.70 Approaching good performance C- 2.30 Exceeding satisfactory performance C- 1.70 Approaching satisfactory performance C- 1.70 Marginal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject F 0.00 Failure. Did not meet course requirements. Several Faculties utilize an F grade that does not carry weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the cal
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