



**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**  
**FACULTY OF ARTS**  
**SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS - DANCE**  
**Dance 207: Elementary Contemporary Dance I**  
**Fall 2014**

<b>Instructors</b>  <b>Office Email</b>  <b>Office Hours</b>	Module 1: Sasha Ivanochko: September 8-Oct 22 Module 2: James Graham: October 22-November 14th Module 3: Charles Slender November 19-December 5th CH D519 <a href="mailto:sashaivanochko@gmail.com">sashaivanochko@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:jamesgrahamdancetheatre@gmail.com">jamesgrahamdancetheatre@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:cslender@factsf.org">cslender@factsf.org</a>  By appointment
<b>Location and Time of class</b>	Tuesday and Thursday 10:00-11:45AM
<b>Text(s)/Readings</b>	None required
<b>Prerequisites</b>	<a href="#">Dance 205</a> or equivalent and audition.
<b>Supplementary Fees</b>	This course requires a mandatory supplementary fee of \$52 payable at registration
<b>Course Description</b>	Elementary study of techniques of contemporary dance.
<b>Course Objectives</b>	<p>The primary objectives of this class are to increase the individual student's awareness and knowledge of their body, and to begin to develop skill and artistry in contemporary dance technique.</p> <p>Upon the completion of this course the students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop their abilities to perform styles of Contemporary Dance</li> <li>• Become more agile in floor-work and inversions</li> <li>• Go into and out of the floor with grace and ease</li> <li>• Improve their musicality in relation to phrasing, tempo, and mood</li> <li>• Develop their improvisational skills</li> <li>• Become aware of their anatomical structure, and how best to utilize it in this movement</li> <li>• Produce more readily and easily, specific textures, qualities, and sensations in their bodies as they move</li> </ul>

**Course Activities and Content**

Classes will incorporate experiences in a variety of contemporary dance techniques.

We will focus on moving, experiencing, analyzing, and establishing a ‘dance practice’. With the goal of dancing with facility, we will explore elements of movement such as weight, coordination, locomotion, rhythm, space, and energy. We will be working on discovering and developing your movement skills and your individual expression in movement. Discussion within class, dialogue outside of class, and general inquiry towards Contemporary dance is required. A part of your traditional preparation for class work should include a pre class warm up of aerobic, strengthening and stretching activities.

**Ivanochko**

I aim to focus the students towards inner and outer spatial awareness, kinetic and kinesthetic alignment and on an embodied presence. A dynamic and efficient postural alignment is initiated when students are asked to consider the pelvis and thoracic cage as the two central axes of the body working in continuous relationship to each other. Limb placement is carefully addressed working within anatomical realities. Students are asked to attend to the specifics of the entry and exit points of movement, pathways of the body through space, and to work with the reality of gravity. Students taking this class will practice physical and mental integration while building precise, efficient and musical movement abilities.

This course will include a warm-up, centre standing and floor exercises, basic acrobatics, and across-the-floor phrase material all with a focus on developing our artistic abilities as dancers. Besides working on artistic presentation and technical skills in relation to an understanding of the function of aesthetics, we will be engaging in basic improvisational strategies and the use of imagery to expand our understanding of intention and interpretation. Students in this class are expected to articulate their understanding of dance through in-class discussions, multidisciplinary responses and written assignments.

**Graham:**

Gaga is the movement language developed by Ohad Naharin/ Batsheva in Tel Aviv, Israel. Gaga movement classes are a guided movement experience of images, ideas, directions, and prompts. We move (however large or small) for the entire class adding layer upon layer. We will float our flesh, pull our bones, experience physical climaxes, challenge what we think are our limits, become aware of our habits and change them, and take pleasure moving and dancing in a welcoming studio. We work at your own volume, so whether you have never moved or move every day, you can connect to Gaga. We allow no mirrors, and no observers.

**Slender**

I find dancing to be one of the most thrilling and invigorating physical activities. It can be simple or complex, carefree or intentional, emotional or aesthetic. In class, we can have fun, work, and explore without worrying about being perfect or right. I think of dancing as an opportunity, not an obligation, and I have found that perspective to be quite liberating.

For me, Countertechnique has provided a safe, supportive, fun, and sustainable approach to dancing. It offers an alternative to chronic pain and grinding joints, and allows for students to gain a better awareness of their moving bodies. It requires dancers to think and to train their brain while they train their muscles – this is invaluable. It prepares the mind and body for rehearsal, but also for the day...becoming practiced in reducing unnecessary tension, seeing what’s around you, and making informed choices.

<b>Assessment</b>	<p>1) A significant part of your grade (<b>35%</b>) will be based on your class participation. This includes: attendance, responsiveness to feedback, physical commitment and vitality, participation in discussions, observations and feedback exercises, application to class material, and developing an independent work ethic which includes a pre-class warm up and preparation. Your consistent effort will be noted and the expectation is that you will be fully engaged in the class.</p> <p>If you are feeling unwell during class time, an alternate form of participation may be arranged as a privilege <u>only once</u> during the session. Please remember that classes are considered equivalent to assignments; thus, missing classes will be detrimental to your final grade. <b>If you miss more than 4 classes during the semester, you may fail this course.</b> In addition, if you show up late for class two times (or choose to sit out exercises during 2 classes), this will be counted as an absence.</p> <p>2) Another large portion of your grade (<b>30%</b>) will be based on skill development. This means that we (this instructor and other guest teachers) will be assessing your ability to develop new movement habits and patterns and to see that you are meeting the course objectives. These assessments are ongoing and allow the instructor to ascertain if you are developing the artistry befitting an elementary level dancer.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b># 1 AND #2 WILL BE ASSESSED BY THE INSTRUCTOR FOR EACH MODULE AND WEIGHTED at 50%/25%/25% FOR THE FINAL GRADE IN THESE AREAS.</b></p> <p>3) All students must attend (<b>5%</b>)</p> <p>a. 2 contemporary dance performances b. 1 Drama, 1 Music and 1 Art event and bring the ticket stubs for these performances with your name clearly written on back of ticket the class following attending the event.</p> <p>4) At midterm, students will be expected to create a self-evaluation of their work to date (<b>10%</b>) Due Date: Oct 16<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>5) Students will be expected to create a movement assignment at the close of <b>Module 1</b>. To be shown on Oct 16<sup>th</sup>. (<b>10%</b>)</p> <p>6) Students will be expected to complete one written assignment for <b>Module 2</b> based on two options which will be posted on D2L. Due November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014. (5%)</p> <p>7) Students will be expected to complete one prepared movement assignment for Module 3 based on Countertechnique. Due December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014. (5%)</p> <p>An important note: by enrolling in this class, you are engaging in the course requirements</p>												
<b>Grading Scale</b>	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>A+ 97.6-100</td> <td>A 92.6-97.5</td> <td>A- 90-92.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B+ 87.6-89.9</td> <td>B 82.6-87.5</td> <td>B- 80-82.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C+ 77.6- 79.9</td> <td>C 72.6-77.5</td> <td>C- 70-72.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D+ 67.6-69.9</td> <td>D 62.6-67.5</td> <td>D- 60-62.5</td> </tr> </table> <p>Pass 60% and above <b>Fail 59.9% and below</b></p>	A+ 97.6-100	A 92.6-97.5	A- 90-92.5	B+ 87.6-89.9	B 82.6-87.5	B- 80-82.5	C+ 77.6- 79.9	C 72.6-77.5	C- 70-72.5	D+ 67.6-69.9	D 62.6-67.5	D- 60-62.5
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<b>Attendance</b>	<p>Due to the experiential nature of the course, classes are equivalent to assignments. Therefore, classes missed will be detrimental to the final grade.</p>												
<b>FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Visit us for answers about course registration, graduation checks, and the ‘big picture’ on programs and majors. Drop in at SS102, email us at</li> </ul>												

<b>INFORMATION RESOURCES</b>	<p><a href="mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca">artsads@ucalgary.ca</a> or call us at 403-220-3580. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <a href="http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate">http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate</a> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For academic success support, such as writing support, peer support, success seminars, and learning support, visit the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) on the third floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library (TFDL), email them at <a href="mailto:success@ucalgary.ca">success@ucalgary.ca</a> or visit their website at <a href="http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/">http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/</a> for more information or to book an appointment.</li> <li>• For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625], by email at <a href="mailto:futurestudents@ucalgary.ca">futurestudents@ucalgary.ca</a> or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block 117.</li> </ul>
<b>ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION</b>	<a href="http://www.ucalgary.ca/access">http://www.ucalgary.ca/access</a>
<b>FOIP</b>	<a href="http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy">http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy</a>
<b>ACADEMIC STANDING</b>	<a href="http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f.html">http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f.html</a>
<b>CAMPUS SECURITY</b>	220-5333. Help phones: located throughout campus, parking lots, and elevators. They connect directly to Campus Security; in case of emergency, press the red button.
<b>COURSE OUTLINES FOR TRANSFER CREDIT</b>	It is possible that you will be asked for copies of this outline for credit transfers to other institutions or for proof of work done. It is the <b>student's</b> responsibility to keep these outlines and provide them to employers or other universities when requested. Please ensure that outlines of all the courses you take are kept in a safe place for your future reference. Departments/Programs do not guarantee that they will provide copies.
<b>DEFERRALS OF EXAMS/TERM WORK</b>	It is possible to request a deferral of term work or final examinations for reasons of illness, accident, family or domestic affliction, or religious obligations. Please check with your advisor if any of these issues make it impossible for you to sit an exam or finish term work by stated deadlines.
<b>EMERGENCY EVACUATION</b>	<a href="http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints">http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints</a>
<b>LETTER OF PERMISSION</b>	If you wish to study at another institution while registered at the U of C, you must have a letter of permission. You can submit your request through your Student Centre at MyUofC. Students must have the Letter of Permission before they take the course at another school. Failure to prepare may result in no credit awarded and could result in suspension from the faculty.
<b>PLAGIARISM</b>	Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. For details see the University of Calgary Calendar. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university. You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources. Please consult your instructor or the Student Success Centre (TFDL 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.
<b>SAFEWALK</b>	<b>220-5333 anytime.</b> <a href="http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk">http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk</a>
<b>STUDENT MISCONDUCT</b>	<a href="http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html">http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html</a>

<b>STUDENT UNION CONTACT STUDENT OMBUDSPERSON</b>	Faculty of Arts reps: <a href="mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca">arts1@su.ucalgary.ca</a> ; <a href="mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca">arts2@su.ucalgary.ca</a> ; <a href="mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca">arts3@su.ucalgary.ca</a> ; <a href="mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca">arts4@su.ucalgary.ca</a>
<b>UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATIONS</b>	DUS: Drama Undergraduate Society, CH C 005 <a href="mailto:uofcdus@gmail.com">uofcdus@gmail.com</a> MUS: Music Undergraduate Society, CH F 219 <a href="mailto:undmusic@ucalgary.ca">undmusic@ucalgary.ca</a> PIVOT: Dance Undergraduate Society, CH E 211 <a href="mailto:pivotdancers@gmail.com">pivotdancers@gmail.com</a>