



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
COURSE OUTLINE
FACULTY OF ARTS
SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS – DANCE
**DANCE 481: DANCE AND CULTURE:
THEORETICAL EXPLORATIONS OF EMERGING DANCE**
Session: Fall 2013

Professor: Melanie Kloetzel

Office: CHD 517

Phone: 403-220-6565

Email: kloetzel@ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: M 10-12 or by appointment

Class Location and Time: M 4-6:45 pm in KNB 131

Text: Course pack available at Bound & Copied in MacEwan Hall; also on reserve at the TDFLibrary

Course Description: The study of dance as a cultural practice.

In this course, we will explore some of the fundamental cultural concerns that dancers and choreographers face when dancing/making dances. We will focus on dance forms that have emerged in the very recent past, focusing on the major catalysts for their fruition. In particular, we will try to understand these forms as cultural practices informed by world events as well as by theoretical notions of culture, race, gender, and the body. By progressing through this course, I hope that you will discover your own ideas of dance as an emerging and relevant cultural form. Dance 481 acts as the main theory seminar for dance majors at the University of Calgary.

Prerequisites: One of Dance 243 or 345.

Course Objectives:

Throughout this course, we aim to understand how dance and culture intersect by asking the following questions: What frames our experience of new dance forms? How does dance as a cultural practice shape and/or reflect the cultures from which the form originated? What political and historical events have shaped these forms? Do these dance forms comment on, undermine, or reinforce cultural stereotypes around identity? How does performance of these forms embody politics? What political representations manifest in the forms? What theoretical lenses can help us explore and analyze these emerging forms? By exploring these diverse practices in the context of cultural, political, and historical events, we aim to facilitate a better understanding not only of our own culture, but also of the importance of dance in a global setting.

Course Activities:

This course will involve a variety of activities aimed toward creating a better understanding of dance in cultures around the world. For the majority of the class, we will have in-depth lectures/discussions on topics brought up by the readings. We will also physically explore

movement to investigate and illustrate the issues addressed in the readings. Finally, we will work towards a deeper written and choreographic analysis of dance through our completion of a large research project that will culminate in a research paper and presentation for the class as well as for outside guests.

Course Content:

This course will follow an experiential lecture format, integrating lecture, discussion, and movement in class. It will include readings, movement assignments, and written tasks for outside of class. Students should come to class prepared both to take notes during discussion and to move as needed.

Assessment: In terms of grading, students will be assessed on the following:

- 1) Completion of in-class and out-of-class video viewings and movement labs (no previous movement experience is required).
- 2) Her/his reading of the articles required for each class period; each student will need to post a 1-2 sentence summary of the thesis of **each** article on Blackboard **prior** to class discussion of that article. This along with your class discussion participation will determine your participation mark for the class. (20%)
- 3) Each student must write one 2-page paper exploring his/her discussion article in relation to the main themes of this class. In these papers, the student will need to delineate the author's thesis/argument, the points that the author makes to support his/her thesis, why s/he makes this argument, and the strengths and weaknesses of her/his arguments. These papers are due on the day the student helps leads discussion. Along with the paper, students must hand in a one-page list of questions (5 total) they will ask when leading discussion. (10%)
- 4) Each student must create one movement assignment for class participation based on one of the articles. On the day that s/he leads this participation, the student must hand in a one-page statement explaining how the movement assignment relates to the article assigned. Along with their one-page statement, students must hand in a one-page list of questions (5 total) they will ask when leading discussion about their movement assignment and how it relates to the article. (10%)
- 5) In-class quizzes. (30%)
- 6) Final projects including an in-class presentation as well as a 10-page paper (or 6-page paper if you choose the choreography option) exploring issues discussed in this class as demonstrated by the choreographer/dance form of your choice. These projects must be approved by me no later than October 28th. An introductory paragraph and list of sources (5% of grade) will be handed in on November 18th, after which all students will work closely with a peer to edit their papers. The presentations will take place in a conference-style setting and papers must be handed in just after the presentation (final paper 20% and presentation 5% OR final paper 15% and choreography and presentation 10%).

An important note: by enrolling in this class, you are engaging in the course requirements listed above. Please keep up with the syllabus requirements so that you are not caught in a bind at the end of the semester. **Also, any assignments that are emailed instead of provided in hard copy on the due date will not be handed back.**

Grading Scale:

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

Pass - 60% and above

Fail – 59.9% and below

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at picarts@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate which has detailed information on common academic concerns. • For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. • For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.
ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION	http://www.ucalgary.ca/access
FOIP	http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy
ACADEMIC STANDING	http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f.html
CAMPUS SECURITY	403-220-5333. Help phones: located throughout campus, parking lots, and elevators. They connect directly to Campus Security; in case of emergency, press the red button.
COURSE OUTLINES FOR TRANSFER CREDIT	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 student's 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.
DEFERRALS OF EXAMS/TERM WORK	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.
EMERGENCY EVACUATION	http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints

LETTER OF PERMISSION	If you wish to study at another institution while registered at the UofC, 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.
PLAGIARISM	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 Writing Centre (3 rd floor TFDL) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.
SAFEWALK	220-5333 anytime. http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk
STUDENT MISCONDUCT	http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html
STUDENT UNION CONTACT STUDENT OMBUDSPERSON	Faculty of Arts reps: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca , arts2@su.ucalgary.ca , arts3@su.ucalgary.ca , arts4@su.ucalgary.ca
UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATIONS	DUS: Drama Undergraduate Society CH C 005 dusuofc@hotmail.com MUS: Music Undergraduate Society CH F 219 UofC Mus Group on Facebook PIVOT: Dance Undergraduate Society CH E 211 pivot@ucalgary.ca

Revised June 2013 in accordance with policy: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-1.html>