

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY FACULTY OF ARTS

SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS - DANCE DNCE 581.5 Special Topics in Dance Practices II:

Performance Generating Systems
Winter block week 2016

Instructor	Pil Hansen					
Office	CHD008					
Email	Pil.hansen@ucalgary.ca					
Office Hours	By appointment					
Day(s),time(s) and	Tuesday January 5 through Saturday January 9, 2016 / 9am-3:45pm					
location of class	KN AUX. Except Wednesday January 6 and the last hours of the 7 th when we work in the					
is causer or class	Doolittle Theatre Studio.					
Learning resources:	Systems and system examples will be drawn from the repertoire of the following					
required readings,	companies and artists: Public Recordings (ON), Theatre Replacement (BC), Civilized					
textbooks and	Theatre (ON), Kaeja d'Dance (ON), Deborah Hay (US), Toronto Dance Theatre (ON), The					
materials	Forsythe Company (GE), Leaky Heaven Performance Society (BC), and Cornelius Cardew					
	(UK) among other composers of aleatory or indeterminate music. Archival sound and					
	video recordings will be shared in class. Relevant articles and archival materials such as					
	interviews, grant texts, reviews, performance texts, and production notes will be					
	uploaded to D2L prior to class start. Articles on concepts, practices, and tools that relate					
	to and contextualize performance generating systems will also be uploaded to D2L.					
	Some of these materials should be read prior to January 5, so please refer to the listings					
	in the course schedule for instructions.					
Prerequisites	Consent of the Division Chair, Dance.					
Course description	Special Topics in Dance Practices II: Performance Generating Systems					
Course overview	The course has been designed for advanced drama, dance, and music students.					
	Experience and training is only needed in one of these disciplines though we will make					
	good use of additional, interdisciplinary skills. Performance generating systems are rule-					
	or task-based compositions that systematically set in motion a process of theatre,					
	dance, or music creation in front of an audience. The resulting performance is not					
	generated from the performers' impulses, as in other forms of improvisation, but rather					
	from the ways in which a system affects the performers' memory, perception, and					
	interaction. The performance does also not realize a script or repeat a score; instead of					
	setting and rehearsing a compositional order, the systems challenge performers to					
	respond to specific tasks in the moment and within constraints. The dramaturgical work					
	with these systems necessitates a sharp shift in orientation from compositional					
	possibilities to the question of which kinds of creative interaction and patterns a system					
	attracts.					
	Over the course of an intense week, we will examine four celebrated dance-, music-,					
	and theatre-generating systems. Our main goal is to understand how these works					
	generate performance. Christopher House (AD of Toronto Dance Theatre) and Valentina					
	Bertolani (PhD candidate in Music) will be co-teaching at least two of these cases.					
	Working through the systems one by one, we will watch archival recordings, read					
	discussions of practice that can help us examine them, and analyze how they work.					
	Aiming to build embodied knowledge onto this academic and dramaturgical foundation,					
	we will test the systems in accessible and practical workshops. Finally, students will be					
	tasked to develop a simple, yet generating, system of their own. This course is designed					
	for upper-year and graduate Dance, Drama, and Music students.					
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Course learning	By the completion of this course, successful students will be able to:							
outcomes	1. Identify the generating principles of performance systems							
	2. Compare them to common improvisation approaches							
	3. Examine and understand how they work in practice							
	4. Adapt them and/or develop principles towards a new performance system							
	5. Articulate them in class performances and in the form of a performance recipe							
Course schedule	Tuesday Jan 5: Concepts, Performance Systems, and Futuring Memory							
course serieudie	Wednesday Jan 6: Theatre Systems and the Rule Play							
	Thursday Jan 7: Aleatory and Indeterminate music composition and <i>Treatise</i>							
	Friday Jan 8: Hay and House's Dance Score and Practice Systems							
	Saturday Jan 9: Supervised Student Creation and Research							
Assassment								
Assessment	Students will each be asked to contribute in the following ways:							
components	Participation. Preparation, effort, attention, and contribution / weight 25%							
	Assignment 1. Informal daily posting of observations on D2L / weight 15%							
	Assignment 2. In-class creation and research / weight 25% (on Jan 9)							
	Assignment 3. Performance recipe/notation with analytical reflection on choices /							
	Weight 35% (due Jan 22 at midnight)							
Assessment	Expectations for Writing:							
expectations	Assignment 3 must adhere to the MLA guidelines for references and citations and will.							
	be marked with attention to length limitations, style, grammar, and spelling. Remember							
	to proofread carefully and stay within the word limit of each assignment.							
	For a station of an Attandance and Denti-in-time							
	<u>Expectations for Attendance and Participation:</u>							
	It is expected that students attend all classes, read all of the assigned materials prior to							
	each class, and meet up prepared for the workshop when prep has been assigned. It is							
	also expected that students read all materials for the first two classes prior to Jan 5 in							
	order to ensure that evening prep during the block week becomes manageable.							
	Guidelines for Submitting Assignments							
	All written assignments have to be submitted electronically via D2L.							
	<u>Late Assignments</u>							
	3% will be deducted per day for late submissions and they will not be accepted after 7							
	days.							
	Requests for extension or special consideration must be emailed or brought to your							
	teacher in class prior to the deadline or class they concern. Documented health issues							
	or conflicts with other course deadlines count among acceptable reasons.							
Grading scale	For the course as a whole, letter grades should be understood as follows, as outlined in							
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	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 3rd Floor) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.
Copyright	It is the responsibility of students and professors to ensure that materials they post or distribute to others comply with the Copyright Act and the University's Fair Dealing Guidance for Students. Further copyright information for students is available on the Copyright Office web page (library.ucalgary.ca/copyright).
Academic accommodation	Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS); SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/ . Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.
	The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy-0.pdf .
FOIP	ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy
Student misconduct	ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html
Academic standing	ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f.html
Safewalk	220-5333 anytime. <u>ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk</u>
Campus security	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.
Emergency evacuation	Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. THE PRIMARY ASSEMBLY POINT FOR CRAIGIE HALL IS THE PROFESSIONAL FACULTIES FOOD COURT. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website: ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints
Faculty of Arts program advising and student information resources	For academic advising, visit the Arts Students' Centre (ASC) for answers about course registration, graduation checks, and the 'big picture' on programs and majors. Drop in at SS102, email us at ascarts@ucalgary.ca or call us at 403-220-3580. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate which has detailed information on common academic concerns. For academic success support, such as writing support, peer support, success seminars, and learning support, visit the Student Success Centre on the third floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library (TFDL), email them at success@ucalgary.ca or visit their website at
	ucalgary.ca/ssc/ for more information or to book an appointment. For enrolment assistance, including registration (add/drop/swap) changes, paying fees, and navigating your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625], by email at futurestudents@ucalgary.ca or visit them at the MacKimmie Block 117.
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.
Letter of permission	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.
Students' union and	Student Union: su.ucalgary.ca/about/who-we-are/elected-officials/
ombudsperson	Faculty of Arts reps: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca; arts2@su.ucalgary.ca;
contacts	arts3@su.ucalgary.ca; arts4@su.ucalgary.ca
	Graduate Student's Association: gsa.ucalgary.ca/executive
	Student Ombudsman: su.ucalgary.ca/page/quality-education/academic-
	services/student-rights
Undergraduate	DUS: Drama Undergraduate Society, CHC 005 <u>uofcdus@gmail.com</u>
associations	MUS: Music Undergraduate Society, CHF 219 undmusic@ucalgary.ca