


Core Course Syllabus

	Course	DANC 1310.002
	Course Title	Understanding Dance
	Professor	Marquita De Jesus
	Term	Fall 2023
	Meetings	Monday 1pm-215pm Hybrid AH2 1.204

Professor's Contact Information

Office Phone	By Teams Only
Office Location	JO 5.306
Email Address	msd053000@utdallas.edu
Office Hours	By appointment only via Teams
Other Information	Please contact me via email in case of emergency or to inform about absences.

Instructor Resources

[Registrar's Intranet](#): please log in with your UTD NetID and password to access this site. Information that faculty need about grading, scheduling, and other essential aspects of our responsibilities related to teaching are made available and updated regularly in the Registrar's Intranet. This source of information can only be accessed by logging in with your UTD NetID and password. Many important faculty questions are answered here, and this is information that faculty members are expected to know and understand.

[FERPA Guidelines](#): you will be asked to log in before you access the FERPA Faculty Guidelines webpage on the Registrar's Intranet. If faculty have additional questions about FERPA guidance, please contact the Office of the Registrar at records@utdallas.edu for the proper student consent forms and further instructions. NOTE: Class recordings from prior semesters may be used as long there are no identifiable student information due to [FERPA](#) because instructors will need students' written consent first. Please review your previous class recordings for identifiable student information before using them in the current term. For additional guidance, contact the [Office of the Registrar](#).

[Honorlock](#): Online proctoring tool will be available for fully online courses and for classes with enrolled international students who are not yet in the United States.

[UT System Resources for Creating Accessible Course Content](#): designed to assist faculty with developing course content

General Core Area 050 Creative Arts

Description: Courses in this category focus on the appreciation and analysis of creative artifacts and works of the human imagination. Courses involve the synthesis and interpretation of artistic expression and enable critical, creative, and innovative communication about works of art.

Objectives: **Critical Thinking (CT)**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information
Communication (COM)—to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
Teamwork (TW)—to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
Social Responsibility (SR)—to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

General Course Information

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

None

Course Description

Understanding Dance offers the student an opportunity to develop an awareness and appreciation of dance in its cultural, social, and artistic contexts through explorations in dance aesthetics, history, and the creative process. Students will study dance through lecture, viewing and critiquing of live and video dance performances, readings, participatory study of selected dance genres, exposure to the art of theatrical production, and exploration of the creative process. This class will view dance, talk about dance and explore dance as a living embodiment of our culture and ourselves.

Visual and Performing Arts Program Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will be able to describe and apply the basic methodologies and processes of the creative and performing arts.
2. Students will demonstrate effective critical and analytical skills through oral and/or written communication.
3. Students will learn and employ a broad knowledge of the principles and history of at least one major form of artistic expression.
4. Students will gain experience and competency in at least one area of the creative and performing arts.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

1. Given text readings, video viewings, and class discussions, students will demonstrate recognition of significant historical dance figures and periods and selected world dance genres.
2. Drawing from texts, viewing of live and video recorded dance, discussion and lecture, students will demonstrate an understanding of the creative process and of dance as an art form by completing and experiencing classroom assignments, movement workshops and activities, and presentations.
3. Students will be able to analyze live performances by applying fundamental concepts of Space/Time/Energy as discussed in class and course texts.
4. Students will be able to synthesize and present research on social dance forms and a prominent figure in dance.

Required Textbooks and Materials

Textbook: Ambrosio, N. Learning About Dance: Dance as an Art Form and Entertainment. Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company. (current ed.)

**The text is offered in the campus bookstore

**You may also purchase online directly from Kendall Hunt, below is the hyperlink where the eBook or print version may be purchased along with the ISBN. Follow the link and add either the eBook or print version to the cart. The website will direct you to create an account before checking out, in order for their item to be sent.

Kendall Hunt

ISBN: Print- 9781524922122

ISBN: ebook- 9781524964153

Additional readings will be distributed on eLearning.

Additional Course requirements

Students will be required to view and critique two live dance concerts. A detailed critique will be required for the UTD musical "American Idiot" and a shorter written reflection will be required for an additional dance performance of your own choosing. A detailed list of performances is available near the end of the syllabus. Some performances have an admission fee. Choose the dates, ticket prices and locations that are appropriate for you and attend accordingly. Students are responsible for their own transportation to these events. In addition to the required analysis a program from the concert attended must be submitted. Analysis and program must be submitted on eLearning. Scan and submit on eLearning the cover of the program and the page or pages giving information of dances performed, choreographer, composer or musical artist, any program notes about the dance, and dancers.

**See the instructor if you have questions about attending an event not listed as approved

Assignments & Academic Calendar

[Topics, Reading Assignments, Due Dates, Exam Dates]

Important: Studio Workshop Days will be announced in the coming weeks and are mandatory

UNIT/ DATES	TOPIC/LECTURE	READING	ASSESSMENT / ACTIVITY	DUE DATE
1. 8/21	Review Syllabus/ Overview of "What is Dance?"		None	

2. 8/28	Finish "What is Dance"/ Choreographic process and Time Periods, Arts, and Aesthetic	Read Chapter 1-2 and review notes on elearning	Student Introductions	9/3 at 11:59pm
3. 9/4	Labor Day No Class	Read Chapter 3-4 and review notes on eLearning	Written Reflection	9/14 at 11:59pm
4. 9/11	The Dancer, the performer and the audience	elearning powerpoint	Exam Unit 1	9/22 at 11:59pm
5. 9/18	Unit 2: Dance Genres Classical Ballet and Discuss Vision Board	Read Ch 5 and elearning notes	None	
6. 9/25	Contemporary Ballet and Modern Dance	elearning powerpoint	Written Reflection	10/6 by 11:59pm

7. 10/2	Pioneers in Modern and Jazz Dance	Read Ch 6 elearning notes	Begin Vision Boards Drafts	
8. 10/9	Embodied Performance and Drag		Group Discussion	
9. 10/16	Tap, Urban Dance and Hip Hop	elearning Powerpoint	Final Vision Board Projects	10/20 11:59pm
10. 10/23	World Dance	Ch 8 and in class notes	World Dance Discussion (in class) Musical Begins	UTD Musical Oct 26-29
11. 10/30	Vision Board Presentations in class			UTD Musical Nov 2-4
12. 11/06	Vision Board Presentations in Class		Dance Analysis Due	11/10 by 11:59pm
13. 11/13	Movement Day (tentative)		Movement Day Participation	11/13 in class
14. 11/20	Happy Thanksgiving			

15. 11/27	Final Exam Review		2 nd Dance Critique (performance you saw on your own)	12/1 at 11:59pm
16. 12/4	Final Exam			Due 12/4

Course Policies	
Class Materials	<p>The instructor may provide class materials that will be made available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. These materials may be downloaded during the course, however, these materials are for registered students' use only. Classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.</p>
Class Attendance	<p>The University's attendance policy requirement is that individual faculty set their course attendance requirements. Regular and punctual class attendance is expected. Students who fail to attend class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty.</p> <p>Participation/ Attendance: Participation and Attendance is critical to your success in this class! Please see the instructor in advance if you know that you must miss a class. Students are expected to attend all classes. Absence from class is not an excuse for late work or failure to be prepared for the next lesson. Exchanging email addresses with a classmate is suggested as a way to keep informed in case of unforeseen circumstances. You may also email the instructor with questions regarding the course and course materials. Successful participation is defined as consistently adhering to University requirements, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct</p> <p>Tardiness: Tardiness will have a 1-point reduction in the 3-point participation/class discussion grade. Student is tardy if he/she arrives after official class time (1pm). If student arrives after 15 minutes late for a movement practicum session it may not be safe for the student to participate and he/she may be asked to sit out and observe, incurring a further point deduction from the movement practicum grade.</p>

<p>Class Participation</p>	<p>Regular class participation is expected. Students who fail to participate in class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. A portion of the grade for this course is directly tied to your participation in this class. It also includes engaging in group or other activities during class that solicit your feedback on homework assignments, readings, or materials covered in the lectures (and/or labs). Class participation is documented by faculty. Successful participation is defined as consistently adhering to University requirements, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.</p> <p>Observation: If a student is ill or injured or provides a valid reason to the instructor (prior to class) for non-participation in a movement session, student may sit out and observe. Students sitting out will hand in written class observations at the end of the session to earn participation credit.</p>
<p>Class Recordings</p>	<p>Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.</p> <p>NOTE: if the instructor records any part of the course, then the instructor will need to add the following syllabus statement:</p> <p>The instructor may record meetings of this course. These recordings will be made available to all students registered for this class if the intent is to supplement the classroom experience. If the instructor or a UTD school/department/office plans any other uses for the recordings, consent of the students identifiable in the recordings is required prior to such use unless an exception is allowed by law.</p>
<p>Grading (credit) Criteria</p>	<p>Grading Policy</p> <p>10% Participation and Attendance 20% Dance Performance Attendance and Analysis 20% Assignments (Discussion Boards, Research Paper, etc) 30% Exams 20% Final Presentation</p> <p>Grading Scale</p> <p>A+ = 98-100% B+ = 88-89% C+ = 78-79% D+ = 68-69% F = 59 and Below A = 93-97% B = 83-87% C = 73-77% D = 63-67%</p>

	<p>A- = 90-92% B- = 80-82% C- = 70-72% D- = 60-62%</p> <p>Grading Components:</p> <p>Discussion: Various discussion topics will be posted for class dialogue. Each person is required to engage in questioning and commenting on each other's posting in order share multiple perspectives on the same topic.</p> <p>Exams: There are 2 exams and one major project. Your first exam will be short answer and your major project will be a vision board. Your second exam will be an in-class group presentation. Exams will cover class material.</p> <p>Writing Assignments: There will be assigned short writing assignments. The grading scale is based on unique thought, critical thinking, connections to your personal history, and analyzed for quality of writing. More information about the writing assignments will be outlined in the instructions of each assignment. Writing assignments must be in MLA format and include a Works Cited page with all references.</p> <p>It is expected that all work in this course will be YOUR ORIGINAL WORK that was created specifically to meet the needs of this course.</p> <p>Live Concert and Performance Analysis: After viewing your required live dance performance (follow the link below for options), a written dance critique will assess your skills in viewing, perceiving and analyzing dance. More information about the critique assignment will be outlined in the instructions. You will write also write a critique regarding the UTD Musical "American Idiot." Detailed explanations for these assignments will be available in elearning.</p> <p>Dallas Dance Performance Calendar:</p> <p>https://dancecouncil.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page_id=22 HYPERLINK "https://dancecouncil.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=752324&module_id=41035"& HYPERLINK "https://dancecouncil.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=752324&module_id=41035"club_id=752324 HYPERLINK "https://dancecouncil.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=752324&module_id=41035"& HYPERLINK "https://dancecouncil.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=752324&module_id=41035"module_id=41035</p>
Make-up Exams	<p>Missed work: Missed work such as in-class assignments, homework, and quizzes cannot be made-up unless missed due to documented approved excused absence. Make up exams are offered at the instructor's discretion and must be made up within 3 calendar days of the missed exam.</p>
Extra Credit	<p>Extra Credit: There will be several opportunities for extra credit made available to each student. See eLearning for the extra credit options. Late extra credit assignments will not be accepted</p>
Late Work	<p>Late work: Late work will not be accepted except with documented approved absence.</p>
Special	<p>There will be two days during this course where students are expected to participate</p>

Assignments	in a movement workshop. Dates are forthcoming and participation is required.
Classroom Citizenship	Be respectful of your classmates and practice dancer's etiquette for your movement days and when working with guest instructors.
Comet Creed	<i>This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same: "As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do."</i>
Academic Support Resources	<i>The information contained in the following link lists the University's academic support resources for all students. Please go to http://go.utdallas.edu/academic-support-resources.</i>
UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures	<i>The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please review the sections regarding the credit/no credit grading option and withdrawal from class. Please go to http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies for these policies.</i>

Technical Requirements for Hybrid Courses

In addition to a confident level of computer and Internet literacy, certain minimum technical requirements must be met to enable a successful learning experience. Please review the important technical requirements on the Getting Started with eLearning webpage.

Course Access and Navigation

This course can be accessed using your UT Dallas NetID account on the eLearning website.

Please see the course access and navigation section of the Getting Started with eLearning webpage for more information.

To become familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the Student eLearning Tutorials webpage.

UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The eLearning Support Center includes a toll-free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service.

Communication

This course utilizes online tools for interaction and communication. Some external communication tools such as regular email and a web conferencing tool may also be used during the semester. For more details, please visit the Student eLearning Tutorials webpage for video demonstrations on eLearning tools.

Student emails and discussion board messages will be answered within 3 working days under normal circumstances.

Distance Learning Student Resources

Online students have access to resources including the McDermott Library, Academic Advising, The Office of Student AccessAbility, and many others. Please see the eLearning Current Students webpage for more information.

Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties

The University is committed to providing a reliable learning management system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the online eLearning Help Desk. The instructor and the eLearning Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.