

**SYLLABUS: DANCE APPRECIATION  
FALL 2019  
DANC 1304**

M & W 3:00 PM- 4:20 PM C305

INSTRUCTOR: Jennifer Burton [jmburton@utep.edu]

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is an introduction to and survey of dance forms, choreography, notation, dance history, dance criticism, and the role of dance in the visual and performing arts and within societies.

Classes will typically be conducted in two modules per week, with one module consisting of lecture, discussion of assigned readings, and a visual exploration of the week's topic; and the second module consisting of a movement-based exploration of the week's topic.

The modules will typically follow the format of lecture Tuesday and workshop on Thursday, but may change depending on the availability of special guest workshop presenters.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

To witness, explore, and experience a broad range of dance forms and dance related subject matter with the goal of deepening the student's knowledge of dance and its relationship to the visual and performing arts and within societies.

The students will:

- Discuss readings related to a broad range of dance topics
- Participate in workshops wherein they will experience movement vocabularies belonging to a broad range of dance forms
- Relate, compare, and contrast thematic, aesthetic, and practical commonalities and differences within a broad range of dance forms
- Observe, describe, and analyze live and filmed presentations of dance in a within a theatrical/performance-based setting.

## SEE ATTACHED CALENDAR FOR DETAILS

### REQUIREMENTS:

ATTENDANCE: Students are expected to attend all classes; however a maximum of **2 classes may be missed without penalty**, as per the Attendance First Absence Policy. Attendance will be taken at 1:35 PM. You must declare yourself present. Those arriving between **5-10 minutes late will lose ½ of a participation point.** Those arriving **more than 10 minutes late will be counted as absent.** *Those who miss more than two classes within the semester will see their overall grade drop by ½ letter grade each additional day late.*

Please see **ATTENDANCE FIRST ABSENCE POLICY.**

### READINGS:

Nadel, H.M. & Strauss, M. (2014). *The Dance Experience: Insights into history, culture, and creativity* (3rd Ed.). Highstown, NJ: Princeton Book Publishers.

Selected articles posted online to Blackboard.

### DRESS:

Days in which we have movement-based learning, it is imperative that students wear something comfortable that is appropriate for dance. You may wear something that you would typically wear to the gym (leggings, sweats, yoga wear, tee shirt, etc.). Some lectures will be conducted in socks or barefoot (at the student's discretion). Others, I would highly suggest wearing sneakers, as we will be dancing on the Magoffin Auditorium stage. I will alert you the class day prior to the workshop if you should wear sneakers, and post it on Blackboard in "Announcements". I have also noted on "sneaker days" on the attached calendar as indicated by a sneaker icon.

### RESPECT:

Dance does not live in a vacuum. Dance is a vibrant, living cultural artifact. As such, our discussions will include sensitive topics such as race, ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation. I value your voice. Please value the voices of your peers in this classroom. I will not tolerate discourse that is derogatory, defamatory, or violent towards any group or individual.

## GRADED WORK:

BREAKDOWN	WEIGHT	TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS
PARTICIPATION GRADE	10%	30
QUIZZES	20%	60
PERFORMANCE REVIEW 1	15%	45
PERFORMANCE REVIEW 2	15%	45
FILM REVIEW	20%	60
FINAL REFLECTION	20%	60
TOTAL	100%	300

A= 90-100%

B= 80-89%

C= 70-79%

D= 60-69%

F= BELOW 60%

DAILY PARTICIPATION GRADE: (1pt per day) This grade is dependent upon both your physical presence in class (**SEE ATTENDANCE-FIRST ABSENCE POLICY**), and your willingness to engage with the lectures, reading discussions, and workshops.

### EXAMINATIONS:

- **Syllabus quiz is due WEDNESDAY, 8/28/2019 by 11:59pm**
- **Weekly quizzes over the readings and Blackboard offerings** will be posted on Blackboard and are printed on the attached calendar.
  - **Quizzes are due before class-time at 12:00pm** (that's noon).
  - **Late quizzes will receive partial credit.**

REFLECTION: You will be asked to answer a prompt on Blackboard reflecting on and comparing musical theatre styles in the United States and Europe. **200 word critical reflection cited in APA Format. Due FRIDAY 11/21/2019 @ 11:59 PM.**

**PERFORMANCE REVIEW:** Students must attend TWO dance performances over the course of the semester, and write a **500 word critical analysis cited in APA Format** for each dance performance observed.

Students are **required** to attend **ONE OF THREE PERFORMANCES HELD BY UTEP's** Department of Theatre and Dance. Your choices are as follows:

- ***New Voices In Dance; Wise Family Theatre; November 13 (Open Dress Rehearsal), 14-16***
- ***Tommy; UTEP Dinner Theatre; October 11-27***
- ***A Christmas Carol en la Frontera; Wise Family Theatre; December 5-8***

IF YOU ARE PLANNING ON SEEING A *CHRISTMAS CAROL*, YOU MUST GIVE YOURSELF ENOUGH TIME TO WRITE YOUR PERFORMANCE REVIEW. Tickets sell out fast for this performance. Be prepared.

Get your tickets early at the Wise Family Theatre box office.

- The Wise Family Theatre box office is located on the second floor of the Fox Fine Arts building.
- You may also purchase tickets through Ticketmaster.
- Tickets for the performance of *Tommy* may be purchased through Ticketmaster and at the UTEP Ticket Center. Tickets go on sale September 10th.

The second performance is at your discretion. The Borderland dance community is vibrant, and there are plenty of opportunities to observe professional and pre-professional dance. Performance review opportunities will be posted on Blackboard.

**PERFORMANCE REVIEW DATES:**

- PERFORMANCE REVIEW 1 (STUDENT'S CHOICE)
  - **DUE: FRIDAY, OCT. 11 @ 11:59PM**
- PERFORMANCE REVIEW 2 (UTEP SELECTION)
  - **DUE: SUNDAY, DEC. 8 @ 11:59PM**

Students **MUST** have their work checked by the **UTEP University Writing Center**, and **SCAN OR PHOTOGRAPH THE RECEIPT from the University Writing Center and SIGN THE SIGN IN SHEET AT THE THEATRE AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE PERFORMANCE.** *If you have proof of having been to the writing center, or you have not signed-in at the performance, I will not accept your paper.*

**FILM REVIEW: DUE FRIDAY. NOVEMBER 29 @ 11:59PM**

Students will choose a dance film to observe and write a **1,000 word critical analysis cited in APA Format**. The film must be in the canon of “Musical Theatre” (think: *Oklahoma!*, *West Side Story*, *In the Heights* or even Bollywood/ Egyptian/ Lebanese Musical Theatre). They cannot be a movie like *Dirty Dancing*, *Step Up*, or *Strictly Ballroom*. **You must submit your film choice to me by Friday, November 15 at 11:59pm.**

Students **MUST** have their work checked by the **UTEP University Writing Center**, and ***staple the receipt from the University Writing Center along with a ticket stub, program, or online receipt to their paper. If you have not been to the writing center, I will not accept your paper.***

**FINAL REFLECTION: DUE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11 @ 6:45PM**

En lieu of a Final Exam, you will be given a prompt on Blackboard and asked to write a 500 word final reflection **cited in APA Format**. **THERE IS NO LATE WORK ACCEPTED FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT.** \_\_\_\_\_

**PARTIAL CREDIT:**

- **Late quizzes will receive half-credit.**
- **Late papers will be accepted, but will be docked 10% of the total paper’s value for each calendar day late.** (e.g. 4.5 pts for a paper worth a total of 45 pts for 1 day late)
- **Final reflection will not be accepted late!**

**WRITING RESOURCES:**

- University Writing Center: <https://www.utep.edu/uwc/>
- Purdue Owl: [https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue\\_owl.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html)

**ADDITIONAL STUDENT RESOURCES:**

- Center for Accommodations and Support Services: <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/cass/>
- Technology Support Help Desk: <https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport/>
- Miner Learning Center: <https://www.utep.edu/mlc/>
- UTEP Library: <https://www.utep.edu/library/>

## COUNSELING SERVICES:

I highly encourage students to reach out for professional help in times of stress and while coping with grief. Due to the tragic events that unfolded on the 3rd of August, there are many of us who may feel especially vulnerable. I urge you to take advantage of the counseling services available here at the University. I will be periodically updating assistance information available to those touched by this tragedy throughout the semester. <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/counsel/>

## **ATTENDANCE FIRST/LATENESS/PARTICIPATION POLICY:**

### **“ATTENDANCE FIRST” ABSENCE POLICY**

To succeed in any course, but especially a dance course where students can often only learn by experiential participation, a student must first and above all be present. Therefore, the Attendance First Absence Policy of the UTEP Dance Program prioritizes class attendance and participation at the top of the grading process.

### TECHNIQUE/THEORY/CREATIVE CLASSES THAT MEET TWICE OR THREE TIMES A WEEK.

In a course that meets twice a week, a student is allowed a maximum of 4 absences in an entire semester, 2 of which require no justification and result in no penalty. A student may use these absences based on personal necessity. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> absences will result in a drop of ½ letter each in the student’s overall grade. At the 5<sup>th</sup> absence, regardless of the student’s current course standing or grade, the student automatically fails the course.

For courses that meet three times a week, the allowance is 3 absences without penalty. The course grade is reduced by ½ letter each for the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> absence, and the student automatically fails at the 7<sup>th</sup> absence.

### TECHNIQUE CLASSES MEETING 4 AND 5 TIMES A WEEK.

For courses that meet four and five times a week, the maximum allowance for an entire semester is 8 absences. Five result in no penalty and require no justification. The 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> absences result in the lowering of the overall course grade by ½ letter. At the 9<sup>th</sup> absence, the student fails the course regardless of course average.

## **EXCEPTIONS:**

- In the event of international bridge closures, exceptions may be made and make-up course work assigned.
- In case of an injury or extended illness, it is the student's responsibility to meet with his or her instructor to discuss possible solutions for course continuation or to consider dropping the class.
- In the event of highly unusual or extenuating circumstances, a student may petition the course instructor and department chair for permission to continue in a course.

## **Student Conduct/Scholastic Dishonesty/Final Exams and Plagiarism:**

Refer to the [Handbook of Operating Procedures: Student Affairs](#). Any form of academic dishonesty: cheating, plagiarizing, or taking a test for another student is considered a very serious matter at UTEP. Our library webpage provides good information on what UTEP considers Academic Dishonesty and what steps the university takes in such cases. Please review this information at: <http://libraryweb.utep.edu/research/plagiarism.php> If I suspect plagiarism I will immediately turn your work over to student conduct to have them handle the situation. If found that you have committed academic dishonesty, it will go on your record.

## **Technical Support**

If you do not know how to use Blackboard – go to Tech Support Room 300 at Library immediately. Do not wait until you are having problems. You can contact Help Desk via email, [helpdesk@utep.edu](mailto:helpdesk@utep.edu), or by phone 747-5257. Hours are M-F 7a-8p, Sat 9a-10p and Sun 12-4p.

## **Subject Matter**

The performing arts have the power to stir strong emotions, or possibly touch on subjects you might not feel comfortable seeing on stage. If you have concerns about viewing or discussing specific subjects, please see me as soon as possible to discuss possible accommodations. As I will respect your individual rights to choose what shows you want to see, I expect all our discussions—including any that may occur outside of class—to be conducted in a respectful and professional matter.

### **Copyright and Fair Use:**

The University requires all members of its community to follow copyright and fair use requirements. You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The University will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for student violations of fair use laws. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies.

### **ADA:**

The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that reasonable accommodations be provided for students with physical, sensory, cognitive, systemic, learning, and psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at [www.sa.utep.edu/cass](http://www.sa.utep.edu/cass).