Syllabus Selected Topics in Dance DANC 4340 278531

Acting for Classical Ballet

Instructor: Lisa Smith

Fox Fine Arts 200

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Course Description: An independent study in role analysis, history, and character development in the art of Classical Ballet. This course will examine three diverse leading roles for ballerinas and how they are approached through the experience of rehearsal coaches, performers, creators, and directors to create an expressive and authentic character in the context of a full length production.

Course Goals:

- To study the history, development, and interpretation of three diverse roles in classical ballet.
- To understand how characterization is created in classical ballet through analysis, preparation, and performance.
- To demonstrate a command of this process through a presentation and performance.
- To analyze and perform a monologue, comparing role preparation in acting and dance.

Research and Role Interpretation:

You will research each role and analyze its main character’s traits, motivations, and objectives. You will write a report on your research that explains the characters’ development throughout the work and how both choreography and acting carry the role through the ballets in which they appear. You will learn one solo from each ballet and analyze the character’s emotion, dramatic arc, and objective in the dance. Your will report on this research as well and present these three dances to your instructor at some point to be determined during the semester. You will analyze and perform a monologue selected by your instructor. Each project represents 20% of your semester grade. Total 80%

Monologue Analysis and Performance:

You will analyze, learn, and perform a selected monologue. Total 20%

You will need to schedule three visits to campus in order to present your work.

Course Materials:

You will need access to YouTube, the UTEP library, and a Skype account.