

Dance Performance • Dance Theater Lab

DANC 3151 • DANC 1151 • DANC 1022

CRN
26985 • 28689 • 29508

Instructor: Dr. Melissa Melpignano

Where: Fox Fine Arts A452

When: Fridays, 10:30-11:50 am on weeks 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14

E-mail: mmelpignano@utep.edu

Office Hours: walk-in: Thursday, 2-3 pm, in FFA M200A
by appointment: in person or Zoom - always book in advance via email

WE EXPERIENCE THIS COURSE IN THE MIDST OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC. HEALTH AND SAFETY ARE OUR PRIORITIES. PLEASE, TAKE CARE OF YOURSELVES AND PROTECT OTHERS. WE HIGHLY ENCOURAGE WEARING MASKS IN CLASS. GET IN TOUCH IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE AND FOLLOW THE UTEP GUIDELINES AT THIS LINK: <https://www.utep.edu/resuming-campus-operations/news/index.html>

Course Description

This class offers dance majors a platform to expand their dance performance & technique knowledge and professionalization through practices that are not part of the core curriculum. Working with specialists in diverse local and global genres, styles, and techniques, students acquire skills and receive support to explore a variety of professional dance realms, improve their performance craft for present and future artistic endeavors, and increase their artistic and professional network in the field of dance and performance.

Workshops' details on the Home of the course's Blackboard.

Learning Goals

- Versatility in dance training to expand the dancer's technical and cultural horizons and future possibilities
- To increase one's knowledge of underrepresented dance forms
- Development of collegiality, accountability, and collaborative skills in conjunction with individual responsibility
- Capacity to train with focus, commitment, and clarity

Grading

Attendance and engagement (50 points = 5 pts. each workshop)

Students arrive to class on time and ready to dance. It is highly recommended to get to the studio earlier to warm up. During the class, students show interest, focus, a professional attitude, curiosity, collegiality, and physical and intellectual engagement.

Although one's own energy levels obviously vary throughout the semester and because of specific circumstances, keep yourselves connected to the reasons why you decided to pursue dance, show up (calibrating your energies when necessary) and stay connected to your practice, the practice of the collective, and the gift of presence and energy the artists and the peers share.

Discussion Board (DB) Reflections (50 points = 5 pts. each)

After each Friday workshop, share your experience on the Blackboard Discussion Board, following the specific reflection-prompt indicated in each thread. Each DB post is due on the Tuesday after the workshop by 11.59 pm (e.g. for the workshop on Friday of week 2, you need to submit your DB post by 11.59 pm of Tuesday of week 3). For each post, you can get a maximum of 5 points. No late posts are accepted (exceptions are documented circumstances *communicated via email to the instructor of record*) as it is important to capture the feelings and thoughts of a workshop experience before the following one.

Posts are 250-word long. Posts can exceed this length but cannot be less than 250 words.

How to succeed in this course

Follow the indications shared in the syllabus, in the BB announcements, on the course's BB, and during class. Respect the deadlines and mark the class's dates and deadlines on your calendars/planners. Something is not clear? A documented emergency happens? E-mail the instructor right away.

Announcements and e-mails: Blackboard announcements are the main form of communication that I have with you as a class. Check them often, at least once a day, and read my messages thoroughly. If there are any specifications, changes or alterations to assignments, dates or anything else regarding the class, they will be communicated via email through a BB Announcement. You are responsible for the information shared there. Check your e-mail account (the one through which you're enrolled at UTEP which needs to be your miners.utep.edu account) at least once a day.

If you have questions: ASK! The best way to get a hold of me is via email (please don't use Blackboard to send me a message, do it directly from your email account to my email address). Unless I announce otherwise, I should be able to get back to you within 48 hours.

Attendance Policy

If a student is quarantining or is not present F2F because of COVID or COVID symptoms, as long as the student contacts the instructor prior to class & attends class remotely, that does not count as an absence. There are two scenarios for attending class on Zoom.

A) Asymptomatic/feeling overall ok: the student practices with camera on, and participates through chat and voice if requested

B) Sick/on bed rest: the student follows the class (keeping the camera off if needed, no chat/voice participation requested), takes notes during the workshop, and submits such notes via email to the instructor right after class (not hours or days later).

In case of extended injury or illness, the student must contact the instructor to discuss possible accommodations, course continuation or to consider dropping the class.

In the event of international bridge closures, the student needs to contact the instructor as exceptions may be made and make-up course work assigned.

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.

Zoom access only for Covid-related issues communicated in advance to the instructor:

<https://utep-edu.zoom.us/j/81563527210?pwd=WDJsSUQ0dVQ1aS9aRVhESm41SkxWdz09>

Meeting ID: 815 6352 7210

Passcode: GW4uM8t2

Technology Requirements

You will need to have or have access to a device that allows you to access and visualize Blackboard and check the emails. If you encounter technical difficulties of any kind, contact the Help Desk at <https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport/> and helpdesk@utep.edu.

Academic Dishonesty and Copyright

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>. Refer also to the [Handbook of Operating Procedures: Student Affairs](#).

Some of the materials in this course are copyrighted. Copying of textbooks is not “fair use” under the Copyright Act. Your cooperation is expected. 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.

Students with Disabilities Policy

The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that reasonable accommodations be provided for students with physical, sensory, cognitive, systemic, learning, and psychiatric special needs. If you have a disability and/or you need any accommodation, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to 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.

On-Campus Sources of Student support

- Center for Accommodations and Support Services <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/cass/>
- Student Success Helpdesk https://www.utep.edu/advising/student_resources/student-success-helpdesk.html

- Miner Learning Center <https://www.utep.edu/mlc/>

- University Writing Center <https://www.utep.edu/uwc/>

- Counseling and Psychological Services <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/counsel/>

Students are encouraged to speak with professionals from UTEP's Counseling and Psychological Services on a walk-in basis from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday in Union Building West, Room 202. In addition, the Miners Talk Crisis Line at 915-747-5302 is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

- UTEP Title IX (Anti-Sexual Harassment and Anti-Sexual Violence) Office:

<https://www.utep.edu/titleix/sb-212.html>

- UTEP policies and updates on Covid-19: <https://www.utep.edu/resuming-campus-operations/news/index.html>