DANC 3301 – Dance Theory and Composition
Independent Study
CRN 29288
Spring 2020

Instructor: Sandra Paola López Ramírez
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This syllabus is subject to change, I will notify you promptly if and when it does.

Course Objective:
This course will focus on developing strategies to further the student’s creative practice as applied to dancemaking.

Text:
The Creative Habit: Learn It and Use It for Life by Twyla Tharp

Course Activities:

**Assisting Movement for Actors I:** The student will be required to attend and assist in a semester-long movement class for actors on MW from 9:00 am – 10:20 am. Duties will include but are not limited to demonstrating exercises, taking roll and participating actively in the class.

**Creating a movement sequence:** The student will be required to create, teach and lead a movement warm-up sequence for the aforementioned class in the second part of the semester (after Spring Break). The sequence should demonstrate the student’s creative voice in addition to fulfill the task of safely warming up the body. **DUE: March 23rd.**

**Book report and reflection:** Before the semester ends, the student will turn in a book report on the text cited above including reflections on each exercise and how these were applied to or influenced the student’s creative process for his capstone project. **DUE: May 1st.**

*NOTE:* The student is expected to read the book throughout the semester and write about each chapter and exercise as he reads and does them to support a continuous inquiry into his creative process.

**Performance Response:** The student is required to watch a professional dance performance, either live or on video, and write a short reflection on the compositional elements observed. Response should be no shorter than 500 words and no longer than 1500. **Due: April 1st.**
**Late-work Policy:** I do NOT accept late work. Please plan ahead and give yourself plenty of time to turn in assignments on time. If something extraordinary comes up that will prevent you from turning in an assignment (accident, death in the family, severe illness, etc.) you must let me know (if at all possible) BEFORE the due date to request an extension.

**Academic Dishonesty:**
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/copy_plag.php

**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, 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.

**Technology Problems:**
Technology problems are NOT an excuse for work that is late or missing. Students need to complete assignments for this course well before the due date to allow time for dealing with technology problems. Contact IT for technological problems and remember that Atlas lab in the UGLC or LACIT in the Liberal Arts building provide assistance with using Blackboard.

**University Writing Center:**
Located in the library room 227, UTEP’s University Writing Center (UWC) offers free tutoring assistance in writing for all UTEP students. The tutors are undergraduate and graduate students who can help with all parts of a writing assignment, including prewriting, organizing, revising, and editing. They can also help you understand any writing assignment and will work with you to aid you in comprehending difficult material.