

DANC 1304 – Dance Appreciation Spring 2016

MW 1:30 – 2:50 PM

FOX D 180 (M) and Magoffin Auditorium (W)

Instructor: S. Paola Lopez R.

Office: FOX M 211 **Office Hours:** TR 12:00 – 2:30 PM or by appointment.

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This syllabus is subject to change, I will notify you promptly if and when it does.

Course Description:

This is a survey course which uses a series of readings, lectures, discussions and movement workshops to investigate who dances (i.e. who gets to dance) and why, and how, when and where dance happens. We will explore this through the lens of social and popular dance and look at the socio-political implications of movement on and off the stage. We will be learning how dance is interweaved with politics, economics, race and gender issues.

This is a lecture class with a practicum component at least once every two weeks. Generally, lecture sessions will take place on Mondays and will meet in FOX D 180, and practicum sessions will be held on Wednesdays at Magoffin Auditorium. **You will need to be in comfortable clothes that you can move in freely for practicum sessions (i.e. workout clothes).** Students will not be graded on how well they perform in movement sessions, but *they will be graded on participation. It is extremely important for you not to miss the practicum sessions, as this is physical work and thus, you can't make it up.*

Textbook:

Ballroom, Boogie, Shimmy Sham, Shake: A Social and Popular Dance Reader. Ed. Julie Malnig

Most of your readings will come from this text, but might be supplemented by other articles that I will make available to you on Blackboard (note that these are not on the tentative schedule yet. I will choose the articles based on how the class evolves).

Course Objectives:

- ✓ To look at dance in many forms and locations in order to begin a critical examination of the art form in varied contexts
- ✓ Embody different dance styles and use that information to further the critical exploration of dance theory and history
- ✓ Address key topics and terminology for learning about dance cultures
- ✓ Understand how the broader social, cultural, historical and political contexts shape dance and vice versa
- ✓ Relate and apply the theoretical and embodied knowledge of the class to our own experience as movers and human beings

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.

Attendance Policy: You have four (4) absences permitted during the course of the semester without penalty. After that, **your grade will be lowered 1/2 a letter grade for each day missed.** Keep in mind that coming to class late or leaving early will be considered as 1/2 an absence. ***Students missing more than seven classes should drop the course.*** **Please make sure you are aware of the course drop deadline, dropping the class is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!**

NOTE: In certain circumstances I will allow you to make up absences. If you want to do this, please schedule an appointment with me to discuss it further.

Assignments:

- *First Assignment:* Type a 300-350 word description of your physical experience, print it and bring it to class. **Due Jan 25th**
- *Quizzes:* **You will be quizzed every day there is a reading due.**
- *Performance Response:* You are required to attend the dance concert *Firebird and My Mozart* and respond to your experience (see attached for guidelines). Response due: **Feb 24th**
- *Midterm exam:* **March 2nd**
- *Final exam:* **May 4th**
- *Final paper:* **Due Monday, May 9th by 11:59 PM.** Late papers **will not** be accepted (see attached for guidelines). Paper topic is **due April 4th**

Criteria for Grading

Effort (200 points): Every day I will take into consideration your class participation, attitude and engagement. This include having proper attire for practicums.

First Assignment (15 points): Type a 300-350 word description of your physical experience, print it and bring it to class. Start by thinking about the following questions: What distinguishes your experience of body and motion? (How do you move around? Do you do sports, martial arts, play music, read, hike, knit?) How is your body and movement experience in family and religious rituals? What gestures and postures form part of your social and work life?

Quizzes (55 points, 5 points each): Most weeks you will be required to read one (or two articles), most of them will come from your textbook. If another one is assigned it will be posted to blackboard the week before. If you miss class, or arrive to class after the quiz has been administered, you won't be allowed to make-up the points.

Performance Response (30 points): You are required to attend the dance concert *Firebird and My Mozart* and respond to your experience in a creative/artistic way (see attached guidelines).

Midterm exam (100 points): This exam will cover everything we read, discuss and practice in the first half of the semester.

Final exam (100 points): This exam will be mostly non-comprehensive, it will focus on readings, discussions and practicums the second half of the semester. If there is something from the first half of the semester that I want to test you again on, we will go over it during the exam review.

Final paper (100 points): You will do a final research paper on a topic of your choice and related to the class. Late papers **will not** be accepted (see attached for guidelines).

Total possible points: 600

A= 100-90% (540-600)

B= 89-80% (480-539)

C= 79-70% (420-479)

D= 69-60% (360-419)

F= 59% and below (359 <)

Remember that the number of absences you have can lower your final grade!!!

EXTRA CREDIT: You can get unlimited extra credit by attending as many extra performances you want. In order to get credit, performances need to be pre-approved by the instructor and you have to submit the ticket-stub or program with a 300-word response. **The last day to turn in extra credit is Monday, May 9th.**

Tentative Class Schedule

Wednesday 1/20 – MEET AT FOX D 180

Course Introduction, going over syllabus and class format

Monday 1/25

Reading DUE: *Introduction*, by Julie Malnig (pg. 1-13)

Quiz 1

First Assignment DUE. Be prepared to discuss your response in class.

Wednesday 1/27 – Meet at Magoffin Auditorium

Practicum: Body awareness

Monday 2/1

Reading DUE: *The Civilizing of America's Ballrooms: The Revolutionary War to 1890*, by Elizabeth Aldrich (pg. 36)

Quiz 2

Wednesday 2/3

Practicum: Waltz

Monday 2/8

Reading DUE: *Reality Dance: American Dance Marathons*, by Carol Martin (pg. 93)

Quiz 3

Wednesday 2/10

Practicum: Swing

Monday 2/15

Reading DUE: *Rocking Around the Clock: Teenage Dance Fads from 1955-1965*, by Tim Wall (pg. 182)

Quiz 4

Wednesday 2/17 ****NO CLASS****

Monday 2/22

Reading DUE: *"Just Like Being at the Zoo" Primitivity and Ragtime Dance*, by Nadine George-Graves (pg. 55)

Quiz 5

Wednesday 2/24 – Meet at FOX 180

Performance Response DUE: Be prepared to present and discuss in class your experience in the dance concert.

Monday 2/29

Review Midterm Exam

Wednesday 3/2

****MIDTERM exam – Meet at FOX D 180****

Monday 3/7 SPRING BREAK ****NO CLASS****

Wednesday 3/9 SPRING BREAK ****NO CLASS****

Monday 3/14

How to do research? – Meet at Library (Instructor out of town)

Wednesday 3/16

Practicum: TBA

Monday 3/21

Reading DUE: *Rumba Then and Now*, by Yvonne Daniel (pg. 146)

Quiz 6

Wednesday 3/23

Practicum: Rumba

Monday 3/28

Reading DUE: *Embodying Music, Disciplining Dance: The Mambo Body in Havana and New York City*, by David F. García (pg. 165)

Quiz 7

Wednesday 3/30

Practicum: Salsa/Mambo

Start brainstorming topics for final paper. They are due next Monday.

Monday 4/4

Reading DUE: *Beyond the Hustle: 1970s Social Dancing, Discotheque Culture, and the Emergence of the Contemporary Club Dancer* by Tim Lawrence (pg. 199)

Quiz 8

Paper topic DUE on blackboard by 11:59 PM

Wednesday 4/6

Meet at the Library (Instructor out of town)

RESEARCH/WRITING TIME

Monday 4/11

Reading DUE: *The Dance Archaeology of Rennie Harris: Hip-Hop or Postmodern?* by Halifu Osumare (pg. 261)

Quiz 9

Wednesday 4/13

Practicum: Postmodern dance-making

Monday 4/18

Reading DUE: *Understanding Tango* Excerpt from the book *The Meaning of Tango* by Christine Denniston (Available on Blackboard)

Quiz 10

Wednesday 4/20

Practicum: Tango

Monday 4/25

Reading DUE: *Apaches, Tangos, and Other Indecencies: Women, Dance and New York Nightlife of the 1910s* by Julie Malnig (pg. 72)

Quiz 11

Wednesday 4/27

Going over MLA format and writing tips

Monday 5/2

Review for Final Exam

Wednesday 5/4

****FINAL Exam – Meet at FOX D 180****

Monday 5/9 (Finals week)

Final Paper due by 11:59 PM

Last day to turn in Extra Credit

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.

Guidelines for Final Paper

I want you to research a dance style or culture, or a dancer/choreographer/scholar that you are interested in finding out more about. Throughout the paper, I would like you to talk about (1) why this topic/person is of interest to you, (2) how you see it /him/her related to your experience in the class and (3) how you see both of these things (your topic and your experience in class) influencing yourself (socially, politically, culturally and historically). You should include at least 5 sources in your research and only 2 can come from an internet source. Please keep in mind that you still need to know the author of all the articles/books you use, and remember: a website is NOT an author. You are welcome to include readings from our textbook as sources if they are relevant to your topic. The paper should:

- Be **no less** than 5 pages in length (not counting title page or works cited page)
- Include a works cited page
- Be double spaced
- Have 1-inch margins all around
- Have 12-point Times New Roman font
- Follow the MLA format
(<http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/humanities/english.html>).

Your paper topic NEEDS to be approved before you write the paper. You will submit the topic of your paper to me **no later than 11:59 PM on Monday, April 4th** to allow for ample time to do your research and write the paper. ***Keep in mind that if you don't turn in your topic in time, your grade will be lowered by a whole letter grade.***

Breakdown of points (100 points possible):

10 pts ____	Paper topic delivered on time
10 pts ____	Proper format
15 pts ____	Grammar and sentence structure
20 pts ____	Accuracy of research
15 pts ____	Bibliography/References
30 pts ____	Content (clear ideas and in depth connections between material and personal reflection. SEE ABOVE for what I want you to include)

Performance Response Information

Due date: Wednesday, February 24th

Performance Dates:

Firebird and My Mozart

February 12, 13, 18, 19 and 20
at 7:30 PM

February 14 and 21
at 2:30 PM

Location: Wise Family Theatre, Fox Fine Arts, UTEP

Tickets:

\$9 - \$14

Box office hours: M-F, 10 AM – 1 PM

915-747-5118

Guidelines:

It is very important for me that you take the time to interpret and respond **thoughtfully** to the dance concerts you watch. For this assignment I want to you respond in an unconventional and/or artistic way. You have the following options:

- A poem or script
- A drawing, collage, etc.
- A short dance/movement piece
- A song
- A short video
- A short story
- A website
- If you want to respond in a medium that is not on this list, please talk to me about it before hand.

DO NOT take pictures and/or videotape during the performance to use in your response.

Be prepared to discuss your experience and share your work with the class, this will be part of your grade.