

DANC 3322 – World Dance

Fall 2023

MW 9:00 – 10:20 AM

Quinn Hall 203 or FOX M201 (for studio days only)

Instructor: S. Paola López Ramírez

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Phone: 915-747-6736

Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 – 11:30 am or by appointment.

This syllabus is subject to change, I will notify you promptly if the changes will affect assignments in any way.

Course Description:

In this survey course we will investigate who dances (i.e. who gets to dance) and why, how, when and where dance happens in various contexts, time periods and cultures around the world. We will develop language to talk critically about dance and learn how, as a cultural practice and manifestation, dance is intertwined with social, political, and global issues.

Course Format:

This class is comprised of a series of lectures, in-class discussions, and studio practice days. We will be mostly meeting in our classroom in Quinn Hall 203, but will periodically meet in a dance studio in FOX M201 to embody some of the techniques, styles and characteristics from the dances we are learning about. Outside the classroom, you will be required to attend two live performances and create a group presentation for the class.

Course Objectives:

- √ To develop language to talk critically about dance
- √ To develop observation skills to analyze and discuss different dance cultures
- √ To problematize the use of euphemisms when learning about and addressing cultures different from the dominant one
- √ To expand our conception of aesthetics in dance
- √ To develop sensitivity and appreciation for other bodies and cultures
- √ To increase our kinesthetic awareness and our understanding of our body and movement
- √ To learn about dances from different time periods and cultures
- √ To increase social justice and social responsibility awareness

Assignments and Grading Criteria:

- Participation (270 points, 10 points per class): To succeed in this course you must, above all, show up and participate. If you come and do the work each class, you will

be awarded all 10 points. Please refer to the attendance policy below for further information.

- Quizzes (60 points, 10 points each): Every time you have a reading assigned, you will have a quiz due by 9 am that day. Please refer to the tentative class schedule for due dates.
- Reflections on Departmental Performances (60 points total, 30 points each): The Department of Theatre and Dance requires that each student enrolled in a dance class attends 2 shows of the departmental season within the semester. You will need to sign-in after the performance using the QR code provided at the venue and upload to blackboard a 300 to 500-word response to the show. Please refer to the **MANDATORY Departmental Performances** below to see performance dates and ticket information. **Due dates: November 1st and December 13th.**
- Studio practice free-write reflections (60 points, 10 points each): After every studio day, you will do a 5-minute free write on your experience during the physical practice. Those will need to be legible and turned in by the start of the following class time. Please see the tentative class schedule below for due dates.
- Midterm exam (100 points): Halfway through the semester you will have a midterm exam administered through Blackboard. Content will include everything we learn about the first half of the semester. **Due by 11:59 pm on October 9th.**
- Final group presentations (150 points): With your instructor's support, you will work with 2-3 peers in developing an entire class period around a dance culture of your choice. Assignments and groups will be given in class and presentations will be held throughout the last two weeks of class. You should be prepared to present on **November 27th.**
- Final exam (100 points): During finals week, you will have an online final exam administered through blackboard. It will include material covered the second half of the semester (including group presentations!). **DUE by 11:59 pm on December 13th.**

Total possible points: 800

A= 100-90% (800-720)

B= 89-80% (719-640)

C= 79-70% (639-560)

D= 69-60% (559-480)

F= 59% and below (479 <)

Attendance Policy:

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 can use these absences based on personal necessity. The 3rd and 4th absences will result in a drop of ½ a letter grade each in the student's overall grade. At the 5th absence, regardless of the student's current course standing or grade, the student will automatically fail the course.

Exceptions:

- In the event of international bridge closures, exceptions may be made and make-up work may be 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.
- In case of injury, a student who is able to be present in the studio may observe class and complete alternative and equivalent assignments to be negotiated with the instructor.

Tentative Class Schedule:

Week 1 (Aug 28th)

Mon – Syllabus and class expectations

Wed – Cultural diversity and dance

Week 2 (Sept 4th)

Mon – LABOR DAY, no class

Wed – Watching/talking dance

Week 3 (Sept 11th)

Mon – Studio Day (Meet at FOX M201)

Wed – Dances of Africa

Free-write reflection due

Week 4 (Sept 18th)

Mon – Yoruba Dance (Nigeria)

Reading due: "Performing Trauma: The Ghosts of Slavery in Yoruba Music and Ritual Dance"

Quiz #1 due by 9 am

Wed – Studio Day (Meet at FOX M201)

Week 5 (Sept 25th)

Mon – Capoeira (Brazil)

Reading Due: "The competing master narratives of capoeira history"

Quiz #2 due by 9 am

Free-write reflection due

Wed – Studio Day (Meet at FOX M201)

Week 6 (Oct 2nd)

Mon – Dances of Native America

Free-write reflection due

Wed – The Powwow (North America)

Reading Due: "Native American Powwow"

Quiz #3 due by 9 am

**** EXTRA CREDIT**** *Highly encouraged event, worth 15 points!*

Sat & Sun (Oct 7th and 8th) – Powwow at Ysleta del Sur Pueblo

You only need to attend one day. To get credit, please follow the extra credit guidelines in this syllabus.

Week 7 (Oct 9th)

Mon – **MIDTERM** exam due at 11:59 pm on Blackboard. Class will **not** meet during regular time, but I will be available in my office to answer any questions.

Wed – Studio Day (Meet at FOX M201)

Midterm check-in

Week 8 (Oct 16th)

Mon – Dances from Latin America

Free-write reflection due

Wed – Cumbia (Colombia)

Reading Due: "From Cumbia Colombiana to Cumbia Cosmopolatina: *Roots, Routes, Race, and Mestizaje*"

Quiz #4 due by 9 am

Week 9 (Oct 23rd)

Mon – Studio Day (Meet at FOX M201)

Wed – Final presentation assignments given

Free-write reflection due

Week 10 (Oct 30th)

Mon – Dances of Asia

Wed – Kathak (India)

Reading Due: "Cultural Geography of Kathak Dance: Streams of Tradition and Global Flows"

Quiz #5 due by 9 am
posdata - Performance reflection due by 11:59 pm

Week 12 (Nov 13th)

Mon – Studio Day (Meet at FOX M201)

Wed – Kabuki (Japan)

Reading Due: “Odori: Japanese Dance”

Quiz #6 due by 9 am

Free-write reflection due

Week 13 (Nov 20th)

Mon – In-class group workday

Wed – In-class group workday

Week 14 (Nov 27th)

Final Group Presentations

Week 15 (Dec 4th)

Final Group Presentations

Week 16 - Finals Week (Dec 11th)

Mon – **ALL EXTRA CREDIT** due by 11:59pm

Wed – **FINAL exam** due at 11:59 pm on Blackboard

Metamorphoses – Performance reflection due by 11:59 pm

MANDATORY Departmental Performances:

The Department of Theatre and Dance requires that each student enrolled in a dance class attends 2 shows of the departmental season within the semester. Please find below the dates, times and ticket, information for the two shows you are REQUIRED to attend this semester.

posdata (or what I wish I said)

Created by Georgina Escobar in collaboration with Kim McKean

Directed by Rebecca Frost Mayer

June Sadowski Kruszewski Studio Theatre, UTEP:

October 19, 20, 21 at 7:30 PM & October 22 at 2:00 PM

Paradox Gallery (3915 Rosa Avenue, El Paso, Texas):

October 26 at 7:30 PM

La Fe Culture and Technology Center (721 S. Ochoa, El Paso, Texas):

October 27 at 7:30 PM

Andres High School (5400 Sun Valley Drive, El Paso, Texas):

October 28 at 2:30 PM

Rio Vista Community Center (901 N Rio Vista Rd, Socorro, Texas):
October 29 at 2:30 PM

TICKET PRICES:

Adults: \$18;

UTEP Faculty/Staff, Seniors: \$15

Military, Groups (10+), Alumni (with card), Non-UTEP Students: \$15;

UTEP Students (with a valid ID), Children (ages 4-12): \$12

Metamorphoses by Mary Zimmerman

Directed by Jay Stratton

Choreographed by Melissa Melpignano

Wise Family Theatre, UTEP

December 1, 2, 8, & 9 at 7:30 PM

December 3 & 10 at 2:00 PM

TICKET PRICES:

Adults: \$18;

UTEP Faculty/Staff, Seniors: \$15

Military, Groups (10+), Alumni (with card), Non-UTEP Students: \$15;

UTEP Students (with a valid ID), Children (ages 4-12): \$12

***** If you cannot afford a ticket*****

there are ushering opportunities for departmental performances. Students can sign up to usher all departmental productions via the Theatre and Dance Audience Development office.

Ushering opportunities open one month before opening night. Ushers will see the production for free and must commit to the full time they are needed. If an usher doesn't show up or leaves early, they will not receive credit for seeing the show and will not be allowed to usher for future events.

- Usher sign-up link
for Posdata: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/16eJ50efcSvtKPWQRCYJSirc8bhP0rlhHP6n85OT1RwQ/edit?usp=sharing>
- Usher sign-up link
for Metamorphoses: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1HZ415HdTVbrMJ0y9ddGDWwc4UdNGZC2SUXzXtKg7NWk/edit?usp=sharing>

Also check your emails for **Tickets in Kind** opportunities. Tickets in Kind are free tickets for students, donated by audience members and faculty.

Extra Credit Opportunities:

I really encourage students to get out and get more dance experiences. Because of this, I do not cap extra credit and you are welcome to attend as many extra events as you want. Below are some options, but if you are attending other events that are related in some way to our course, check with me ahead of time to get approval to get extra credit. All extra credit events are worth 5 points unless otherwise noted.

- For events hosted by the Dinner Theater
check: <https://www.utep.edu/liberalarts/udt/index.html>.

- Campus Museums
Visit the current exhibits at the [Rubin Center for the Visual Arts](#) and the [Centennial Museum](#) and/or attend any of their events throughout the semester

***PLEASE NOTE** that in order to get credit, you must submit a 300-word written response for each event you attend by December 11th*

Accommodations Policy:

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the [UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#).

Scholastic Integrity:

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as ones' own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution \(OSCCR\)](#) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more [HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline](#).

Student Resources:

- [UTEP Library](#): Access a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.
- [Help Desk](#): Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Helpdesk for assistance. Contact the Helpdesk via phone, email, chat, website, or in person if on campus.
- [University Writing Center \(UWC\)](#): Submit papers here for assistance with writing style and formatting, ask a tutor for help and explore other writing resources.
- [Math Tutoring Center \(MaRCS\)](#): Ask a tutor for help and explore other available math resources.
- [History Tutoring Center \(HTC\)](#): Receive assistance with writing history papers, get help from a tutor and explore other history resources.
- [Military Student Success Center](#): UTEP welcomes military-affiliated students to its degree programs, and the Military Student Success Center and its dedicated staff (many of whom are veterans and students themselves) are here to help personnel in any branch of service to reach their educational goals.
- [RefWorks](#): A bibliographic citation tool; check out the RefWorks tutorial and Fact Sheet and Quick-Start Guide.