

DAN 110
Dance Appreciation
3-3-0

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course offers the basis for understanding and appreciating dance as an art form. It provides an overview of dance as artistic expression in 20th and 21st century America, with attention given to the artistic and cultural influences that have shaped American concert dance. Students will examine the work of major figures in American concert dance including Isadora Duncan, Doris Humphrey, Martha Graham, José Limón, Katherine Dunham, George Balanchine, Alvin Ailey, Merce Cunningham, Yvonne Rainer, Steve Paxton, and Bill T. Jones. In this course, students will view, discuss, and analyze significant choreographic works in class. The class will view a professional dance performance and write about their experiences.

REQUISITES:

Previous or Concurrent Course Requirements

ENG 011 Basic Writing II or ESL 011 Basic Writing II with a minimum grade of “C”

REA 011 Fundamentals of College Reading or REA 017 Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension Development II with a minimum grade of “C”

If the course must be concurrent, delete the words “previous or”. If there are None, type the word “None”

COURSE COMMENT(S):

None

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:		
1. Discuss 20 th and 21 st century American concert dance, its major figures, and their aesthetic, cultural, and personal values as expressed in their writings and choreographic works.	Lecture/Discussion Assigned Readings AV/Multimedia Materials Attending Live Dance Performance(s)	Written Assignments Performance Critique Written Examinations
2. Explain ways in which other cultures have influenced American concert dance. Special attention will be given to the	Movement Activities Lecture/Discussion Assigned Readings AV/Multimedia Materials	Written Assignments Written Examinations

contributions of African-American performance artists and their struggles to present their art amidst the racism of American society.		
3. Examine issues relating to gender and sexuality in American society as they have been explored and expressed in major choreographic works.	Lecture/Discussion Assigned Readings AV/Multimedia Materials	Written Assignments Written Examinations
4. Critique a professional dance performance using movement analysis criteria discussed in class and including dance description, interpretation, and evaluation of the work.	Assigned Readings AV/Multimedia Materials Attending Live Dance Performance(s)	Performance Critique

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria*.

SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

1. Introduction to Dance as an Art Form
 - a. Definitions: What is Dance? What is Art?
 - b. Dance Description & Analysis: How Do We Talk About Dance?
2. Concert Dance in 20th Century America
 - a. Influences on American Dance – European Ballet
 - b. Early Modern Dance
 - c. Influences on American Dance—German *Ausdruckstanz*
 - d. American Modern Dance – Martha Graham
 - e. American Modern Dance – Humphrey/Weidman/Limón
 - f. Influences on American Dance – The Africanist Aesthetic
 - g. African-American Dance Pioneers/Jazz Dance
 - h. American Ballet
 - i. Changing Aesthetics in Modern Dance
 - j. Postmodern Dance
3. Contemporary Choreographers

LEARNING MATERIALS:

Dance as a Theatre Art: Source Readings in Dance History from 1581 to the Present, edited by Selma Jeanne Cohen and Katy Matheson (Princeton, NJ: Princeton Book Co., 2nd ed., 1994).

Additional assigned readings will be available on Blackboard.

If no textbook in use, please include a sample of open source material.

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared by: Dr. Melinda Copel Date: 2/4/2008

VPAA/Provost Compliance Verification: Dr. John C. Flynn, Jr. Date: 6/17/2008

Revised by: Dr. Melinda Copel Date: 6/30/2012

VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:
Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D. Date: 8/27/2012

Revised by: Dr. Melinda Copel Date: 7/7/2013

VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:
Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D. Date: 7/18/2013

Revised by: Dr. Melinda Copel/Debbie Dalrymple Date: 02/01/2017

VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:
Victoria Bastecki-Perez, Ed. D. Date: 02/02/2017

Revised by: Dr. Melinda Copel Date: 8/12/2017

VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:
Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D. Date: 8/28/2017

Revised by: Dr. Melinda Copel Date: 8/27/2020

VPAA or designee Compliance Verification: Date: 9/29/2020



This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.