

DANCE IN CULTURE

(DANC 1010)

Pre-Spring Intensive 2019

University of Utah
Department of Modern Dance



**Wednesday - Saturday, January 2nd - 5th
and Saturday, January 12th**

8am - 5pm each day

(Students will have 1 hour for lunch
each day, in addition to short breaks
throughout the day)

Instructor: Jasmine Stack

Email: please use Canvas Inbox

Office Hours: By Appointment Only

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Dance 1010, explores dance as a way of knowing and understanding culture. Throughout the 5 days of this course, we will focus on universal functions of human movement and the diverse ways in which those functions are expressed in different cultural dance traditions within the United States and their country of origin. Utilizing five epistemological lenses, dance will be examined as an identifier and descriptor of cultural characteristics including nationalism, exoticism, discrimination, and societal privilege, amongst others. Viewing dance in this way is based upon the assumption that movement (ranging from pedestrian to highly stylized actions) reveals underlying values that are part of the social, cultural and aesthetic traditions apparent in the United States.

The course contributes to an understanding of dance/movement as a means for recognizing and appreciating difference. As contemporary students within the United States, each of us is in some way inextricably tied to these value systems and traditions. In designing an open forum in which to analyze and discuss those ties, this course will provide insight into both personal and cultural identity as well as appreciating difference within the internationalization in our classroom.



FINE ARTS DESIGNATION: Courses in the fine arts introduce students to ways of experiencing and understanding a variety of artistic concepts, structures, and forms. Such courses explore the world through varying aesthetic viewpoints and seek to foster critical and creative interpretations of artistic expression.

DIVERSITY DESIGNATION: The Diversity requirement stands as an institutional commitment to develop and teach ways of thinking which draw from the multiple histories and cultural heritages that shape the United States. Courses which fulfill this requirement are designed to explore the national society—its norms, laws, public policies and discourse—in the context of the rich and varied cultural diversity which has shaped it. The goal of this requirement is to extend cross-cultural understanding, perhaps replacing the impulse to stereotype with better informed reasoning, understanding, and judgment skills. This, in turn, will open possibilities for meaningful communication across social boundaries and allow students to better consider ethical and social decisions from multiple perspectives. This requirement also signals to students that their distinctive traditions, opinions, and insights belong at the university.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Through this course students will have gained:

- A greater appreciation of dance as an intellectual and physical art form
- A deeper understanding of the important role of dance within social, political, and cultural contexts
- The language and skills to dialogue and write about dance.
- The experience of learning from notable guest artists from the Salt Lake City area who specialize in specific cultural dance forms.
- The ability to observe and analyze a variety of cultural dance forms using different viewpoints and empathetic perspectives.
- The ability to synthesize course materials with one's own viewpoints.



LEARNING METHODS:

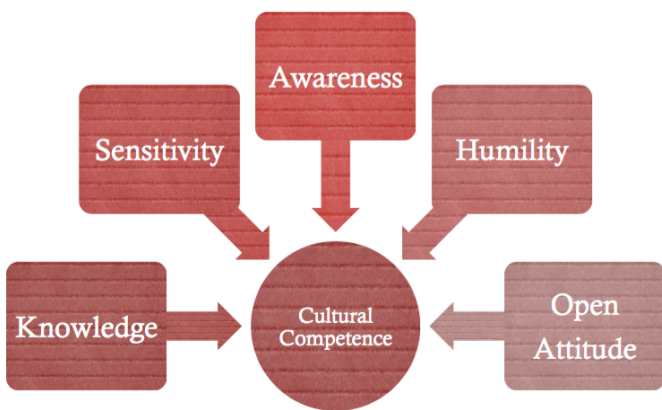
As a part of this course, you will learn by:

- **Embodying:** Participate in various cultural dance forms taught by incoming guest artists (*previous dance training not required - students graded on participation, not perfection)
- **Noticing Deeply:** Engage in critical reflections of readings, video, and in-class observations that sharpen student's own understanding of the material.
- **Taking Action:** Participate in creative and collaborative learning with your peers, using methods such as class discussions and group activities to consider different perspectives and reach new understandings.
- **Exhibiting Empathy:** Participate in observing and listening seriously to the insights of others, especially those with different backgrounds and life experiences.

- **Reflecting and Assessing:** Participate in various writing exercises and assignments that allow for reflection on and assessment of concepts and experiences from the course material.

- **Questioning Purposefully:** Participate in student or instructor posed questions to foster critical and creative thinking that sharpens thinking skills.

- **Creating Meaning:** Provide a space for students to make sense of their learning through integrative and interdisciplinary thinking and practice.



Required Reading Material:

All required reading will be posted to Canvas. Be sure to check Canvas regularly for these readings. There is no textbook for this class.



COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

Attendance:

Please be disciplined about attending the full length of class. Arriving late or leaving early will result in being marked absent for that day. Missing class is not permitted - you **MUST** attend the full length of all 5 days of the course in order to receive credit.

Intellectual Participation & Active Engagement In Class:

Class discussions, lectures, and activities will include various contexts and functions of dance, and will bring into focus complex issues related to diverse personal and social identities. This course is reliant upon an atmosphere of trust wherein cultural differences, and differences of opinion, may reside with mutual respect.

Intellectual participation and active engagement means interaction, positive contribution, and professionalism in the classroom. You will be expected to take responsibility of your own learning - to explore, investigate, analyze, share, and inquire during each class period.

10 points

Assignments for this course are divided into 3 separate categories:

Pre-Course Work, Course Work, and Post-Course Work.

Pre-Course Work must be completed before the first day of class (instructions and materials for Pre-Course Work can be found on Canvas). Course Work will be due during the week of class. Post-Course Work must be completed by students after the week of class has ended, but before the end of the term.

***Late assignments will not be accepted. Take the time to mark assignment due dates in your calendar now, in order to prevent any unpleasant surprises later!**

PRE-COURSE WORK

Assigned Readings:

“Multicultural Ground Rules for Dialogue” by Dr. Ruby Beale

“Family Resemblances” by Sondra Horton Fraleigh

“Origins & Definitions of Dance” by Harriet Lihs

* Students will be quizzed on the main topics from these readings during the first in-class meeting of this course, on January 2nd (see “Daily Reading Quiz” below)

“What Is My Culture?” Written Assignment:

Write a paper addressing the following prompts and questions:

- Describe your understanding of the word “culture”
- What do you know about your own cultural background?
- Describe 2 ways in which you think your cultural background affects your life
- What do you hope to learn from this course?

Length: 2 pages, double-spaced, 1 inch margins, and Times New Roman 12 pt. font.

10 points

Due: December 31st - submit on Canvas

COURSE WORK

Daily Reading Quiz:

Daily Reading Quizzes will occur at the beginning of each class, and consist of 3 questions asking about the main concepts of the assigned readings from the day before. Questions will be short essay style, answers should be 3-4 sentences in length. The reading list and schedule are listed on the Canvas course site.

6 points each

Daily Summary:

Daily written summaries will occur at the end of each class. Students need to hand write a 1 page summary of the concepts discussed in class - this provides the opportunity to review, absorb, and retain the lessons taught each day, and ask questions on concepts that feel unclear. Summaries can be written in paragraph or bullet point format, and must be legible in order to receive credit.

10 points each

POST-COURSE WORK

Culture of Choice Research Project:

For this assignment, students will engage in the study of a culture of choice. You will need to choose a specific dance from the culture, and analyze how the dance reflects the traditions, beliefs, and history of this culture. Your research for this assignment is meant to go beyond mere observation and description, and should reflect in-depth investigations into the unique perspectives and rich traditions of the culture you study. The culture chosen may not be one that is featured in this class.



Length: 5 pages, double-spaced, 1 inch margins, and Times New Roman 12 pt. font.

20 points

Due: January 29th - submit on Canvas

Final Exam:

The Final Exam will test students on the concepts covered during the lectures and discussed in the assigned readings, as well as the information taught by guest artists in the course. The exam will be posted to Canvas, and includes multiple choice, fill in the blank, true or false, and essay questions.

30 points

Due: January 29th - submit on Canvas

POINTS BY ASSIGNMENT:

Assignment	Points
Intellectual Participation & Active Engagement	10
“What is my Culture?” Written Assignment	10
Daily Reading Quiz	30 (6 points per class)
Daily Summaries	50 (10 points per submission)
Culture of Choice Research Project	20
Final Exam	30
TOTAL POINTS	150

GRADING SCALE:



A	=	94 - 100 %
A-	=	90 - 93 %
B+	=	87 - 89 %
B	=	83 - 86 %
B-	=	80 - 82 %
C+	=	77 - 79 %
C	=	73 - 76 %
C-	=	70 - 72 %
D+	=	67 - 69 %
D	=	63 - 66 %
D-	=	60 - 62 %
F	=	0 - 59 %

GENERAL POLICIES:

Electronic Device Usage: Students are expected to turn cell phones to silent prior to class, and should keep phones out of sight. Repeated failure to do so will result in the student being dismissed from class. If an emergency exists and a student must be reachable during the class period, arrangements must be made with the instructor prior to the beginning of class. You may NOT use your laptop or tablet to take notes in class.

Canvas: Canvas is the University of Utah's course management system. You are responsible for your own awareness of all course content disseminated on Canvas throughout the semester, including assignment due dates, with or without reminders from the instructor. In order to ensure that you receive all important course information in a timely manner, please take time to set up your campus email (UMail) properly.

Student Responsibilities and Academic Integrity: All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting and in all course-related interactions with faculty and fellow-students. The Student Code specifies proscribed conduct (Article XI) that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the code carefully and know they are responsible for the content

Plagiarism Software Policy: Your professor may elect to use a plagiarism detection service in this course, in which case you will be required to submit your paper to such a service as part of your assignment.

ADA Statement: The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.

Accommodations Policy: Some of the readings, lectures, films, or presentations in this course may include material that may conflict with the core beliefs of some students. Please review the syllabus carefully to see if the course is one that you are committed to taking. If you have a concern, please discuss it with the instructor at your earliest convenience. For more information, please consult the University of Utah's Accommodations Policy, which appears at: www.admin.utah.edu/facdev/accommodations-policy.pdf.

Wellness Statement: Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc. can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive at the University of Utah. For helpful resources contact the Center for Student Wellness- www.wellness.utah.edu; 801-581-7776



Non-Contract Note: This syllabus is meant to serve as an outline and guide for the course. Please note that the instructor may modify the syllabus at any time with reasonable notice given to students. The instructor may also modify the schedule at any time to accommodate the needs of the class. Should you have any questions or concerns about the syllabus, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor for clarification.

* **Visit the following website for information on deadlines to drop (delete), add, elect CR/NC, audit, withdraw, or reverse CR/NC:**

<http://registrar.utah.edu/handbook/miscellaneous.php>