Course Title: Dance Appreciation  
Term: Spring 2024  
Instructor: Clinical Assistant Professor Armstrong  
Email: Carisa-armstrong@hlkn.tamu.edu  
Office Location: 230A GRW

Course Number: DCED 202  
Meeting times/location: online course  
Telephone: 862-4684  
Office Hours: By Appointment

Required Texts:  
The Dance Experience: Insights into History, Culture and Creativity by Myron Howard Nadel and Marc Raynuad Strauss

Dancing: The Pleasure, Power, and Art of Movement by Gerald Jonas

Other handouts may be provided for supplemental information.

Course Description: Dance Appreciation provides an introduction to dance including its cultural, social and artistic aspects. Special emphasis is given to the appreciation and understanding of the role dance plays in various societies and how society influences the development of dance as an art form. This course will explore various artistic dance genres, the cultural influence of dance and then turn to contemporary culture and current issues in dance.

Course Objectives:  
1. To develop an understanding and appreciation of dance as a cultural and artistic form.  
2. To demonstrate knowledge of dance history, artists and genres as reflections of cultural and societal influences.  
3. To discuss scientific, political and sociological factors affecting the evolution of dance.  
4. To develop abilities in critical viewing, reading and writing from dance sources that include film/video, live performance, and literature.  
5. To relate current issues in dance to current culture and everyday life.  
6. To demonstrate competency in reading, writing, and speaking about dance with clarity within a historical/cultural context.

Learning Outcomes:  
The assessment of these outcomes is reflected in the written assignments and exams.  
1. Students will be able to compare and contrast dances from various cultures and understand their cultural significance.  
2. Students will be able to explain scientific, political and sociological factors affecting the evolution of dance.  
3. Students will be able to analyze formal criticism of singular dance works and evaluate.  
4. Students will develop a knowledge base and understanding of dance within society as it relates to art, entertainment and culture.  
5. Students will be able to identify and distinguish between various cultures based on writings, music and video.  

General Course Content:  
1. Defining dance and the reasons behind this human expression  
2. Discussing the earliest forms of dance  
3. Understanding dance and its religious and cultural roles in numerous cultures  
4. Visual exposure to various types of dance and their unique styles  
5. Exploring the development at dance as an art form and the development of the professional dance genres world wide  
6. Analyzing current trends and issues in dance and their impact on society
Course Work:
Video Analysis Assignments = 20 points
- These are online assignments requiring students to view various videos of cultural/artistic dance and answer questions analyzing the dance form. Creating their own interpretations of the work and working with other students to discuss their thoughts.
  o 2 assignments worth 5 points each
Exams = 40 points
- These exams will include traditional testing methods as well as video recognition of various genres and cultural forms of dance.
  o Midterm Exam = 20 points
  o Final Exam 20 points
Critique of Live Performances = 20 points
- Students will be required to attend two live dance performances in two different genres or cultural forms of dance. The students will write a critical analysis of this performance.
  One of these performances must be followed with a question and answer with the artists.
  o 2 Live Performance Critiques – each is worth 10 points
Peer Article Reviews = 20 points
- Students will work in groups to discuss the aspects of specific articles related to dance as a cultural and artistic form. These discussions are designed to allow for the students to exchange ideas about the content and how it impacts them.
  o 2 Peer Article reviews – each worth 10 points

Grade Scale: 90-100 = A 80-89 = B 70-79 = C 60-69 = D Below 60 = F

Course Calendar:

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<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Required Reading</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>What is dance and Why do we dance</td>
<td>Nadel – Foreward; Jonas – Ch. 1</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Dance and Early Cultures</td>
<td>Nadel – Ch. 1&amp;2; Jonas – Ch. 2</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Dance as religion and ritual</td>
<td>Nadel – Ch. 3-5; Jonas – Ch. 3</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Social Dance</td>
<td>Nadel – Ch. 6; Jonas – Ch. 4</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Development of Ballet</td>
<td>Nadel – Ch. 8; Jonas – Ch. 5</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>New Worlds of Dance</td>
<td>Nadel – Ch. 7; Jonas – Ch. 6</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Development of Modern Dance</td>
<td>Nadel – Ch. 9&amp;10; Jonas – Ch. 7</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Dance on Screen</td>
<td>Nadel – Ch. 11</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Dance and Gender</td>
<td>Nadel – Ch. 12</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Dance and Education</td>
<td>Nadel – Ch. 13</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Technique, Choreography and Notation</td>
<td>Nadel – Ch. 14-16</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Productions Wide</td>
<td>Nadel – Ch. 18&amp;19</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Expansion of Dance in Current Society</td>
<td>Nadel – Ch. 20 &amp; handouts</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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Attendance Policy
"The University views class attendance as the responsibility of an individual student. Attendance is essential to complete the course successfully. University rules related to excused and unexcused absences are located on-line at http://student-rules.edu/rule07."
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