

DANC 110: DANCE APPRECIATION
SUMMER/WINTER TERM

Assistant Professor Anna Patsfall

Anna.patsfall@wku.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A general study of the various forms of dance with emphasis on the contributions each has made to the performing arts and the development of our culture. This course is designed to develop awareness and appreciation of dance in its artistic, social, and cultural contexts.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To develop the student's understanding and appreciation of what dance is and how to perceive and evaluate dance. Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to articulate an understanding and perception of the following questions: What is dance? Why do we dance? What do I feel about dance?
2. To provide the student with an abbreviated history of theatrical dance and provide an opportunity for students to understand and evaluate the historical, social and political connections between dance and society.
3. To introduce the student to all aspects involved in the production of theatrical dance
4. To introduce students to the various dance-related careers
5. To encourage critical thinking through reflective writing assignments following reading material, recorded and live dance performances.

Colonnade and Learning Outcomes:

This course helps fulfill the requirement for Explorations within the WKU Colonnade program. Specific learning outcomes include:

- 1) Students will use appropriate vocabulary for the description and critical analysis of dance performance. They will also explore the major components of various genres of dance technique, choreographic elements, creative approaches and terminology used in dance practice.
- 2) Students will demonstrate the ability to analyze dance choreography as observed in performance for the basic elements of dance composition, including space, time and energy. Students will also demonstrate the ability to distinguish and evaluate the corresponding production choices made by technical designers.
- 3) Students will analyze how social, cultural and historical contexts have influenced dance technique, choreography and performance throughout various historical periods and in various cultures.
- 4) Students will explore how dance artists have challenged, supported and/or shaped social values, political systems and aesthetic practices throughout various historical periods and in various cultures.
- 5) Students will identify choreographic concepts, ideas and artistic approaches in dance performance from a range of historical periods, and will examine how these issues as well as newer concerns are currently being addressed by attending and analyzing live dance performances.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- *Learning About Dance: Dance as an Art Form and Entertainment* (7th Ed.) by Nora Ambrosio
- Computer access; Browser: FireFox works best with BlackBoard

CLASS CONTENT

Since this class is online, you are responsible for managing your time. You are expected to login to Blackboard and check your WKU email daily. A course calendar has been designed for you to use throughout the duration of this course. Each assignment/assessment will be available to students from the beginning of the course until the due date as listed in the course calendar. **All readings, blogs, quizzes and exams assigned during a given week will be due by 9 pm CST on Friday of the week in which they appear on the calendar.**

Quizzes

Quizzes can be found by clicking on the “Quizzes” tab of the course’s main page. Quizzes will be open book/notes and computer-based. Students will have one hour to complete each quiz once they have opened it. Quizzes may only be attempted once, and the instructor will only reset a quiz for you once.

Exams

Exams can be found by clicking on the “Exams” tab of the course’s main page. Students may take all exams from their personal computers. Students will have 90 minutes to complete each exam once they have opened it. Students will have only one attempt for each exam and the instructor will only reset an exam for you once. After completing your exam, the questions are graded and a score is given immediately. Students can access their grades by going to “Grades”.

Reflective Blogs

Students are required to participate in blogs as assigned. Blogs can be found under the “Reflective Blogs” tab. Students should open the assigned blog and create a new entry to receive credit. **Do not upload a separate document as this will not be accepted.** Your grade for these assignments will be based on the quality of your participation. **To receive full credit for each blog, responses must include a minimum of 200 words, well-constructed and organized sentences, and demonstrate careful thought and in-depth response to the assigned question/topic.**

Journal Assignment

Students are required to complete one journal entry. Prompt will be provided on Blackboard under the “Journal” tab. Your entry should be approximately 400 words and should demonstrate maturity and originality of thought reflected by the ability to analyze, synthesize and evaluate concepts and material from class along with correct grammar and spelling. Grading will be based on organization, clarity of ideas, and content. See the course calendar for specific due date.

GRADING:

50 points	Quiz 1 (Unit 1: Understanding Dance)
50 points	Quiz 2 (Ballet)
100 points	Exam 1 (Unit 2: Ballet and Modern Dance)
50 points	Quiz 3 (Unit 3: Social Dance)
100 points	Exam 2 (Unit 4: Jazz, Tap and Musical Theatre Dance)
220 points	Reflective Blogs (11 entries, 20 points per entry)
50 points	Journal Entry
620 points	TOTAL

WHAT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS FOR THE PROFESSOR?

Students with general questions regarding course material or grades should email the professor directly. I will make every effort to respond within 24 hours.

WHERE DO I GET TECHNICAL HELP?

Difficulty with technology will not be accepted as an excuse for late work. All assignments are posted well in advance of the due date. **Do not procrastinate.** Should your personal computer experience problems, there are several computer labs throughout campus available for use.

Should you need technical assistance contact WKU's information technology help desk at 745-7000.

University Disability Statement

“Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services, Garrett Conference Center 101. The OFSDS telephone number (27)745-5004 V/TDD.”

Please DO NOT request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy (#0.2070) at <https://wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/wkutitleixpolicyandgrievanceprocedure.pdf> and

Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040) at

https://wku.edu/policies/hr_policies/2040_discrimination_harassment_policy.pdf.

Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121.

*Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are “Responsible Employees” of the University and **MUST** report what you share to WKU’s Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU’s Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.*