

DANC 360: DANCE IN CULTURE (WEB)

Winter/Summer

Assistant Professor: Meghan McKinley

Meghen.McKinley@wku.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will offer a survey of world dance forms, emphasizing the social, cultural and aesthetic principles defining these forms. Through reading, online lectures, discussion, videos and research; dance in societies throughout Asia, Africa, Europe, North America and South America will be explored. The gender, racial, political and/or religious orientations that have shaped dance history will be examined.

This course helps fulfill the requirements for Section III/Colonnades requirements.

- An appreciation and exploration of the complexity and variety in the world's cultures.
- A basic understanding of contemporary issues around movement practices and global migration of dance styles.
- The ability to discuss how dance embodies and is a form of communication within a culture through myth, performance, and social happenings.
- Students will be challenged to make connections and developed a broader perspective of forms and discussion of these forms and cultures through blog writing.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To provide students with a fundamental understanding of dance as an art form.
2. To broaden the students' understanding of the relationships between dance and culture; in relation to social status, gender, religion, movement, and how this perspective affects perception.
3. To demonstrate an ability to analyze, discuss and describe movement, quality, and role, in a variety of contexts.
4. To provide an atmosphere that encourages critical thinking and enhanced research skills through class discussions/forums, research, observations, and writing assignments.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

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

*other reading requirements will be provided as a file upload or online link.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON NECESSARY BASIC REQUIREMENTS

Desktop/laptop computer, printer, Browser: Firefox, Safari, Chrome

Research papers and homework files must be submitted using Microsoft Word/Doc X/PDF. Do not send any files or reports that utilize Microsoft Works, Microsoft Vista, or Pages.

*This course requires proficient writing and communication skills. Articulation of findings and responses to material is crucial to this course.

COURSE 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. Pay close attention to due dates for quizzes, blog assignments, papers, and exams; as no late submissions are accepted. Students will have access to most course materials, including quizzes, exams and blogs, from the beginning of the course through the due date listed in the course calendar. Exams and quizzes will be available at the start of each week. You are encouraged to not work too far ahead, as feedback on your blogs will need to be applied for success of future submissions and content application. Be sure to check the Announcements daily: as reminders, clarifications, and special notes will be provided in that format.

Quizzes

An online quiz will accompany each chapter. 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.

Exams

This course will include three online 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. After completing your exam, the questions are graded and a score is given immediately. Students can access their grades by going to “Grades”.

Blogs

Students are required to participate in blogs of course topics. Topics will be posted in the “Blogs” section of the Blackboard main course page. Refer to the course calendar for scheduled blog assignments. Each assignment will be available to students from the beginning of the course through the due date as listed in the course calendar. **Topics will be prompted by instructor. To receive full credit, you must develop a full response discussing topics at a college thinking level. Posts that accomplish this tend to be a page to 2 page responses.** Feedback to each blog will be provided to allow the student to assess and apply corrections for improved submissions. Continue to use specific points to support your answers and think beyond what the general information is to develop critical thinking and analysis of topics. Movement/gesture, traditional clothing, social settings, the role of dance, political issues, ect. are to help support your answers in addition to being able to compare dance in a variety of different cultures.

*this requirement is subject to change according to the topic and assignment requirements. Any changes will be posted under each ‘blog’.

*you are required to cite within your blog response for practice for your final research paper as well as to show your use of the text, videos, or outside sources.

Discussion Forum

A discussion forum will be available for students to discuss and ask questions to their peers. This will be a place to ask for clarity and help. Post your questions to this open discussion forum and peers can provide insight and help to questions that you may have when an online course doesn’t always provide the ‘conversation and discussions’ about topics. The forum is a place to post questions and clarification about course material, quiz questions, or test questions that you didn’t understand. Use this forum as a source of help in addition to re-reading the text, re-watching the videos, and re-assessing your questions. Once these tools are utilized I will be available to further clarify questions that you may still have. Students with sufficient responses and insight may possibly receive extra points. I will monitor this forum to post encouragement, clarity, and insight when needed.

Research Paper

One written paper will be required for completion of this course. The written paper will explore a form of world dance and its relationship to that culture. Guidelines for the paper can be found under the “Course Documents” tab on Blackboard. **Late or incomplete papers will not be accepted receiving a 0/incomplete. Any paper not that does not include in-text citations/references will receive a 0/incomplete grade as this is considered academic plagiarism.** Be sure to pay attention to the details and the requirements posted for the paper; *for example-* MLA format or Chicago Style Format, works cited page, in-text citations, and submission of paper topic. A submission of topic and initial sources will be required prior to the paper due date. This paper is the culmination of gained knowledge and articulation of the cultural significance of dance.

GRADING

Exam 1 (Chapter 1-3)	100 points
Exam 2 (Chapter 4-5)	100 points
Exam 3 (Chapter 6-8)	100 points
7 Quizzes (20 pts each)	140 points
7 Blogs (20 pts each)	140 points

Research Paper	100 points
TOTAL	680 points

*This syllabus is subject to change. Students will be notified ahead of time if any changes occur.

CHEATING, ACADEMIC DISHONESTY AND PLAGIARISM

Because cheating, academic dishonesty and plagiarism are affronts to the University community as a whole and a denial of the offender's own integrity, they will not be tolerated.

Cheating:

- the submission of the same work for two or more classes without the approval of any instructors involved.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- sharing academic materials knowing they will be used inappropriately,
- providing false or incomplete information on an academic document,

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- the presentation of another's published or unpublished work as one's own,
- taking words or ideas of another and either copying them or paraphrasing them without proper citation of the source, using charts, graphs, statistics or tables without proper citation.

Students found cheating or suspected of academic dishonesty and plagiarism risk receiving an F for the semester and a report on their permanent student record. See WKU Student Conduct Code for Further Information.

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. The phone number is 270.745.5004 [270.745.5121 V/TDD] or email at sarc@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation (LOA) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

Title IX Misconduct/Assault Statement

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.*

ADA Accommodation Statement

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.