EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION
DANCE
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Dance Department
FA / DANC 5200 3.0 SECTION A
RESEARCH METHODS
FALL 2017 / WINTER 2018

Last Modified Date: 09/20/2017

Course Listed Courses: THST 5200

INSTRUCTOR(S)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alcedo, Russ Patrick</td>
<td>Sec. A / SEMR / F</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alcedo@yorku.ca">alcedo@yorku.ca</a></td>
<td>York Ext. 22131</td>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

Office Hours: Thursdays 12-1

Time and Location

Thursdays 1-4; ACE 311

Course Description

This course introduces fundamental methodological and theoretical tools scholars use in coming to terms with the complexity of the dancing body. In closely examining these tools, students are exposed to the vast terrain and interdisciplinary nature of dance studies. Although the course’s center of gravity lies in the scholarship that have secured the place of dance as a valid area of research, selected key texts from the fields of cultural anthropology, history, critical theory, and cultural studies are also considered. These texts situate dance in relation to cultural identity, gender, the local and the global, and the link between colonialism and postcoloniality, among others. Understanding dance and the body in performance from multiple perspectives and articulating them using multiple perspectives promote critical awareness towards various methods of doing research and a wide array of theoretical orientations.

Designed as an advanced seminar that partners students in their own research, the course acknowledges the major role history plays in studying dances of the past and their milieu ethnography in making sense of choreographies that both familiar and strange, and science and movement analysis in understanding different ways of being, as signaled by dance and bodies in motion. While the course aims to be comprehensive in its methodological and theoretical reach, it also reminds students to acknowledge their own limitations and biases, a kind of subjectivity that indicates quality of scholarship. Becoming hugely diverse, eclectic, and open to a wide range of studying dance and the body in performance is a major step towards the production of fresh insights and original research.

TOPICS AND CONCEPTS

Course Texts

- Fraleigh, Sondra Horton and Hanstein, Penelope. Researching Dance: Evolving Modes
- Selected Essays and Articles

Course Schedule

**September 7 Introduction: Course Outline, Requirements, and Individual Projects**
- Sharing of nascent research topics

**September 14 Title, Abstract, and Choosing and Developing a Topic**
- Discussion of additional reading(s)
- Workshop: Titles and Abstracts
- Submission: Précis/Critical Summary 1

**September 21 Employment of Theory or Theories**
- Discussion of additional reading(s)
- Submission and Sharing: Titles and Abstracts

**September 28 Selecting Methods or Methodologies**
- Discussion of additional reading(s)
- Workshop: Theories
- Submission: Précis/Critical Summary 2

**October 5 Interpreting Dance and Bodies in Motion**
- Discussion of additional reading(s)
- Submission and Sharing: Theories

**October 12 Dance Historiography**
- Discussion of additional reading(s)
- Workshop: Methods/Methodologies
- Submission: Précis/Critical Summary 3

**October 19 Visit to Dance Collection Dance**
- Submission and Sharing: Methods/Methodologies

**October 26 Co-Curricular Week: NO CLASS**
November 2 Dance Ethnography
-Fraleigh, Sondra Horton and Hanstein, Penelope. “Chapter 9.”
-Discussion of additional reading(s)
-Workshop: Literature Review
-Submission: Précis/Critical Summary 4

November 9 Movement Observation
-Fraleigh, Sondra Horton and Hanstein, Penelope. “Chapter 10.”
-Discussion of additional reading(s)
-Submission and Sharing: Literature Review

November 16 Gender, Feminism, and Cultural Diversity
-Fraleigh, Sondra Horton and Hanstein, Penelope. “Chapters 11 and 12 and ‘Unified Field Postscript’.”
-Discussion of additional reading(s)
-Workshop: Draft of Research Proposals
-Submission: Précis/Critical Summary 5

November 23 Research Presentations

November 30 Research Presentations/Submission Research Proposals

December 4 Final Deadline of Research Proposals; between 10-12 at ACE 329
(absolutely no emails)

LIST OF LEARNING OUTCOMES AND EXAMPLES OF

Course Objectives
• to learn how to delimit a topic;
• to learn how to find and interpret sources;
• to learn how to conduct research ethically;
• to learn how to choose methods and theories for research;
• to learn how to employ related literature; and
• to learn how to write research proposals at the graduate level

GRADED ASSESSMENT

Requirements

1.) Critical response to a reading or readings in a form of a précis. 1 page, three paragraphs, double spaced. Due at the beginning of every class period.

2.) Components of Research Proposal
3.) Research Proposal that investigates and forges a student’s own research plan and that reflects a critical understanding of the readings done in and outside class. This paper, which is a minimum of 10 pages and not to exceed 15 pages (3,000-4,500 words), double-spaced, should include a preliminary bibliography that supports intended research area, whether pursuing the Major Research Paper (MRP),Thesis, or coursework
option. If appropriate, a sample Form TD2: York University Graduate Student Human Participants Research Protocol should be attached. Before submitting the paper, it is strongly encouraged that students go through some of the past MRPs and Theses held in the Graduate Office of the Department of Dance. Program copies of MRPs are unique and must be signed out for use only in Department offices. The same applies to program copies of theses. However, York theses are available at Scott and, if recent, online.

4.) Completion of the TCPS tutorial <http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca/english/tutorial/> (failure to submit certificate will result in an INC mark for the course)

**Evaluation:**

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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly Writings</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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**Grading System:**

Grades will be awarded in accordance with the Faculty of Graduate Studies system:

- A+ Exceptional
- A Excellent
- A- High
- B+ Highly Satisfactory
- B Satisfactory
- C Conditional
- F Failure
- I Incomplete

**Grades of ‘I’**

When a student’s course work is not completed and evaluated by the appropriate grade reporting dates, the award of ‘I’ may be approved by the program director. A grade of ‘I’ must be removed within two months of the reporting date for a half-course. Extension of this time is possible only upon successful petition to the Dean through the program director.

**IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION**

Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents)

http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cte_main_pages/ccas.htm

- York’s Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures/Academic Integrity Website
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Student Conduct Standards
- Religious Observance Accommodation

**Student Conduct**

Students and instructors are expected to maintain a professional relationship characterized by courtesy and mutual respect and to refrain from actions disruptive to such a relationship. Moreover, it is the responsibility...
of the instructor to maintain an appropriate academic atmosphere in the classroom, and the responsibility of
the student to cooperate in that endeavour. Further, the instructor is the best person to decide, in the first
instance, whether such an atmosphere is present in the class. A statement of the policy and procedures
involving disruptive and/or harassing behaviour by students in academic situations is available on the York
website http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/legislation/senate/harass.htm

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Important University Sessional Dates (classes start/end dates, reading/co-curricular week, add/drop
deadlines, holidays, etc.): https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/fw17

York University Grading System:

Many courses utilize Moodle, York University’s course website system. If your course is using Moodle,
click here to access it.

Moodle @ York University