EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION

DANCE

School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Dance Department

FA / DANC 5330 3.0 SECTION A
ANTHROPOLOGY OF DANCE IN CANADA
FALL 2017 / WINTER 2018

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course surveys classical, folk, tribal and social dance traditions within the Canadian cultural context and from an ethnographic perspective.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
<th>Contact Phone</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amegago, Modesto</td>
<td>Sec. A / LECT / F</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mamegago@yorku.ca">mamegago@yorku.ca</a></td>
<td>York Ext. 22130</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

SPECIAL FEATURES

Course Director: Dr. Modesto Amegago
Office: Accolade East Room 313
Telephone: (416)-736-5137, Extension 22130
Email: amegago@yahoo.com
Course Consultation Hours: Wednesdays 12:30-2.00 PM
Course Meetings: Wednesday 4-7:00PM -- Venue: ACE 311

This course surveys folk, social, ethnic and classical dance traditions within Canadian and global cultural contexts. The course examines the conception of dance across cultures, the functions of dance within the contexts of human interaction, occupation, religion, rituals, politics, human migration, cultural continuity and change, and in reflecting and shaping identity: body, age, sex/gender, ethnicity, race, nationality; creative and performance processes, aesthetics and authenticity dance and related arts. It also examines the form, content and structural elements of the various dance and related practices. Students are encouraged to investigate particular cultural dance form(s) from anthropological or comparative perspectives(s); through reviewing some of the prevailing literature and audiovisual materials, participant-observation, interviews, analysis and interpretation of the dance(s) and related cultural practices.

TOPICS AND CONCEPTS

The Syllabus and Schedule:

Week One: Wednesday September 13 2017
Topic: Self-Introduction: Review of the Course Outline/syllabus; Weekly Readings and Assignments; Dispersal and preparation towards the following weeks.
Week Two: September 20:

Topics: 1. Review of Anthropological Approaches to Dance Studies

2. Selected Readings on Dance in the First Nations or Aboriginal-Canadian contexts.

Readings:


Week Three: September 27

Topic: 1. Anthropological Methods Continued; 2. Selected Reading on Aboriginal North American/Canadian Dance


Electronic Access.


Week Four October 4
Topic: Selected Readings from the Anthropology and Auto-ethnography of Canadian-European Dance and Middle Eastern Dance.


Week 5: October 11 2017
Topic: Selected Readings on Dance in the Asian-Canadian Contexts.

Readings:


Week 6 October 18

Readings:


Electronic Access


Week 7: October 25: Guest Lecturer
Selected Readings on the Anthropology of Oceanic and Philippines Dance.


Electronic Access


Week 8: November 1

Topic: Working on Work in Progress: the Final Project: or, A Visit of A Guest Lecturer (To be Confirmed).

Week 9: November 8 2017

Topics: Selected Readings on Anthropology African-Canadian Dance Contexts.

Readings: 2


Week 10: November 15 2017:

Topic: Selected Readings on dance in the Caribbean and Brazilian Canadian Contexts.

Readings:


Week 11: November 22 2017

Topic: Reflections on/Review of the Previous Seminars: Final Project Presentations Begin:

Week 12: November 29 2017
Topics: Final Presentations Continued, Feedback and Course warp up.


Please Note: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this course outline after consultation with the whole class. Additional or alternative readings may be provided during the semester.

Bibliography:


Rajakumar, Mohanalakshmi. Hip Hop Dance. Santa Barbara, California, Denver: Greenwood, 20012.
LIST OF LEARNING OUTCOMES AND EXAMPLES OF

Brief Statement of the Purpose:

The purpose of this course is to lead students to develop an in-depth understanding of the contexts and functions of dance in Canadian and world cultures, develop their skills in conducting cross cultural dance research, broaden their cross cultural awareness, develop their analytical, evaluative and critical skills related to cross cultural dance forms, and apply these knowledge and skills to their future education, research and careers.

Brief List of Specific Learning Objectives/Outcomes of the Course:

By the end of the semester, students will

- Develop understanding of the historical and cultural contexts and functions of dance across cultures.
- Acquire skills in conducting cross cultural dance research.
- Develop analytical, evaluative and critical skills related to cross cultural dance forms.
- Broaden their cross cultural awareness.
- Demonstrate their ability to apply these knowledge and skills to their future education, research and careers.

GRADED ASSESSMENT

Assignments and their Values:

Weekly summary/response to the readings and participation in seminars (total): 20%
Seminar presentation during the assigned week: 15%
Midterm Presentation: Research Proposal/Work in Progress: 15%
Final Research Paper: 30%
Research Paper Presentation: 10%
Class attendance: 10%

Requirements and Evaluation Criteria

Assignment One: Weekly Summaries/Responses to the Readings (Due every week: (20 Marks: total)

Each week, students are required to read the assigned readings and prepare a two to three-page summary/response on it. The summary/response should contain information on the historical and cultural contexts and functions of some of the dance forms (where applicable), a description of their structural elements, and some information on the meaning of some of the elements (where applicable), and student’s comments or response to them. This summary/response should be presented during the seminars/class discussions, and be handed over to the instructor by the end of the class for evaluation.

Assigned Seminar Presentation: (Due on the assigned date): 15%
Each student is required to choose one of the readings/topics of a particular week, conduct further research on it, and write between five to six-page review/paper on it, and present it in class on the assigned date/week. The review/paper should contain information on the historical and cultural context, and functions of the dance form(s), description or analysis of the form, content, structure and meaning of salient features of dance and related elements: (dance elements/qualities, musical elements, costume, make up and props and contextual meanings, and the creative, performance and transmission processes (where applicable). Students may choose to enhance their presentation with practical demonstrations/performance, video/DVD clips, music, etc. Each student will be allotted between 10-15 minutes to present, and five additional minutes for feedback.

Midterm Presentation: Research Proposal and Annotated Bibliography and Work in Progress: 15% (Due October 25).

As part of the preparations towards the final research project/paper, each student is required to complete a research proposal, which should contain the following information:

1. a) Research topic (the dance form(s), or theme(s) or issue(s) they would like to investigate), purpose, significance or contribution of the research to one’s area of specialization or a broader field.
2. b) The scope of the research.
3. c) If the project involves fieldwork, the proposal must include location/venue of the proposed fieldwork.
4. d) A timeline for completing the work.
5. e) An outline of a general approach to work; methodologies (literature review, website research, participant-observation research, interviews, method of dance description: specific cultural perspective, Laban Analytical perspective, etc.
6. f) A list of performance, rehearsals and classes to be attended, observed/taken.
7. g) If interviews are involved, the proposal should indicate a list of contact persons/interviewees, interviews completed, planned or scheduled to be completed, a sample of interview questionnaire and an informed consent for conducting the interview.
8. h) Proposed conclusion.
9. i) Mode of delivery.
11. k) The entire work in progress or work completed.

This proposal/work in progress should be presented to the class by the middle of the semester (October 25) by way of sharing one’s project with colleagues. Students are encouraged to enhance their midterm presentation with practical demonstrations, PowerPoint and audiovisual devices.

Final Research Paper/Project: 30% (Due date for submission: Nov. 29)

Based on the research proposal/topic/theme, students are required to complete a final project/paper, which should be between 12 to 14 pages long. This project/paper (may be an expansion of a student’s assigned seminar presentation). A student may choose to investigate any of the following or topic other topic(s): the conception of dance particular culture(s), origin, cultural contexts and functions of the dance/music, (social integration, communication, historical and cultural documentation; in shaping identity, in healing, human migration, cultural continuity and change; the aesthetics and authenticity of dance, form content, structural elements and meanings of the dance; modes of transmitting, conserving and perpetuating the dance tradition/form, challenges or problems posed to the dance(s) and possible solutions to them.

Citation Style: MLA: for examples: Last Name, First Name, Book Title, Place(s) of Publication, Publisher(s) followed by Year of Publication.

Presentation of the Final Project: (Nov. 22 and 29)
Each student is required to present highlights of his or her research project during the end of the semester (on
the assigned date) by way of sharing the research findings with colleagues. Each presenter will be allotted
about 20 minutes to present the highlights of the project and additional 5 minutes for feedback. This
presentation could be enhanced by practical demonstrations, PowerPoint and audiovisual devices. Students
are responsible for booking their own equipment and any additional space they might need during this time.

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

- A+ Exceptional
- A Excellent
- A- Highly Competent
- 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.

Note:
Last day to enroll in a full course without permission from the instructor: September 20.
Last day to enroll in a full course with permission from the instructor: October 4.
Last day to drop the course without receiving a grade: November 10.

Assignment Submission:
Proper academic performance depends upon students doing their works not only well, but on time.
Accordingly, assignments for this course must be completed and submitted on the due dates specified.

Lateness Penalty:
Assignment received later than the due date will be penalized one grade
point per day that the assignment is late.

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:

Grading, Assignment Submission, Lateness Penalties, and Missed Tests:
The grading scheme for courses conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at
York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ - 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests* will bear either a letter grade
designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.) An average piece of work in university is about a C+ or B. Grades go up or down from there depending on the attention and effort applied as well as evidence of tangible change.

The Senate Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy stipulates that (a) the grading scheme (i.e. kinds and weights of assignments, essays, exams, etc.) be announced, and be available in writing, within the first two weeks of class, and that, (b) under normal circumstances, graded feedback worth at least 15% of the final grade for Fall, Winter, or Summer Term, and 30% for full year courses offered in the Fall/Winter Term be received by students in all courses prior to the final withdrawal date from a course without receiving a grade.

Assignment Submission/Lateness Penalty:
Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Assignments must be received on the due date specified and are to be handed in at the beginning of class. No electronic submissions will be accepted. Assignments received later than the specified due date will be penalized one-half letter grade per day. There are exceptions to this lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc. but require supporting documentation (e.g. a doctor’s letter).

N.B. Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or School grades distribution profiles. Once final grades have been posted, the full breakdown will be available and can be discussed in an appointment with the Course Director or Chair of the department.

"20% Rule":
No examinations or tests collectively worth more than 20% of the final grade in a course will be given during the final 14 calendar days of classes in a term. The exceptions to the rule are classes which regularly meet Friday evenings or on Saturday and/or Sunday at any time, and courses offered in the compressed summer terms.

Last date to drop a full year (Y) course without receiving a grade: February 9, 2018
Last date to drop a Fall term (F) course without receiving a grade: November 10, 2017
Last date to drop a Winter term (W) course without receiving a grade: March 9, 2018

Course Withdrawal Period: (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of “W” on transcript)
Last date for full year (Y) course: February 10 to April 6, 2018
Last date for Fall term (F) course: November 11 to December 4, 2017
Last date for Winter term (W) course: March 10 to April 6, 2018

Please note that financial deadline dates differ from add/drop deadlines.

Department of Dance Studio Dress Requirements:
In order to give students the best possible guidance in Contemporary Ballet and Modern studio dance classes, teachers must be able to see the entire body. Postural alignment and joint and muscle use cannot be corrected in these classes if loose or bulky clothing hide the body. Other dance forms we teach may require specific footwear, props, and/or other clothing options. Please make sure to check your outlines for each of your studio dance classes for the specific dress requirements and the details each teacher will require.

The general requirements are:
- Form fitting clothing that covers torso and legs should be worn. Bring close-fitting warmer clothing and socks for cold days. (No loose-fitting or ragged clothing unless specified).
- Hair must be worn off the neck and face for Ballet, and back and off the face for Modern.
• Students can wear leotard and tights (any solid colour), and ballet slippers for Ballet and bare feet for Modern.
• Please be considerate of your fellow dancers; avoid long fingernails and jewellery (including piercings, watches, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, and large rings). Ensure hair-wear is secure.

Department of Dance Studio Use Regulations:
• There is absolutely no food or drink (other than water) permitted in the studios.
• Leave street shoes and boots in the cubbies outside the studio or preferably, in your locker. If you must bring street shoes and boots in to the studio, please place them inside a bag. Grit and dirt brought into the space pose a safety hazard for dancers (particularly for those working barefoot) in addition to damaging the floor surfaces. NO BARE FEET in the Dance Department hallways or bathrooms.
• Do not prop the studio doors open by using the deadbolt, the mirror curtain, or anything that blocks the studio entrance.
• Please return studio furniture to its rightful place according to the floor plan posted by the door in each space.

Department of Dance Video Guidelines:
The Department of Dance has developed these guidelines in order to raise awareness of expected behaviour regarding recording/videotaping curricular work, and to foster a culture of respect for intellectual and creative property, as well as for individual privacy.
While the Department recognizes the democratizing effect of the internet, the Department requests that students do not post curricular work publicly to the internet, unless by express permission of the Chair of the Department, and waivers signed by all concerned. Work is to be shared only via private file-sharing access. This applies to documentation made by the Department and/or by individual students for their own archives.

Department of Dance Guidelines For Scented Products:
York University endeavours to provide an indoor environment that supports the University community at work and study. Some people experience severe health problems from exposure to chemicals contained in scented products including aftershave lotions, hair spray, deodorants and fragrances. In consideration of those who are affected by such chemicals, use unscented products only.

Department of Dance Guidelines For Physical Demands of the Program:
Courses in the Department of Dance may include elements that are physically demanding. Prior injuries can be aggravated by strenuous exercise so check with your physician and inform the Course Director before beginning the course. Be sure to share with the Course Director any changes in your injury or health that may affect your participation.

Courses in the Department of Dance may also include the possibility/likelihood of human contact (i.e., correction of alignment or technical execution as well as the possibility of collision with colleagues). Students uncomfortable with the use of touch are requested to relay feelings to the Course Director as soon as possible.

Department of Dance Guidelines For Safety and Wellbeing:
Should an accident occur in studio, there is a very clear protocol for reporting. This information is posted in every studio. Faculty members and staff are well versed in the protocol. For the various minor issues that come up in your day-to-day life as a dancer, it is recommended that you carry a well-stocked personal first aid kit in your dance bag.

Department of Dance Attendance and Participation Policy:
Students are expected to participate in every dance class, both studio and lecture courses. Under exceptional circumstances they may miss, without penalty, half the number of classes per term as the class meets in the week. (i.e., If your class meets two times a week, you may miss ONE class over the entire course without penalty.)

For studio classes that meet one (1) time per week:
- Absences or early departures in excess of 1 per term can result in a grade deduction of 4\% per occurrence.
- Partial class participation beyond 1 class per term results in a 2\% grade penalty.
- Non-participation beyond 1 class per term results in a 4\% grade penalty.

For studio classes that meet two (2) or more times per week:
- Absences or early departures in excess of 1 per term can result in a grade deduction of 2\% per occurrence.
- Partial class participation beyond 1 class per term results in a 1\% grade penalty.
- Non-participation beyond 1 class per term results in a 2\% grade penalty.

For all classes:
- In the event of an absence or limited participation, all missed material is to be learned prior to returning to class.
- In the event of an injury or illness preventing full participation for more than 1 class in a term, it is the student’s immediate responsibility, in consultation with the Course Director, to devise a plan for make-up work. The sooner this is done, the less stress you will experience from the uncertainty of the situation. If you are injured or ill, obtain and submit a hard copy doctor’s note. The doctor’s note will allow you to arrange for appropriate make-up work. Grade penalties can still apply, but the documentation assists in gauging the amount of penalty and make-up work needed.
- As detailed in the Injury Guidelines in the Department of Dance, students must complete a minimum of 60\% of the studio work to receive course credit.
- Finally, in consideration of all participants, if you are ill, stay home and/or see your healthcare provider. You will recover faster and, should your illness be contagious, you will have shown others consideration by limiting their exposure. Do NOT come to class if you are ill!

Department of Dance Technical Evaluation Policy:
It is the Department’s responsibility to ensure that every dance major experiences optimal training and educational conditions. This is especially important in physical practice where safety is a pedagogical imperative. To that end, all students enrolled in dance technique courses (i.e. Contemporary Modern and/or Contemporary Ballet) participate in technical level evaluation at the beginning of the Fall term. Dance faculty conduct evaluations in a traditional group class setting. Students who have successfully completed the pre-requisite courses, have maintained an appropriate level of fitness, and have continued with technical training over the spring and summer months normally proceed to the next level.

It must be noted that a satisfactory grade in the pre-requisite course does not guarantee placement in the next level of technique. Some students may be required to remain at the previous level to safely develop additional technical skill. Extended illness, injury, or insufficient technical skill are some of the factors that lead to such a decision.

The study of dance as a physical and artistic practice requires a commitment to year-round technical training, body conditioning, and cross training. Students are, therefore, expected to independently seek out and maintain an appropriate training regimen all 12 months of the year.

York University Academic Senate Policies and Information:
All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the Policies and Regulations information which can be found on the 2017/18 Academic Calendars page:
http://calendars.students.yorku.ca/2017-2018/dance

We recommend carefully reviewing all three sections; About, Degree Requirements, and Faculty Rules. Important information is explained here including the Policy on Academic Honesty, Academic Responsibility and Student Responsibility, and Academic Standing. Further details are available on the Secretariat Policies website, http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/, which covers the following topics:

- Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:
  http://calendars.students.yorku.ca/2017-2018/policies-and-regulations/academic-policies-and-regulations/academic-accommodation
- Religious Accommodation:
  http://calendars.students.yorku.ca/2017-2018/policies-and-regulations/academic-policies-and-regulations/religious-accommodation
- Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities:
- Academic Honesty:
  http://calendars.students.yorku.ca/2017-2018/policies-and-regulations/student-conduct/academic-honesty

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