EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION
DANCE
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Dance Department
FA / DANC 4260 3.0 SECTION A
DANCE VIDEO AND INTERMEDIAL PERFORMANCE
FALL 2019 / WINTER 2020

Last Modified Date: 08/14/2019

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION
Offers a multidisciplinary studio course which explores the design and production of dance on camera. It covers the practical aspects of video production from expressed intention through distribution. In process students will have hands-on experience lighting, shooting and editing dance video. Students will also have the opportunity to investigate video production and projection for intermedial dance presentations.

Prerequisites: FA/DANC 3220 3.00 or FA/DANC 4220 3.00 or permission of the department.

Offers a multi-disciplinary studio course which explores the design and production of dance on camera. It covers the practical aspects of video production from a storyboard and visual treatment through to distribution. Through creative process students have hands-on experience lighting, shooting, and editing video. Class viewing of historic and contemporary screendance works supports and provides direction for studio exploration and increases understanding of the art form. The course provides the opportunity to investigate recent experiments in the field that move away from single-channel video to include live performance works and installations. Students will investigate live video feeds and projection for intermedia dance works through the interactive software Isadora. Additionally, the course will offer an introduction to VR, AR, motion capture and 360 video through the game development software Unity. Prerequisite: FA/DANC 3220 3.00 or FA/DANC 4220 3.00 or permission of the department.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Olafson, Freya</td>
<td>Sec. A / LECT / F</td>
<td><a href="mailto:olafson@yorku.ca">olafson@yorku.ca</a></td>
<td>York Ext. 88688</td>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

Course Director:
Freya Björg Olafson
(416) 736-2100 ext 88688
315 ACE
olafson@yorku.ca

Special Features
This interdisciplinary studio course provides an opportunity for students to produce an original work for the screen that is informed by the rich history and practice of performance on film and video. It covers the practical aspects of video production from a storyboard and visual treatment through to distribution. Through creative process students have hands-on experience lighting, shooting, and editing video. Class viewing of historic and contemporary screendance works supports and provides direction for studio exploration and increases understanding of the art form. The course provides the opportunity to investigate recent experiments in the field that move away from single-channel video to include live performance works and installations. Students will investigate live video feeds and projection for intermedia dance works through the interactive software Isadora. Additionally, the course will offer an introduction to VR, AR, motion capture and 360 video through the game development software Unity. Prerequisite: FA/DANC 3220 3.00 or FA/DANC 4220 3.00 or permission of the department.

Time and Location: Wednesday 15:00 - 18:00, ACE 311
Office Hours: Friday 13:00 – 14:30 by appointment, ACE 315
Course Webpage: https://moodle.yorku.ca/moodle/

TOPICS AND CONCEPTS

Course Textbooks:
Making Video Dance: a step-by-step guide to creating dance for the screen
   Author: Katrina McPherson (Required and available at the bookstore)
Envisioning Dance on Film and Video
   Editor: Judy Mitoma (Paperback with DVD, required and available at the bookstore)

All weekly lecture content, assignments, readings and presentations are listed on the course website. Access to additional texts and a full schedule for required readings is available on the course Moodle page. Students need to use their York University Passport account. If there are any issues accessing Moodle or downloading articles, please contact Computing at York or ithelp@yorku.ca for assistance. Moodle is the primary platform for receiving grades and communication about course content. Students are responsible to ensure they are receiving course communication through both email and Moodle.

To take full advantage of the expertise in our department guest faculty, graduate students or guest teachers will be present during sections this course.

Note: The syllabus is subject to change and may be amended over the course of the semester. Students are notified of changes in class - these are reflected on the course website. Specific assignments and due dates as well as schedules for presentations are updated weekly and subject to change dependent on class progress.

LIST OF LEARNING OUTCOMES AND EXAMPLES OF

This course benefits dance artists who wish to enhance their creations through the use of digital media. During this practical course, students develop skills and gain knowledge useful to the production of dance video for distribution or for use in intermedia performances. Through studio assignments, participants have hands-on opportunities to create dance videos using quality equipment (HDV Cameras, Mac Laptops and Final Cut X). The course follows a detailed professional creative process beginning storyboards / visual treatment, moving through a detailed technical shoot / editing phase, and ends with distribution planning. Course participants acquire skills in: understanding the camera as a tool and its role in choreography; considering production elements of shoot location, lighting, music, sound; the how-to of digital editing; as well as working as part of a creative team. The prevalence of digital media integrated with dance continues to increase; this course helps prepare students for their role in this exciting area of dance presentation.

By the end of this course, students demonstrate the basic skills necessary to shoot and edit video for dance. They understand the difference between choreography created for live performance and choreography created for camera and develop strategies for recording both approaches, including filming dance on location. Through hands on assignments students develop skills to edit in Final Cut X and understand how editing can be used to support the theme or central idea of their projects. Through the use of the Isadora software students develop the skills necessary to set-up and control projected image in live performance and begin to understand the complex challenges raised by intermedial performance. Through course readings, viewings, discussions and written assignments, students develop the ability to critically analyze the works of significant artists defining the field of dance video.

GRADED ASSESSMENT

The final grade for the course will be based on the following items weighted as indicated:
   15%   Class attendance and participation
   45%   Three technical / creative assignments (due dates and details posted on the course website)
Framing, Camera Angles and Movement (September 25th)
Shooting for Continuity or Montage (October 9th)
Experimental Project - Single Camera Shot (November 6th)

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<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Storyboard / Treatment - Final Term Projects (Due October 30th)</td>
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<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Term Project (Due Wednesday, November 20th) - Shown at an open house on November 27th</td>
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<td>100%</td>
<td>Total</td>
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Note: Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to program or faculty grades distribution profiles.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

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 3, 2020
Last date to drop a Fall term (F) course without receiving a grade: November 8, 2019
Last date to drop a Winter term (W) course without receiving a grade: March 13, 2020
Course Withdrawal Period: (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of “W” on transcript)

Last date for full year (Y) course: February 4 to April 5, 2020
Last date for Fall term (F) course: November 9 to December 3, 2019
Last date for Winter term (W) course: March 14 to April 5, 2020

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

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, stairs, elevators, or bathrooms. Bring indoor flip-flops or slippers to go from studio to studio.
- 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. Programs Assistant Flannery Muise and faculty member Claire Wootten are the
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 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 2019/20 Academic Calendars page:
http://calendars.students.yorku.ca/2019-2020/programs/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/](http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/), which covers the following topics:
- Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:
- Religious Accommodation:
Many courses utilize Moodle, York University’s course website system. If your course is using Moodle, click here to access it.

* Moodle @ York University