EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION
DANCE
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Department of Dance
FA / DANC 2225 3.0 SECTION B
CHOREOGRAPHY
FALL 2020 / WINTER 2021

Last Modified Date: 09/04/2020

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Introduces the study of the basic principles of dance composition; both practical movement studies and analytic/critical work will be employed to explore the creative process and to begin to develop the craft and skills of choreography. Required of dance majors seeking the BFA degree. Prerequisites: FA/DANC 1205 3.00, FA/DANC 1206 3.00, FA/DANC 1215 3.00 and FA/DANC 1216 3.00 or permission of the Instructor. Corequisite: Current enrolment in dance technique, or permission of the department.

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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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maguire, Terrill</td>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

Choreography 2225 section B
2020-21
Course Instructor: Terrill Maguire
terrill@yorku.ca
(remote) office hours: by appointment

1. Special Features

Technical requirements for taking the course:
For the fall term, 2020, 2225B will meet virtually; online. MOST of the meetings will be synchronous, that is, we will meet together, at the assigned course times listed above.

Our meetings, both synchronous and asynchronous, will be supported through regular Moodle communication.

Your presence on camera will be necessary for full participation in the online sessions. This will require a stable, higher-speed Internet connection; a computer with web-cam and microphone.

A way to determine Internet connection and speed: there are online tests, such as Speedtest, https://www.speedtest.net/ that can be run.

Useful links describing computing information, resources and help for students:
Information about the delivery and organization of the course

Location:

The course is being remotely delivered Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3-5 p.m., Eastern Standard Time. There will be no on-campus meetings; we will convene from our individual spaces.

Please insure that whatever the size of your personal space, that it is as clear of obstacles as possible. You want to be able to move safely within whatever limitations you may have.

There will be instances during regular class hours that you will work independently on assigned projects. Also, there may be occasional times to participate asynchronously; i.e., with a recorded session to be interreacted with at your chosen time. These circumstances will be determined as we enter into the reality of remote learning, and will continue to be defined and communicated clearly, both during live sessions and on Moodle.

Organization of the course:

Topics and Concepts:

We will begin the course with a discussion of choreography: how would you describe the term? Derived from the Greek word “Khoreia,” which simply means, “dancing,” there are numerous manifestations, and approaches, to the process of choreographing. As an introductory course, we will examine and explore the basic elements ascribed to choreography, embodying the various principles through physical practices:

- Time
- Space
- Shape
- Dynamics

From these categories, we will discuss and explore their sub-components, including:

- Tempo
- Rhythm
- Floor patterns, direction, and levels
- Energy/Movement qualities
- Form and content

Focus will be on cultivating the creative process, imagination, and movement invention. Through a variety of studies, we will explore and investigate approaches to making dances. Understanding that choreography is both a craft and an art, we will pursue development of original material through various catalysts. The goal is
to extend into movement potentialities, opening to new creative territory.

Due to the circumstances of on-line course delivery, most of the studies will be solos. Although some of these works will be shared in real-time, others will be recorded and shared on-line. There is the possibility of some duet exploration; this depends on how our remote experience plays out.

**Learning Outcomes with Examples**

Through methods stated above, the intention of the course is to gain understanding of the underlying structures and substance of dances, and to create/form short works incorporating the required principles of a particular focused assignment. The ability to articulate and respond to works of choreography, both by peers and professionals, will also be cultivated.

In the spirit of encouraging both imagination and a safe space for experimentation, a supportive atmosphere will be established. Cooperation and mutual support are a given, but so is the ability to respond honestly and constructively to each other’s work. This process will be discussed and honed.

- **Examples of Movement Study topics:**

  - Exploration, and survey, of the primary movement qualities and choreographic elements

  - Movement observation study in nature

  - Body sculpture/shape making/negative space

  - Tempo/rhythm study

  - Space explorations

  - Compositional forms related to musical structures, i.e., ABA, Theme and Variations, Rondo, etc.

  - Costume or prop initiated study

  - Poetry or other literary sources

  - Random/chance structures

  - Music-based study

**Graded Assessment:**

Participation, cooperation, and commitment: 45%

Progress, creativity, and ability to work independently: 45%
Written assignments: 10%

Additional Information:

Real-time, Zoom-delivered class sessions will be supplemented by regular communication via Moodle. In addition, email with Course Director is welcome, and additional Zoom communication will take the place of office meetings.

The assigned choreographic studies will be presented primarily on Zoom during shared, synchronous class “meetings.” Some studies may be uploaded to Moodle for asynchronous viewing: again, information will be communicated clearly via Moodle and class-time announcement. These studies will develop into 4 short graded works during the term: details will be forthcoming and reiterated on Moodle.

Most, but not all, viewings of dance videos and discussions will take place during regular class times. We will also be viewing videos of professional choreographic works, to observe and analyze.

The writing requirement for the course consists of a personal response-essay to a dance video that everyone will view. It is worth 10% of final mark, and a template will be provided. A written journal will also be required to summarize and reflect on activities. Although this will not be graded, it is important for the learning process. A notebook that can easily be transported is the best choice.

There are many useful books about choreography. Each week, information on one or more of these suggested texts will be posted on Moodle. We may also read pertinent excerpts of some books together during class time.

Choreography involves physical practice, so dressing as for studio work is required. Also, a reminder to clear your work-space, as much as possible, of obstacles. It is understood that movement may need to adapt to space limitations.

Please note: the content of this Course Outline is subject to change.

This field is used to supply additional information not identified in previous fields such as links to websites (Moodle), Teaching Assistants, course sections and TA contacts, additional costs, clothing/shoe requirements, attendance expectations, rehearsal dates, etc.

Once you have completed the fields, please send this template to your department administrator or program assistant to be uploaded by them making the course content available to students.

NOTE: The Course Outline will be official as of the first day of classes in the term. Prior to then, changes to the outline can be made. ARMS will automatically indicate each change by date.

All course outlines will also include the following information:

Last date to drop a fall term (F) course without receiving a grade: November 6, 2020
Last date to drop a winter term (W) course without receiving a grade: March 12, 2021
Last date to drop a full year (Y) course without receiving a grade: February 5, 2021

Academic Policies / Information

The Senate Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee (ASCP) provides a Student Information Sheet that includes:
York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures / Academic Integrity Web site
- Access/Disability
- Ethics Review Process for Research Involving Human Participants
- Religious Observance Accommodation
- Student Code of Conduct

Additional information:
- Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities
- Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy
  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.
- Important University Sessional Dates (you will find classes and exams start/end dates, reading/co-curricular week, add/drop deadlines, holidays, University closings and more.
  http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/index.htm
- Manage my Academic record
  http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/
- "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.
  
  Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles.

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