EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION
DANCE
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Department of Dance
FA / DANC 3235 3.0 SECTION A
PERFORMANCE
FALL 2020 / WINTER 2021

Last Modified Date: 09/02/2020

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Introduces the study and performance of original or reconstructed choreographic works in a rehearsal and presentation setting. Rehearsal time outside of the course meetings will be scheduled close to performance dates. Required of BFA Dance Majors in the Performance/Choreography concentration. Open only to dance majors. Corequisite: Enrolment in upper level Contemporary/Modern.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

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<tr>
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<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
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<tr>
<td>Amegago, Modesto</td>
<td>Sec. A / STD0 / F</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mamegago@yorku.ca">mamegago@yorku.ca</a></td>
<td>York Ext. 22130</td>
</tr>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

FA/DANC 3235/3236 3.00

Performance

Fall 2020

Course Calendar Description
Introduces the study and performance of original or reconstructed choreographic works in a rehearsal and presentation setting. Rehearsals outside of the course meetings will be scheduled close to performance dates.

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SPECIAL FEATURES
Intermediate/Advanced Traditional and Current Dances of Sub-Saharan Africa

Course Director: Dr. Modesto Amegago
Office: Accolade East Room 313
Telephone: (416)-736-5137, Extension 22130
Email: amegago@yahoo.com

Course Consultation Hours: Wednesdays 10:30 AM to 12 Noon or by Appointment: zoom online video/audio meeting/conversation
Class Meetings: Wednesdays 1-3 PM & Fridays 2:30-4:30 PM: Venue: zoom and moodle online

Expanded Course Description:

This course introduces students to the study and performance of original or reconstructed performance or choreographic works in a rehearsal and presentation setting. The course explores specific dance movements, songs and instrumental patterns to reconstruct unique dance pieces through learning rehearsing, redesigning and performing them at zoom online meetings. Students are required to perform their work in progress in class via zoom during the middle of the semester. They are also required to participate in Dance Innovation rehearsals and performances via zoom during the last week of November. Rehearsal times outside of the course meetings at zoom meetings may be scheduled close to the performance dates. Students are also required to complete a quiz on the dance forms/pieces on moodle platform during the semester as well as write a four-five page reflective paper on the semester’s activities and submit it on moodle in the specified date.

This course has no in-class activities or interactions. It depends on remote teaching and learning through zoom and moodle platforms, which provide opportunities for students to interact with the course material, course director and with one another. The course is mostly taught synchronously on the specified days and times (as provided in the course outline). In addition, some course readings, assignments and videos will be completed or observed asynchronously.

Students are required to have high-speed internet connection. They are also required to have a computer with webcam and a microphone, and/or a smart device with these features. Below is the link that contains information on a way to test internet connection and speed:

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:

Computing for Students Website https://student.computing.yorku.ca/
Student Guide to eLearning at York University http://elearning-guide.apps01.yorku.ca/
Learning Skills Services https://lss.info.yorku.ca/online-learning/
Zoom@YorkU Best Practices https://staff.computing.yorku.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/03/Zoom

Topics and Concepts

Creativity
Creative process
Performance process
Performance personnel
Prerequisite/Co-requisite: Open to BFA Dance Majors: Enrolment in Upper Level Contemporary/Modern Dance forms

Required Texts: None
Recommended Texts

Syllabus:
Week 1: September 9 and 11:
Topic: 1. Course Overview: Self-Introduction; Review of the Course Description/Outline, syllabus, Learning outcomes, Requirements and Important information 2. Introduction to the week’s activities: Review of the Performance/Production Team or Personnel 3. The Preamble: Exploring the Cultural Contexts and Dance and Musical Elements of Fanga Dunba

Short Reading:
Production Team: compiled by Amegago, M. K.

Activity:
1. Review of theatrical performance/Production Team; introduction to the cultural context instrumentals sounds and song or Fanga-Dunba; warming up, learning fundamental Fanga Dunba dance movements in large and small groups, feedback.

Week 2: September 16 and 18
Topic: 1. An overview of the Rehearsal/Reconstruction and Performance processes; The preamble continued: Fanga Dunba; learning and Redesigning Atamga/Agbekor Dance

Activity:
1. Dialogue on Rehearsal/Reconstruction and Performance processes;
2. Reviewing and fine-tuning Fanga-Dunba dance movements, songs and instrumental sounds
3. Introduction to the cultural contexts, instrumental sounds and songs of Atamga/Agbekor; warming up, learning selected movements of Atamga/Agbekor dance in large and small groups, cooling down, feedback.

Week 3: September 23 and 25

Topic: Continuing Learning and Re-creating Atamga/Agbekor Dance/Music

Activity:
1. Reviewing Atamga/Agbekor songs (and instrumental patterns where possible); warming up; dancing and refining Fanga-Dunba movements, learning more Atamga/Agbekor dance movements in small and large groups, cooling down and feedback.

Week 4: September 30 and Oct. 2


References:

Activity:
1. Reviewing Fanga-Dunba and Atamga/Agbekor instrumental sounds and songs; dialoguing on Interrelations of Music, Dance and Related Arts, Rehearsing and fine-tuning Fanga-Dunba and Atamga/Agbekor movements; learning more Atamga/Agbekor dance movements in large and small groups, cooling down, feedback.

Week 5: October 7 and 9

Topic: Rehearsing and Redesigning Fanga-Dunba and Atamga/Agbekor for Midterm Performance:

Activity:
Warming-up; rehearsing and fine-tuning Fanga-Dunba and Atamga/Agbekor dances and songs in large and small groups (for theatrical elements), cooling down, feedback.

Week 6: October 14 and 16: Reading Week : No classes

Week 7: October 21 and 23

Topic: Performing the work in Progress for Midterm Evaluation Via Zoom

Activity:
Running through Fanga-Dunba and Agbekor dances; performing the dances in groups (of four-six); feedback.

Week 8: October 28 and 30

Topic: 1. An Overview of Theatrical Elements; 2. Continuation of Agbekor; 3. Exploring the Cultural Contexts, movements, songs and instrumental patterns of Nagila

Activity:
1. Dialoguing on theatrical elements; continuing rehearsal and reconstruction of Atamga/Agbekor; introduction to the cultural contexts, instrumental sounds and songs of Nagila; singing Atamga/Agbekor and Nagila songs, (listening to instrumental sounds); warming up; dancing and fine-tuning Atamga/Agbekor piece, learning Nagila dance movements in large and small groups, cooling down, feedback.
Week 9: November 4 and 6
Topic: 1. Quiz. Review of the use of theatre space/stage/setting and stage lighting; 2. Continuing learning, and redesigning Atamga/Agbekor and Nagila

Activity:
1. Writing a quiz; dialogue on the use of theatre space/stage and lighting in stage performances; rehearsing, redesigning and refining Atamga/Agbekor and Nagila

Week 10: November 11 and 13
Topic: 1. Factors that contribute to Good and Successful Performance; 2. Preparing for Final Performance

Activity:
1. Dialoguing on factors that contribute to good and successful performance; reviewing, rehearsing and refining Fanga-Dunba, Atamga/Agbekor and Nagila; incorporating instrumental sounds and songs; focusing on the use of stage setting and lighting.

Week 11: November 18 and 20
Topic: Final Preparations Continued: Technical Dressed Rehearsals

Activity:
Rehearsing and fine-tuning reconstructed Fanga-Dunba, Atamga/Agbekor and Nagila dance and musical pieces; highlighting the use of stage and lighting.

Week 12: November 25 and 27
Topic: 1. Reflective Paper Due; 2. Final Performance

Activity:
Warming up; performing Fanga-Dunba, Atamga/Agbekor and Nagila in Dance Innovation Performance via zoom

Week 13: December 2 and 4
Topic: Feedback; Course Wrap-up

Activity:
Debriefing on Class Activities, Learning process and Dance Innovation performances; Course wrap-up.

Please Note: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this course outline after consultation with the whole class

Course Learning Objectives/Outcomes

Brief Statement of the Purpose:
The purpose of this course is to lead students to participate in learning, reconstruction, rehearsal and performance processes, learn new dance vocabulary and concepts, acquire skills in creating and performing dance and related arts, develop understanding of performance/creative processes and the factors that contribute to good and successful performance, exhibit their creative and performance skills during the semester, and demonstrate their ability to apply these knowledge and skills to their future education, performance, creativity, research and careers.
**Brief List of Specific Learning Objective of the Course:**

**By the end of the Semester, students will:**
- Learn new dance vocabulary.
- Broaden their understanding of creative and performance processes.
- Develop skills in performing, creating, analyzing, evaluating and theorizing dance and related arts.
- Increase their awareness of the factors that contribute to good and successful performance across cultures.
- Exhibit their performance and creative skills during the semester.
- Demonstrate their ability to apply these knowledge and skills to their future education, performance, creativity, research, documentation and careers.

**Graded Assessments**

**Assignment 1:** Quiz: 15% (Due: Nov. 6)
**Assignment 2:** Midterm Performance: 15% (Due: October 21 and 23)
**Assignment 3:** Final Performance(s): 20% (November 25, 26 and 27?)
**Assignment 4:** Reflective Paper: 20% (Nov. 27)

**Class Participation** (in all the class activities) 30%

**Total Marks:** 100%

**Evaluation Criteria:**

**Assignment 1.** Quiz: (Due: Nov. 6)

Students are required to complete a quiz set on the performance piece(s) on moodle platform. The quiz requires students to provide concise and detailed written responses to the questions set on the dance pieces: its structural elements; movement qualities, efforts, dynamics, levels, directions; vocal and instrumental sounds; performance contexts and processes.

The quiz will be evaluated on the basis of the correctness, validity and clarity of answers and appropriate use of grammar. **Please note that** due date for the quiz may be postponed to another date or week depending on the pace of the class.

**Assignment 2:** Midterm Performance (Due October 21 and 23).

Students are required to perform the reconstructed pieces/work in progress during the middle of the semester (October 21) at zoom online video meeting.

**Assignment 3:** Final Performance: (due November 25, 26 and 27).

Students are required to participate in zoom online technical/dressed rehearsals and Dance Innovation performances.

Evaluation of the rehearsals, midterm and final performances will be based on the mastery of movements (movement qualities, attitude and progress), based on assumption of the appropriate posture, proper execution of movements, timing and proper coordination of the movements with the music, and proper facial expression and feeling.

Evaluation will also be based on students’ creativity or ability to improvise and generate new movements during the learning/rehearsal process, play instrumental patterns in relation to dance and songs (if possible), and sing the songs that form part of the dance(s).

**Assignment 4:** Reflective Paper (Due: Nov. 27)

Each student is required to write a reflective paper of between four to five double-spaced pages. The paper should contain a summary of the semester’s activities; the learning rehearsal/creative/performance and discussion processes, student’s comments, overall impression on the class activities/experiences and suggestions for the instructor. This paper should be submitted on the course moodle platform on the assigned
date.
Reflective papers will be evaluated on clarity, validity, coherence, grammatical quality and the quantity of information they contain.

"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

Participation Policy:
This is a studio course that meets twice in a week for 12/13 weeks. Students are required to participate in all the classes activities, rehearsals and performance events throughout the learning semester. If you miss a class, ask your classmates about what was done in class on that day and any possible assignments and assistance.

Note:
Last day to add a fall course without permission of course instructor: September 22
Last day to add a fall course with permission of course instructor: October 6
Last day to drop a fall course without receiving a grade: November 6
Last date to drop a winter course without receiving a grade: March 12 2021
Last day to drop a full year course without receiving a grade Feb. 5 2021
Course withdrawal Period (Withdraw from a course and receive a grade of W on transcript) November 7-December 8

Additional Information:
Grading, Assignment Submission, Lateness, Penalty and Missed Tests
The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9 point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g. A+ = 9, A= 8, B+ = 7, B = 6, C+ = 5, C= 4, D+=3, D=2 and E =1). Assignments and tests will bear either a letter grade or corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90-100, A = 80-89, B+ = 75-79, B 70=74, C+ = 65-69, C= 60-64 D+ = 55 = 59, D = 50-54, etc.). (For full description of York grading system, see the York University undergraduate calendar- http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/pdfs/ug2004calug04_5_acadinfo.pdf
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.

Extended Injury or Illness:
In the case of extended injury or illness, a doctor’s certification must be presented to the instructor. The impact of any lengthy absence from class due to extended injury or illness will be dealt with on an individual basis.
Attire:
Students are allowed to wear comfortable clothes; ranging from African clothes, loose pants, leotards and T-shirts but they are expected to dance bare feet. Jewelry should not be worn in class for they may harm students when dancing. Long hair must be tied securely off face to enable the dancer to concentrate and move freely.

Department of Dance Video Guidelines (excerpts)
The department of dance has developed these guidelines in order to raise awareness of the expected behavior 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 democratic 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.

Students MAY NOT video faculty, TAs or guests without the express consent of the individual. Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the full document guidelines for Recording/Videotaping Curricular Work located here:
http://dance.finearts.yorku.ca/for~students/undergraduate~handbook/recording~videotaping~curricular~work

NB: Please note also that students are not allowed to take photographs or audio record any of the class activities without permission from the class instructor. They are also not allowed to make phone calls or send text messages in classes or during class periods.

Important Information for Students:
All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information on the Senate Committee on the Curriculum and Academic Standard Webpage (See Reports, Initiatives, Documents).
http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_ete_main_pages/ccas.htm

Research using human participants:
If you decide to do a human subject research, you will need to conform to the approval protocol as outlined in Student Handbook page 38.

Guidelines for Ethics Research:
http://www.yorku.ca/legislation/senate/ethicsreviews/htm


Academic Integrity in courses@york University:
http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/

Access/Disability:
York provides services for students with disabilities (including physical, medical learning and psychiatric disabilities) needing accommodation related to teaching and evaluation methods/material. It is the student’s responsibility to register with disability services as early as possible to ensure that appropriate academic accommodation can be provided with advance notice. You are encouraged to schedule a time early in the term to meet with each Professor to discuss your accommodation needs. Failure to make these arrangements may jeopardize your opportunity to receive academic accommodation. Additional information is available at www.yorku.ca/disabilityservices, or from disability service providers:


Learning and Psychiatric Disabilities Programs-Counseling and Development Centre: 130 BSB, 416-736 5297, www.yorku.ca/cdc


Religious Observance Accommodation:
York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs and practices of members of the community and making accommodation for observances of special significance to adherents. Should any of the specified dates for an in-class test or examination conflict with the date for your religious observance, contact the Course Director within the first three weeks of class. Similarly, should assignment to be completed in a studio or workshop, field, etc., scheduled later in the term pose such a conflict, contact the Course Director immediately. Please note that in order to arrange an alternative date or time for an examination scheduled in the formal examination periods (December 2020), students must complete an examination accommodation form, which can be obtained from Student Client Services, Student Services Centre or online.


Students' Conduct:
Students and instructors are expected to maintain professional relationship characterized by courtesy and mutual respect and to refrain from any disruptive actions or behavior. The instructor is responsible for providing appropriate academic atmosphere in the classroom and students are expected to cooperate with the instructor in such an endeavor.

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

Moodle @ York University