DANC 398 Undergraduate Research in Dance

Catalogue Course Description and Outcomes:

This course uses choreography as a topic area within a performative research paradigm, allowing students to explore the choreographic process as it relates to consciousness, memory and storytelling within phenomenological and somatic research contexts. Public performance serves as the method of dissemination, recognized both as a form of engaged learning and the equivalent of ‘publication’ in the performing arts. Specifically, the research process will result in a public performance in June 2019.

This course pairs faculty mentors with dance students pursuing research projects in Dance. Platforms cross domains of activity, encompassing cognitive, psychomotor, and artistic. Students and faculty work together on research projects to generate qualitative and quantitative data, documented in multiple modalities, including dancemaking, regression analyses, interviews, correlational and/or case studies.

Learning outcomes: Students learn and utilize discipline-specific language and research methodologies, and appreciate research ethics within the field of dance; students demonstrate valuable skills in disseminating research through performances, scholarly articles, conference presentations, and/or research symposia.

Prerequisite: Declared Dance Major or Dance Minor, must have taken at least 2 semesters of Modern credit.

Please Note: This course has been approved for Engaged Learning Credit

Required Text


Course Activities and Assignments:

In the following three categories, students will use choreography as a performative research method, allowing exploration of the choreographic process as it relates to consciousness, memory and storytelling within phenomenological and somatic research contexts.

1. Participation (50 pts possible) The division of Dance has adopted the policy that class participation will be a factor in determining final course grades. This component will lower one’s grade in the case of insufficient participation; consistent and meaningful participation will be rewarded. Participation includes attendance and contribution to the learning environment both stateside and while we are traveling in Italy. This means your participation grade will be partially based on your concentration and focus in discussion and movement exercises, your willingness and ability to apply feedback, and your positive contribution to the working atmosphere as it relates to all project activities.

2. Travel Journal (50 pts possible) While in Italy you will keep a travel journal recording your choreographic process as well as reflections, impressions, and experiences of our time together as an ensemble. Specifically you will be writing about your understanding of how the human body is presented in art and in the Catholic texts we will be reading.
This journal can be informal writing and will be kept confidential. This written record should be used as a jumping off point for your larger exegesis.

3. **Faculty Mentored Research Portfolio (150 pts possible)** Through this course students will become familiar with a qualitative research paradigm that focuses on description, exploration, and discovery. Graded activities will focus on finding and evaluating sources, citing sources, responsible internet research, and using the library as well as creating statements of purpose and research questions as they relate to the choreographic process.

   **Annotated Bibliography (30 pts):** Prepare an annotated bibliography for three new articles addressing the choreographic process as it relates to our research question.

   **Literature Review (20 pts):** Develop a narrative that discusses the existing scholarly literature on the choreographic process.

   **Exegesis (100 pts):** Your exegesis must synthesize the multiplicity of experiences you have in the class as they relate to dancemaking, performance, and cross-cultural collaboration. Your reflections should include a “reading of the text” or a “reading of the movement” created through the choreographic process, and should also include thoughts on your cultural/performance experiences in Italy.

4. **Dissemination/Performance (50 pts possible)** Through the exploration of dance composition and performance theories and techniques students will collaborate with faculty and classmates to create a group piece that will be publicly performed. Students will spend a week in rehearsals with Mandala Dance Company training and co-creating the movement language that will serve as the foundation for the work. This piece will be between 8-10 minutes in length and movement will develop out of individual authoethnographies.

**Grade Breakdown:** Total Points Possible – 300

1. **A** 280-300
2. **B** 250-279
3. **C** 220-249
4. **D** 190-219

**Academic Integrity:** Be reminded of this institution’s commitment to Academic Honesty. See [http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicintegrity.shtml](http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicintegrity.shtml) for details on university policy.

**ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN PERSON DURING CLASS TIME OR VIA SAKAI AS A MICROSOFT WORD ATTACHMENT OR POINTS WILL BE DEDUCTED.**
DANC 398 Undergraduate Research in Dance

May 13 - June 7, 2019

Program Direction/Arrangements by Amy Wilkinson and JFRC

May 13- 24

Pre-departure rehearsal and class 10:00 am – 3:00 pm, 210 FAA

May 25

Check in at JFRC – any time
12:30 pm JFRC orientation
12:30-6:00 pm Free afternoon
6:00 pm Depart JFRC for Vatican
7:30 pm Tour of Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel

May 26

7:00-8:00 am breakfast JFRC
8:00 am depart for Ladispoli by bus
9:30 am-11:00 am class
11:00 am-1:00 pm rehearsal on New Collaboration (FOCUS)
1:00-1:30 pm Lunch
1:30-3:30 pm rehearsal on Mandala Company Repertory
3:30-3:45 pm run My Life
4:00 pm Depart Ladispoli by bus
5:30 pm Arrive JFRC
6:30 pm Departure for 7:30 pm Group dinner with Mandala local restaurant in Rome:
(47 minute bus ride)

May 27

7:00-8:00 am breakfast JFRC
8:00 am depart for Ladispoli by bus
9:30 am-11:00 am class (Amy ballet)
11:00 am-1:00 pm rehearsal on New Collaboration (FOCUS)
1:00-1:30 pm Lunch
1:30-3:30 pm rehearsal on Mandala Company Repertory
3:30-3:45 pm run My Life
4:00 pm Depart Ladispoli by bus
5:30 pm Arrive JFRC
8:00 pm departure for 9:00 pm Nureyev Performance
May 28

7:00-8:00 am breakfast JFRC
8:00 am depart for Ladispoli by bus
9:30 am-11:00 am class
11:00 am-1:00 pm rehearsal on New Collaboration (FOCUS)
1:00-1:30 pm Lunch
1:30-3:30 pm rehearsal on Mandala Company Repertory
3:30-3:45 pm run My Life
4:00 pm Depart Ladispoli by bus
5:30 pm Arrive JFRC
6:30 pm Company meeting JFRC
7:15 pm FREE NIGHT!

May 29

7:00-8:00 am breakfast JFRC
8:00 am depart for Ladispoli by bus
9:30 am-11:00 am class (Amy modern)
11:00 am-1:00 pm rehearsal on New Collaboration (FOCUS)
1:00-1:30 pm Lunch
1:30-3:30 pm rehearsal on Mandala Company Repertory
3:30-3:45 pm run My Life
4:00 pm Depart Ladispoli by bus
5:30 pm Arrive JFRC
6:30 pm Company meeting JFRC
7:15 pm Walking tour Piazza Navona

May 30

7:00-8:00 am breakfast JFRC
8:00 am depart for Ladispoli by public transit
9:30 am-11:00 am class
11:00 am-1:00 pm rehearsal on New Collaboration (FOCUS)
1:00-1:30 pm Lunch
1:30-3:30 pm rehearsal on Mandala Company Repertory
3:30-3:45 pm run My Life
4:00 pm Depart Ladispoli by public transit
5:30 pm Arrive JFRC
6:30 pm Company meeting JFRC
7:15 pm FREE NIGHT!

May 31

7:00-8:00 am breakfast JFRC
8:00 am depart for Ladispoli by public transit
9:30 am-11:00 am class
11:00 am-1:00 pm rehearsal on New Collaboration (FOCUS)
1:00-1:30 pm Lunch
1:30-3:30 pm rehearsal on Mandala Company Repertory
3:30-3:45 pm run My Life
4:00 pm Depart Ladispoli by public transit
5:30 pm Arrive JFRC
6:30 pm Company meeting JFRC
7:15 departure by taxi for 6:30 dinner and concert: Vivaldi’s Four Seasons
Chiesa valdese di Roma, Via Quattro Novembre, 107, 00187 Roma, Italy

June 1

8:00 am breakfast JFRC
9:30 am depart for theater via taxi:
Via Ruggero Leoncavallo, 10, 00199 Roma, Italy

11:00 am tech/dress
8:00 pm SHOW TIME!

June 2

Depart Rome

June 7

Final assignments due