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Fall 9-1-2022

### DANC 130A.50B: Introduction to Dance

Laurel J. Sears

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# Introduction to Dance

University of Montana

DANC 130A

Fall Session 2022

3 Credits Online

*10-week course 10/10-12/16*

## Contact Information

Instructor: Laurel Sears

Email: laurel.sears@umontana.edu

Office Hours: By appointment only via e-mail or live chat

## Course Description

This course introduces dance as a performing art, focusing on modern day western dance forms and their historical development and cultural characteristics. Students will study the history and practice of various dance forms. Additional course topics include a survey of global dance forms, urban dance forms and culture, concepts in viewing dance, the work of the dance artist in contemporary times, dance as a reflection of society, and trends in social dance. This course is taught online via Moodle, discussion forums, and video recordings. In addition, students will be required to physically attend one in-person or online dance class and view one full-length dance performance.

## Course Competencies

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- Give a coherent, inclusive definition of dance
- Confidently explain the process of choreographing dance
- Delineate the cultural significance of dance as a ritual, religious, social and artistic expression
- Identify individual dance styles and trace their development
- Communicate the experience of viewing dance works
- Identify and thoughtfully describe his or her aesthetic in relation to choreographed concert dance in performance

## Required Materials

*Text and Technical Requirements*

### **Required Text**

*Appreciating Dance: A Guide to the World's Liveliest Art*

5<sup>th</sup> Edition

by Harriet Lihs

### **Internet Access**

- Access to internet and Moodle log-in
- Expectation that you will check your UM email regularly
- Expect to pay between \$5-\$20 for an online dance class
- Expect to pay \$10 for a ticket for a live UM dance production or recording

## Assignments

### Reading Quizzes, 7 total, 10 points each

After doing the assigned reading in our course text, take the Reading Quiz via Moodle. Reading Quizzes have semi-automated grading, the instructor will grade all short answer and fill in the blank answers. **Due on Sundays before 11:55 pm Mountain Standard Time.**

### Discussion Forum and Written Assignments, 2 total, 5 points each

After doing the reading assignment, and watching the viewings for the module, students will submit a reflection via discussion forum on Moodle or a written assignment. The reflection and response is a check in and is a way to synthesize the information for the module. **Due on Sundays before 11:55 pm Mountain Standard Time.**

### Participation in Online Dance Class, 5 points

Students are expected to attend 1 introductory level dance class that is held online or in person. This may require you to do some research into introductory-level dance classes that are of interest to you.

### Essay, 1 total

*All papers should be typed, double-spaced, 12-point font. All written work is expected to be of the quality worthy of an academic institution written in classic essay format with an introduction, supporting paragraphs, and a conclusion. All papers must be submitted via Moodle by 11:55pm Mountain Standard Time on the assigned due date. **Planarization of essays violates the Student Conduct Code and will result in a failing grade and/or a report sent to the University Administration.***

### Dance Concert Review, Due one week after performance/by final week of the Semester, 15 points

Students will write a 3-4 page review on a live dance concert or full length recording of a pre-approved dance production. Dance Concert Review paper guidelines, information about the live performance, and performance links can be found on Moodle.

## Evaluation of Standard Grading

Syllabus Quiz	5 points
Discussion Forum Posts, 2 at 5pts. each	10 points
Reading Quizzes, 7 at 10pts. each	70 points
Dance Concert Review	15 points
Dance Class Participation	5 points
<u>Total</u>	<u>105 points</u>

## Grading Scale Based on Grade Percentage

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F	NF
94-100	90-93	87-89	84-86	80-83	77-79	74-76	70-73	67-69	64-66	60-63	0-59	No attendance

### **UM and Dance Program Policies**

#### **Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code**

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at [www.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/default.php](http://www.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/default.php).

All Theatre & Dance students must have an in-depth knowledge of the practices and procedures outlined in the School of Theatre & Dance Student Handbook. The Handbook is available online at <https://www.umt.edu/theatre-dance/handbook.php>.

There is inherent risk involved in many Theatre & Dance classes as they are very physical in nature. Please proceed through class, shop time, or rehearsal with caution. Always be mindful of your personal safety and the safety of others. Students participating in class/shop/rehearsal/performance do so at their own risk.

#### **From UM President Seth Bodnar:**

The wide availability of safe, effective vaccines to combat COVID-19 means that we are able to continue full in-person learning again this semester. The Office of the President urges every member of the UM Family to get vaccinated (and receive a booster shot) if you haven't done so already. Vaccination provides the best means of protecting yourself – and others in our UM Family – from the risk of COVID-19.

Please visit <https://www.umt.edu/curry-health-center/corona-virus.php> for the latest health/safety information, as well as campus communications and plans about the global health pandemic.

#### **From the EO/AA Office:**

Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting me within the first week of class. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and the Office for Disability Equality (ODE). "Reasonable" means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive

modifications. For more information, please consult <https://www.umt.edu/disability/default.php>.

## **WELLNESS STATEMENT**

Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, and cross-cultural challenges can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive in the university setting. For helpful resources, please contact the Curry Health Center Counseling department at 406-243-4711 or schedule an online appointment through the CHC Health Portal: <https://www.umt.edu/curry-health-center/>. For a crisis or for after-hours care, you can contact the emergency rooms at St. Patrick Hospital or Community Medical Center; the National Suicide Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255; or the Crisis Text Line: text MT to 741-741.