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Fall 9-1-2017

### DANC 334.01: Dance History

Heidi Jones Eggert

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**University of Montana, School of Theatre & Dance**  
Fall 2017: **Dance History** 3 credits  
74341 - DANC 334 - 01      T Th 1:00-2:20 am LA 103B

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Instructor: **Heidi Jones Eggert**  
Email: [heidi.eggert@umontana.edu](mailto:heidi.eggert@umontana.edu)

Office: PARTV 186  
Office hours: [Mon 11:00-1:00](#)  
[Fri 11:00-12:00](#)

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*In 1980, a well-meaning fundraiser came to see me and said, "Miss Graham, the most powerful thing you have going for you to raise money is your respectability." I wanted to spit. Respectable! Show me any artist who wants to be respectable. ~Martha Graham*

### **Course Description**

Through reading, lecture and video viewing, the major figures, events and movements of North American and Western European Modern Dance are presented chronologically, with the goal of increasing students' understanding of the driving force behind each choreographer's work, their lineages and their social, political and artistic contexts. Multi-cultural influences and a global view will influence the studies of 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century dance.

### **Course Objectives**

- To become familiar with, and be able to articulate the significance of, the major figures and events in American Modern Dance history, and dances of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries
- To be able to analyze and articulate the lineage of stylistic influence
- To be able to analyze and articulate the connections between major trends in Modern Dance and the social, political and visual art movements of their time
- To be able to analyze the connections between the forms of dance you are currently studying and seeing on stage and in film
- To demonstrate your ability to conduct primary research

### **Course Content**

- Acknowledgment of Dance preceding the 20<sup>th</sup> Century
- Emergence of New Dance in America and Western Europe
- Evolution of Modern Dance
  - Pioneers, First generations, Post Modern Dance, Next Wave
  - Including - Judson Dance Theatre, Tanztheatre and more
- Dance in Movies / Dance for Film
- Contemporary Choreographers, domestic and global

### **Course Requirements**

- Group projects with presentations – topics may include (but are not limited to)
  - a geographical inquiry into contemporary dance
  - (re)construct a dance in the style of a particular choreographer/movement
  - dance in movies vs. dance for film

- Research and present a 5-6 page paper on a choreographer whose significant work began before mid-century, placing her/him in the larger context of the artistic and socio/political culture in which s/he lived.
  - Subject proposal due: **October 3**
  - First draft due: **October 6**
  - In-class peer review: **October 12**
  - Brief performance presentation of research: **October 19**
  - Final draft due: **October 19**
  
- Research and present a 3-4 page paper on a currently active choreographer of national/international significance, which demonstrates your ability to conduct *primary research*, analyze the dances and conduct interviews.
  - Subject proposal due: **October 24**
  - Interview questions due: **October 31**
  - Papers due: **December 5**
  - Interactive or multi-media Presentations due: **December 5 – 12**
  
- Live performances – The instructor will provide guidelines for responses to two shows:
  - *A Celebration Service*, choreographed by Meredith Monk, performed by the School of Theatre & Dance and School of Music and produced by UMArts: November 3-4 @ 7:30PM and 9:30PM, UCC Missoula, 405 University Avenue. \$12 with student ID.
  - *Dance Up Close*: November 10 @ 7:30PM, November 11 @ 2PM and 7:30PM; Masquer Theatre. Tickets available at the UMArts Box Office in the PARTV Lobby.
  
- *May receive extra credit for attending other dance events and writing a short response. Details available on our Moodle site*
  - **Kinetoscope Film Festival & Live Performance**, produced by Bare Bait Dance: December 1-3 @ 8:00pm & December 3 @ 2:00pm
  - **Fall Studio Works**: December 8: Program I at 6:30pm, Program II at 8:30pm; Open Space. Tickets \$5 *at the door*.
  
- **Final – Thursday, December 14 at 3:20pm**
  - assembly of Modern Dance lineage
  - quick answer and short essay pertaining to class lectures/activities

## Expectations

- Students will attend class
- Students will actively participate in discussions
- Students will complete assignments on time
- Students will conduct research and present information with accuracy, thoroughness

## Grading

- daily participation 20%
- daily assignments 20%
- group projects 10%
- historical research 20%
- contemporary research 20%
- final exam 10%

\* Additional topics/assignments may be scheduled throughout the semester and dates posted may shift at the discretion of the instructor.

## 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 [http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student\\_conduct.php](http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.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 <http://www.umt.edu/umarts/theatredance/About/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.

Due to safety considerations, at **no** point during a student's time spent in class or serving on a production (in any capacity) should non-enrolled persons be guests of that student **without my consent**. Presence of such unauthorized persons in a class, shop, or any backstage/off-stage area will negatively affect a student's grade.

*The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS in Lommasson 154. I will work with you and DSS to provide an appropriate accommodation. For more information, please consult <http://life.umt.edu/dss/>*