DANC 498.01: Senior Thesis - Creative Research Project

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COURSE PURPOSE

The Senior Project is an independently directed endeavor and in-depth experience that is meant to expand one’s knowledge and expertise in a specific area of choreography, teaching. The project is designed by the student and extends well beyond the typical classroom experience.

COURSE OBJECTIVE

To provide an ongoing forum through which student share creative ideas, questions, solutions and constructive criticism in relation to the Junior/Senior Project.

METHODOLOGY

This is a presentation/discussion course designed for upper-class students and is to follow previously completed course/creative work in choreography, pedagogy and/or special topics in dance. Learning devices may supplement the class meetings, including video presentations, readings and discussions of works in progress to aid students in achieving set project goals.

REQUIREMENTS

Submit your application and proposal to your project advisor and to the head of the department by the second week of the term. Present work in progress as well as final product throughout the course of the term. Maintain a journal devoted specifically to this project. Write in it regularly documenting your ideas, questions and feedback. Maintain a video log of your process in rehearsal or while teaching. Provide feedback for your peers.
GRADING

Attendance:
Grades will be determined by your project advisor. Students are expected to attend every class and arrive on time. Two absences are excused. Each additional absence will lower the grade by 1/3 grade point.

Participation: (20%)
As a portion of this course is designated for presentation, students are expected to attend class prepared to show work and discuss the progress of all projects.

Project: (50%)
Project advisor will determine this grade based on the product and the ability of the student to meet stated goals as well as the quality of the process.

Project Paper: (20%)
The project advisor will determine this grade. Please see Project Guidelines for a format for this paper.

Journal and Video Log (10%)
There is no final for this class. Due date of final paper will be determined with faculty advisor.

Please Note Important Submission Deadlines:
Friday Feb. 14 project application and project proposal due to advisor and to course instructor.
Friday April 25: 1st draft of project paper due to advisor. You should be in regular contact with your advisor prior to this submission.
Wednesday May 14: final paper due to advisor.
Monday May 19: Grade for project will be issued.

IMPORTANT POLICIES FOR ALL STUDENTS IN SCHOOL OF THEATRE AND DANCE CLASSES:

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a 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/SA/VPSA/Index.cfm/page/1321.

All Theatre & Dance students must have an in-depth knowledge of the practices and procedures outlined in the School of Theatre & Dance Handbook. The Handbook is available online at http://www.sfa.umt.edu/drama/index.html
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.

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. Presence of such unauthorized persons in a class, shop, or any backstage/off-stage area will negatively affect a student’s grade.