Southeast Missouri State University

Department: Department of Theatre and Dance
Course No.: DA290
Title of Course: Dance in World Cultures
New: Yes

I. Catalogue Description and Credit Hours of Course:

A study of non-Western dance styles and traditions around the world throughout history. (3)

II. Prerequisite(s):

None.

III. Purposes or Objectives of the Course: The student will be able to demonstrate:

A. A general understanding of the forms and traditions of non-Western dance across world cultures throughout history;

B. An ability to identify, research, discuss, and write about time periods, styles, recurring themes and trends, and other important historical elements in world cultures in an intelligent and informed manner;

C. Written and oral ability in comparing and contrasting non-Western dance styles within and across time periods and eras;

D. An increased appreciation and understanding of dance history, and the cultural and aesthetic values associated with that history.

IV. Expectation of the Students:

A. Active attendance, engagement and participation in all class activities;

B. Satisfactory completion of all research, written and oral assignments;

C. Satisfactory performance on all written quizzes and tests;

D. Attendance and satisfactory responses to two dance events.
V. Course Content or Outline: 

A. Introduction
   1. The educational value of the study of dance in world cultures
      a. Societal/cultural features of dance
      b. Aesthetic value
      c. Emotional, intellectual, and kinesthetic value

B. World Dance History: Pre-1800
   1. Pre-historical artifacts and theories
      a. Primitive and ancient dance
      b. Early religious dance
   2. Dance during the Middle Ages around the globe

C. The Continuity of Indigenous World Dances: Post-1800
   1. Asia (~54 countries)
      a. Eastern Asia
         i. China, Japan, Taiwan, N. & S. Korea, etc.
      b. Southeastern Asia
         ii. Cambodia, Thailand, Philippines, etc.
      c. Southern Asia
         iii. India, Sri Lanka, etc.
   2. Europe (~58 countries)
      a. Northern Europe
         i. Scandinavia (Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark, Iceland)
      b. Western Europe
         ii. France, Germany, the Netherlands, etc.
      c. Southern Europe
         iii. Spain, Italy, Greece, etc.
      d. Eastern Europe
         iv. The Balkans, the Baltic States, etc.
   3. Africa (~54 countries)
      a. Eastern Africa
         i. Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, etc.
      b. Middle Africa
         ii. Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, etc.
      c. Northern Africa
         iii. Algeria, Egypt, etc.
      d. Southern Africa (South Africa)
      e. Western Africa
         v. Nigeria, Ghana, etc.
   4. Oceania (~40 countries)
      a. Australia & New Zealand
      b. Melanesia, Micronesia, & Polynesia
         i. Papua New Guinea, Hawaii, etc.
5. The Americas (~35 countries)
   a. North America
      i. Canada and the United States
   b. Central (and Latin) America
      ii. Mexico, Costa Rica, El Salvador, etc.
   c. South America
      iii. Argentina, Brazil, Peru, etc.

D. Selected Dance Diasporas 12
1. Africa (slavery influences in the Americas)
2. Asian (19th century migrations)
3. British (Irish famine exodus, etc.)
4. Native American (enforced westward migrations)

E. Emerging 21st Century Cross-Cultural Dance Forms 3

TOTAL: 48 Hours

VI. Textbook(s) and/or Other Requirement Materials or Equipment:

Required:


Readings from the following sources:


### VII. Basis for Student Evaluation:

*Possible Points*

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<tr>
<td>A.</td>
<td>Active and engaged participation in class (5 points/class)</td>
<td>150</td>
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<td>B.</td>
<td>Dance video contextualized critiques &amp; discourse (oral)</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>C.</td>
<td>Independent Study Project</td>
<td>400</td>
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<td>• Three written drafts (outline, 2-3 pages, 4-6 pages; 150 points)</td>
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<td>• Oral and/or dance presentations (150 points)</td>
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<td>• Final written research (100 points)</td>
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<td>D.</td>
<td>Dance concert written analyses</td>
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<td>E.</td>
<td>Midterm and final test (Progressive and comprehensive)</td>
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<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>1000 points</strong></td>
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