

**DANC-190, Dance Appreciation**  
**Three Semester Hours, Fall 2008**  
**Monday and Wednesday, 3:30 – 4:50 p.m. in ELB108**  
**Professor Carolyn Kelemen, M.F.A. in Dance**  
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**Phone 410-730-6122, office in HVPA Dance Department**

**SYLLABUS:** An Introductory survey of dance as a performing art. We will study (and participate in) various dance forms such as ballet, ethnic, folk, hip-hop, jazz, modern, and social dance forms found throughout the world. We will also hear lectures on various aspects of dance-related subjects, i.e. dance/music collaboration, dance as a healing art, dance and the camera, dance criticism, and dance as a political tool and/or a career.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** In this course, we will ask the question, “What is dance?” and “Where does it fit in the big picture of Arts & Humanities?” We will develop skills, especially writing, to better understand dance. By watching live performances, video interpretations, and physically experiencing the movements ourselves, we shall determine if the specific dance is art and/or worthy of this distinction.

**REQUIREMENTS:** Because movement is involved in some of the classes (which will be announced the week before that session), please dress in comfortable clothes. You will also be writing a daily journal on dance. Clear thoughts on what you see and discover are essential to dance appreciation. In addition to a mid-term examination and a final, your journals will be collected at the end of the semester.

**RESOURCES:** Books, audio, video, and DVD information will be available to all on a sign-in, lending basis. A complete list of guest artists will be available the second week of classes.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:** The use of one’s own thoughts and material in the writing of assignments, taking of tests and other classroom related activities. Please refer to the Student Handbook on the Academic Policy or go online to view “Academics” on the HCC homepage.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

ATTENDANCE & TOTAL INVOLVEMENT 40%  
(Attendance will be taken at every class)  
MID-TERM EXAM 20%  
FINAL EXAM 30%  
EXTRA CREDIT 10%

**GRADING:**

A 90-100 POINTS  
B 80-89 POINTS  
C 70-79 POINTS  
D 60-69 POINTS  
F LESS THAN 60 POINTS

## **COURSE TEXT BOOK: "Learning About Dance," Fourth Edition.**

You can share texts if unable to purchase this book. See me.

A complete schedule of teachers and assignments will also be given out the first week of class. We will take advantage of library texts and handouts. Two personal days (allowed excuses) are permitted before deduction. Other HCC professors will share their expertise when I am not available to teach.

## **BONUS POINTS & PERKS:**

We will have guest artists visit our class throughout the semester – an especially wonderful opportunity to see live dance up close. Some comp tickets will be available for area dance performances. Others may take advantage of group discounts and free shows. The Howard County Times and Columbia Flier cover dance; check for listings and articles. A complete list of guest faculty will be available by the second week of classes.

*\*Note that all students are invited (no charge) to the Wednesday night performances of Rep Theatre, starting tonight at 8 p.m.*

## **SCHEDULE & ASSIGNMENTS:**

### **Introduction: Part I & II**

#### **Mon. and Wed., Aug. 25 and 27, 2008**

We will read the preface of the "Dancing" text and discuss "What Is This Thing Called Dance?" Three video clips will be shown, Michael Flatley in "Lord of the Dance," "Run Sinner Man" from Alvin Ailey's "Revelations" and local star Rasta Thomas in "Bumble Bee." This will be followed by an assignment for your journals – three paragraphs on your favorite dance. Is it dance? Is it art? Would you pay money to see this performance live?

**Part II** – you will dance an excerpt from "I've Been Buked," the opening of "Revelations" in studio HVPA 119. You may also be introduced to other faculty members and dance associates who will be working with me this semester.

**Read "Dance in World Culture," pps. 107-116 in text.**

## **NO CLASS ON LABOR DAY, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2008**

### **Part III: Wed., Sept. 3, 2008**

"Spirituality in Dance" and "Music Soothes The Soul." Eva Anderson will visit our class and discuss her association with the late, great pianist Don Pullen. We will watch the video of her company, reflecting her African-American heritage.

**Assignment: Discuss projects.**

### **Part IV and V – Mon. and Wed., Sept. 8 and 10**

"Folk Dance" with a demonstration of ethnic dances from all over the world. \*DRESS FOR FUN MOVEMENT.

**On Wednesday we will be quizzed on readings.**

**Assignment: Continue journals (at least three paragraphs) and we will read handouts for upcoming “Creative Movement” classes. Dress comfortably as we will be exploring movement as a child might do. Share ideas on your own personal movement experiences whether it is soccer, ballet or bouncing a ball.**

**Part VI and VII – Mon. and Wed., Sept. 15 and 16**

Dr. Judith Kierstad and Carolyn will demonstrate dance for young children. Experience creative dance in “Noah’s Ark” and take note of everyday sounds (to be recorded in your journals).

**Part VIII and IX – Mon., Sept. 22** – Our Dance Chair will share her skills of “Improvisation.” Turn in the creative movement assignment. **Wednesday, September 24**, we will meet another guest lecturer on “Dance as a healing art.” TBA

**Part X and XI – Mon. and Wed., Sept. 29 and Oct. 1**

Eva Anderson returns to reflect on her experiences with music/dance collaboration. She will discuss the previous topic and will review projects with CK.

**Assignment: Read Chapter 5 in text and watch extra videos.**

**Part XII and XIII – Mon. and Wed., Oct. 6 and 8**

“The Genius of Russian Ballet” with Russian guest artists. **Observation and critique required by all after these lectures.**

**Part XIV and XV – Mon. and Wed., Oct. 13 and 15**

Hip-Hop meets Cirque du Soleil. A discussion on “edgy” dance and YouTube (“Swan Lake”). The second lecture discusses Aerial Dance with guest artists from Jayne Bernasconi’s company.

**XVI and XVII – Mon. and Wed., Oct. 20 and 22**

**Broadway Jazz and critique (three paragraphs).**

**Assignment: Read “Modern Dance,” Chapter 6, pps. 67-99.**

**XVIII, XIX, XX, XXI – CK will not be in class Oct. 27, 29, Nov. 3 & 5**

**\*\*\*HERE IS A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH OUR TALENTED DANCE CHAIR AND CHAIR OF MUSICAL THEATER.**

**OCT 27, 29:** Musical Theatre and Stage Movement with Jenny Male

**NOV 3, 5:** Ballet and Modern Dance with Renee Brozic Barger

**XXII – XXX – TBA – Through Dec. 8 (Final)**

Subjects will include “Looking at Dance Through A Camera” and attending at least one live dance performance, including “The Nutcracker.” **Journals will be turned in by Dec. 10.**