

Course Description

DAN2100 | Dance Appreciation | 3.00 credits

This course provides an overview of dance as an art form, entertainment, and social activity and includes works from the Western canon to examine its significance from ancient times to the 21st century. Students will analyze dance genres such as ballet, modern dance, jazz dance, and world dance forms, exploring their connections to literature, music, and philosophy while considering the roles of dancers, choreographers, and audiences. Through this study, students will develop critical thinking skills and gain understanding of how dance reflects and influences culture across time periods and societies.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will demonstrate an understanding of dance history and genres by:

1. Analyzing key developments in dance from ancient times to the 21st century
2. Comparing different dance styles and techniques across historical periods
3. Examining the evolution of ballet, modern dance, and jazz dance
4. Evaluating the influence of social and cultural factors on dance forms
5. Interpreting the artistic intentions behind significant choreographic works
6. Tracing the development of specific dance techniques over time
7. Synthesizing knowledge of various dance genres and their characteristics

Competency 2: The student will explore the relationship between dance and other art forms by:

1. Investigating the connection between dance and music composition • examining the influence of literature on dance narratives and themes
2. Analyzing the integration of visual arts in dance production and costume design
3. Assessing the role of philosophy in shaping dance aesthetics
4. Exploring the interplay between dance and theatrical elements
5. Evaluating the impact of technological advancements on dance performance
6. Comparing the use of space and time across different dance forms

Competency 3: The student will develop critical thinking skills through dance analysis by:

1. Applying dance criticism methodologies to performances
2. Critiquing the effectiveness of choreographic choices in dance works
3. Evaluating the technical and expressive qualities of dance performances
4. Analyzing the cultural significance of specific dance traditions
5. Comparing the roles of dancers, choreographers, and audiences across time
6. Assessing the universal and particular aspects of dance as communication
7. Interpreting the symbolic and metaphorical elements in dance compositions
8. Constructing well-reasoned arguments about dance as an art form and social activity

General Education Learning Outcomes:

- Demonstrate an appreciation for aesthetics and creative activities