



Rio Hondo College  
*Dance Appreciation*  
**Fall Semester 2009**

Time: Tues. & Thurs. 11:15- 12:40 Location: G 107x  
Course #: DANC 199 Ticket # 0970 Units: 3  
Instructor: Alyson Cartagena 562-463-7405acartagena@riohondo.edu

**Textbook:** Recommended  
*Dancing: The Pleasure, Power, and Art of Movement*  
Gerald Jonas, New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 1992

**Course Description:**

This survey course is a multi-cultural exploration of one of the world's oldest and most universal art forms. The history of ballet, jazz, modern, hip-hop, and musical theater dance are investigated through lecture, video and demonstration. In addition, dance will be analyzed in terms of Body, Effort, Space, and Shape and examined for cultural, social and political influences. This course is designed for students who want to gain an understanding of dance and for dance majors who want to broaden their knowledge.

The class work will include readings, discussions, group projects, and analysis of dance performances on video and live theatre. Attendance at selected performance(s) is required. (Cost of dance concert admission will not exceed \$30.00).

**Course Objectives:** Upon completion of the course the student will be able to do the following

- Discuss & identify various ways of viewing dance and formulating own viewpoint.
- Identify various dance styles.
- Demonstrate an understanding of dance history.
- Articulate the aesthetics, historical, political, social and cultural differences in the various dance styles.

**SLO (Student Learning Objective):**

Students will observe and analysis a dance identifying its salient characteristics based on BESS (Body, Effort, Space, Shape).

**Grading Policy:**

|                              |                 |         |   |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---------|---|
| Active Participation:        | 40 pts.         |         |   |
| Quizzes:                     | 50 pts.         |         |   |
| Dance Critique:              | 40 pts.         | 400-360 | A |
| Mid-Term:                    | 50 pts.         | 259-320 | B |
| Oral history/Interview:      | 20 pts          | 319-280 | C |
| Dance Research Presentation: | 50 pts.         | 279-240 | D |
| Final Paper:                 | 50 pts.         | 239-0   | F |
| <u>Final Exam:</u>           | <u>100 pts.</u> |         |   |
| Total points:                | <b>400 pts</b>  |         |   |

**Active Participation:** It is YOUR responsibility to make-up work missed and drop the class if necessary. Missed videos cannot be made up.

**Dance Critique:** Dance Concert Critique (see concert critique guidelines) must be minimum of four pages in length, typewritten and double-spaced **Extra credit:** Attend and describe in your paper the free performance previews which occur one hour before the performance. See web site for details:

**Check-Point (Mid-Term):** Thurs. Oct. 1

**Oral History/Interview:**

Interview someone from your family (1 generation removed) about their dance experience and movement background. A four-page paper (typewritten and double spaced) revealing the discoveries from your interview (may include the questions and answers as they were given).

**Dance Research Presentation:**

A 10-minute class presentation based on your findings from your Oral History Interview and Final Paper. Your focus should include one genre of dance. In your presentation you must describe the dance and its cultural influences presently and in the past, including how it affected your research subject.

Start date: Oct. 6

**Final Paper:** Present in a typewritten and double-spaced paper the dance chosen from your interview process (this is the same dance you presented in class)

**Early submission for extra credit:** Nov. 19

**Due:** Dec. 3

**Final Exam:** Dec. 10

**Course Policy:** No make-ups given for Quizzes, Mid-term, Class Presentation, or Final Exam. No late assignments accepted. This includes the Dance Critique, Oral History Interview, and Final Paper.

**Assistance:** Any student with a disability, who believes that he/she may need accommodations in this class, is encouraged to contact the Disabled Student Program & Services. The office is located in room S205. Phone: (562) 908-3420

**Extra Credit:** **Audition for the Works in Progress Dance Concert**

Sat. Aug. 29 @ noon in G 132

**Attend the Works in Progress Dance Concert**

Nov. 12-14 @ 8pm in the Wray Theater

**Write a two-page review of the Works in Progress Dance Concert**

Due by Nov. 19

**Holiday:** Nov. 26

***Please note that the university's policies on academic honesty apply to all work done for this course and will be strictly enforced.***

**Resources:**

[drc-la.org](http://drc-la.org): LA and OC area performances:

[dancechanneltv.com](http://dancechanneltv.com): articles, videos

[artsjournal.com/dance](http://artsjournal.com/dance): International news articles on dance, updated daily