

# DANC 1000- D01: Introduction to Dance

3 Credit Hours



**TRUE BLUE  
CORE**

**General Education Category: Creativity and Cultural Expression**

C1: Students will demonstrate intercultural understanding by building knowledge, self-awareness, and conceptions of global and intercultural perspectives, values, systems, and attitudes.

## Course Description

This course is an overview of dance as a wide-ranging art form and examines its role and impact in world cultures. A comprehensive study of the significant forms, major contributors, concepts, and terminologies of dance will provide the fundamental skills needed to interpret the historical, social, political and narrative content communicated by dance.

## Objectives and Outcomes

Students successfully completing this course will be able to:

- Understand the evolution of dance from past to present forms.
- Analyze the political, social, cultural and narrative content communicated through varying approaches and genres of dance.
- Understand, apply, and develop self-awareness through philosophical concepts of art to the theatrical elements of dance.
- Identify significant dance-makers, dancers and key terminologies of dance.
- Suggest critical standards for observing a live or recorded performance, evaluating the effectiveness of concert dance by analyzing and contextualizing dance as a form of cultural and creative expression.

## Prerequisites and Co-requisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

## Topics

The following course topics will be covered. The modules for each topic open and close sequentially, and after a module closes, the course content cannot be re-opened.

- Unit 1: Preparation & Definitions
  - Dancers' Preparation
  - Defining Dance
- Unit 2: Dance Roles & Tools
  - The Choreographer & Elements of Dance
  - The Dancer & the Audience
- Unit 3: Styles of Dance
  - Ballet
  - Early Modern Dance
  - Post-Modern & Contemporary Dance
  - Jazz, Tap & Musical Theatre
  - Dance in World Cultures
  - Social Dance
- Unit 4: Technology and Applications of Dance
  - Dance Production
  - Dance for the Camera
  - Careers in Dance

## Requirements

For this course, you will need Microsoft Word 2003, 2007 or higher. If you are using another word processing application, you **MUST ALWAYS** save in the RTF or PDF format for your written assignments. You will also need Adobe Reader and Adobe Flash Player.

## Course Materials

### Required Textbooks

*Learning About Dance: Dance as an Art Form and Entertainment*, by Nora Ambrosio (may be ordered online at [Phillips Bookstore](#)).

### Supplementary Materials

All additional course materials will be linked online within the course. Videos may be linked from the following sites: Alexander Street Press (accessible via the James Walker Library), Kanopy (accessible via the James Walker Library), Library of Congress, Jacob's Pillow Interactive, Youtube, and Vimeo. Details for accessing all video content will be included in D2L.

## Course Communication

Communication for this course will occur during our scheduled Zoom class meetings and class recordings, as well as our D2L course page and university email in between our scheduled times. My university email address is [Jade.Treadwell@mtsu.edu](mailto:Jade.Treadwell@mtsu.edu). You may email to request an appointment for office hours. Please allow for 24 hours for an emailed response. Quizzes and assignments will be discussed prior to being given, and will be may be accessed via D2L under the Assignments tab. All students are to familiarize themselves with the Zoom video meetings and D2L interface for communication, course information, and grade reporting.

Zoom behavior: University Policy 540 Student Conduct (<https://www.mtsu.edu/policies/student-affairs/540.php>) stipulates that appropriate behavior is required both in person and online. Appropriate language and attire are required on Zoom, both in lecture and break-out rooms.

For additional guidance on MTSU rules, facilities, and schedules, see <https://www.mtsu.edu/coronavirus/index.php>.

## Assessment and Grading

### Grading Procedure

Grading in this course is based on the quality of the work. Simple completion of an assignment does not guarantee 100% of the points available for an assignment. Only whole grades will be assigned for this course; there will be no plus or minus grades assigned. In order to constitute high course achievement, students must meet the following grade expectations:

- A grade of "A" is given for superlative work that demonstrates a profound commitment to the course material and employs this material as a springboard for independent thought and work.
- A grade of "B" is given for very good work that completely fulfills all the requirements of the course in a conscientious and dedicated manner and demonstrates mastery of course content.
- A grade of "C" is given for work that fulfills all the requirements of the course in a satisfactory manner, but that falls short of demonstrating rigor and mastery.
- A grade of "D" is given for work that is unsatisfactory.
- A grade of "F" is given for work that fails to fulfill the requirements of the course as listed above.

Grading Scale	
Points Range	Letter Grade
100-90	A
89-80	B
79-70	C
69-60	D
59 and below	F

Students will be assessed through a range of activities and procedures including quizzes, online discussion board participation, written assignments, and group activities. See Assignments and Participation below for a detailed breakdown of how these activities will be reflected in the final course grade.

## Feedback

- All questions should be directed to D2L email, and instructor will respond to D2L email within 24 hours.
- Assignments will be graded and grades will be updated within two weeks of assignment due dates during the fall and spring semester terms, and within four days of the module closing for accelerated summer terms.
- Assignments must be completed through the Quiz, the Discussion Board, or submitted to the Dropbox. NO assignments will be accepted via email.
- All assignment deadlines are listed on the respective assignment (Quiz, Discussion Board, Dropbox) and all deadlines are also listed in the Course Calendar.

## Online Testing and Proctoring

- All tests in this course are given online, using the Quiz function in D2L. All tests are timed. The online tests have a stringent time period in order to ensure that students have learned the material and are not just "looking it up." All correct answers come directly from the content presented in each module (the textbook, module lectures, and other linked resources). Answers that may have correct information but indicate that a student has simply "googled" for content will not be accepted. Correct answers directly correlate to course material. All assessments are "open book" and course material may be referenced while taking quizzes and other online assessments.
- The Test Center provides off-campus test proctoring services for students who live more than 50 miles away from campus. Students can schedule a distance learning exam with an [off-campus proctor](#). Students should select a local test center and schedule a mutually convenient date and time to take their exam. The exam must be completed by 12noon on the day of the scheduled on campus exam, unless written permission has been secured in advance from the instructor. Students must request off-campus distance learning exams at least two weeks prior to the exam date by completing the request form on the Test Center website. If the request is received less than two weeks before the exam date, students must obtain written permission from the instructor.

Visit <http://ucdb.mtsu.edu/OffCampusExams/addrecord.php> for more information and fill out the online form to make a testing appointment.

- When taking online exams: access D2L through <http://elearn.mtsu.edu> instead of through PipelineMT. Pipeline eventually times out and can cause students to lose valuable time while dealing with a popup window. If PipelineMT is used to access an exam, the Pipeline window may be closed (not the D2L window) preventing the timeout situation.
- Save answers to online test questions as soon as each question is answered, in case a computer crashes or loses internet connectivity. Students may reboot their computers or wait for internet connectivity to access the test again, and D2L will allow students to continue taking the test using the time left and the question answers they have saved.

## **Academic Integrity/Misconduct**

Please review the [information on Academic Integrity and Misconduct](#). The instructor will be submitting materials to an online service (Turnitin.com) which will review the work for plagiarism. Students should also review the report generated for each assignment and self-check for plagiarism. Information on how to cite work correctly is provided within the course modules, and you may read more about how to avoid plagiarism from the [RODP Virtual Library](#).

Plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- Submitting as one's own work, themes, reports, drawings, laboratory notes, computer programs, or other projects prepared by another person
- Knowingly assisting another student in obtaining or using unauthorized materials
- Submitting assignments previously used in other courses where you received credit for the work
- Improperly crediting or lack of crediting an original author's work

Students guilty of academic misconduct are immediately responsible to the instructor of the class. In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions (including expulsion from the university), which may be imposed through the regular institutional procedures as a result of academic misconduct, the instructor has the authority to assign an "F" or zero for an activity or to assign an "F" for the course. Students guilty of plagiarism will be immediately reported to the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs.

## **Incomplete Grades**

Incomplete grades are given rarely and only in extenuating circumstances. Page 56 of the MTSU Undergraduate Catalog states: "The grade I indicates that the student has not completed all course requirements because of illness or other uncontrollable circumstances, especially those which occur toward the end of the term. Mere failure to make up work or turn in required work on time does not provide the basis for the grade of "I" unless extenuating circumstances noted above are present for reasons acceptable to the instructor." Please refer to the Undergraduate catalog for the complete Incomplete Grade Policy.

# Assignments and Participation

## Assignments and Projects

Each module in this course will include several activities such as reading a chapter from the course textbook and/or articles linked through the D2L site; viewing a module lecture, including all embedded videos; dialoguing with other students via the online discussion board; and cumulative quizzes that test students' acquisition of new knowledge and skills. In addition to module activities, students will complete two projects: a Movement Observation Artifact Project and a Chance Dance Group Project. Lastly, students will demonstrate their cumulative knowledge of dance by viewing and critically responding to a dance concert. All due dates for activities and graded assignments will be listed in the COURSE CALENDAR on D2L.

### ***Percentage breakdown of quizzes, discussions, assignments and exam:***

**Discussion Board 35%:** Each module contains a discussion board prompt. Students must complete all content in the module in order to start a new thread in the discussion board. Students must post one original idea as a new thread and respond to two other students' threads. In other words, post three times for full credit. Posts must be between 3-5 full, grammatically-accurate sentences of approximately 100 words. Any direct quotations must include quotation marks and credit the original source. All other language should be in the students' own words and reflect original thought. See D2L for more information about discussion board posts.

**Quizzes 35%:** Each module contains one quiz testing information covered through the range of activities in the module. These activities include all readings, module lectures, videos and other linked content. The quiz will only become available after students have accessed all module content and posted to the discussion board.

**Projects 20%:** Two projects include the Movement Observation Journal & Paper Project (10%) and the Chance Dance Project (10%). Details about both assignments are in the D2L course site. The Movement Observation Journal & Paper Project is detailed in Module 1 and is due in Module 3. The Chance Dance Project is detailed in Module 6 and is due in Module 8.

**Final Exam 10%:** The final exam entails responding to four dances within a critical framework that includes movement description, evaluation, interpretation, and analysis. These skills will be taught and practiced through the discussion board over the duration of the course. Your audience participation experience will be provided through D2L. This will be a virtual dance concert available through D2L. The final exam is the very last course module and appears on the D2L site as a "quiz."

## **Class Participation**

State that student participation is required in all interactive aspects of the course. For example, students must:

- Communicate with the instructor as a learning resource.
- Participate fully by completing all module tasks and assignments including readings, module lectures, discussions, quizzes, and projects.
- Actively and respectfully interact with other students in the threaded discussion board posts.
- Check the course bulletin board ("News" on the homepage) frequently for announcements;
- Complete all assignments prior to modules closing.

## **Punctuality**

Modules open and close at regular intervals, according to the Course Calendar. Grades will be posted within two weeks of modules closing (or within four days for accelerated summer courses). A midterm accumulated grade column in the D2L gradebook will be posted as a marker of midterm progress.

## **Attendance Reporting**

MTSU Administration requires that instructors complete an attendance report for each course each semester. Regular class attendance is required and will be monitored by: the D2L system report; participation in the discussion board; and timely submission of course assignments. If several class assignment submissions are missing, student attendance will be reported as "no longer attending."

For hybrid and web-assisted courses, class attendance is essential, as material will be presented that cannot be replicated outside of class. The class requires active, energetic participation for the acquisition of the material covered. The students are expected to conduct themselves professionally. Attendance is imperative, both on campus (for hybrid and web-assisted sections) and online. Attendance is monitored and documented, including how often you come to class, how often you log in to the course site, and how much effort you expend on assignments. Only sanctioned university activities are viewed as excused absences. There is a 2-absence limit for hybrid and web-assisted courses. A total of 3 missed classes for hybrid and web-assisted courses will result in an automatic failure for the class. Tardiness is not acceptable and will be viewed as disruptive behavior.

## Course Ground Rules

Success in this course depends on a high level of engagement with the course content, as well as self-direction and self-motivation. Please observe the following course expectations:

- Participation is required.
- Communicate respectfully and in a timely manner with other students in the discussion boards and group projects.
- Learn how to navigate in the learning environment system.
- Keep abreast of course announcements.
- Use D2L and MTSU email for all course communication.
- Addressing technical problems immediately.
- Observe course netiquette at all times.

## Communication Guidelines

### Email

Per the [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act \(FERPA\)](#), all course communication will be conducted using D2L email. Faculty will not respond to student emails via a non-institutional assigned email account.

### Email Netiquette

The [University of South Florida](#), recommends the guidelines below when communicating in an online course.

- *Always identify yourself and keep your messages brief and to the point. Remember that not everyone accesses email from a computer these days. Many people use portable devices such as cell phones to quickly check their email while they are away from a computer. They will appreciate not having to wait for the long messages to download.*
- *Include a concise subject line with all of your emails. Use standard fonts.*
- *Let your recipient know right away if any action is required of them.*
- *Avoid “flaming” (inflammatory or antagonistic criticism) or sending insulting, abusive, or threatening remarks.*
- *Avoid using all capital letters in a message.*
- *Remember that email is not necessarily private. Your messages can be forwarded to many people without your knowledge. Before sending a message, read it over, double check the recipient(s) and make sure it would not become an embarrassment if it were forwarded to others not on your recipient list.*
- *Do not spam others. Spam is the practice of sending unsolicited email messages in bulk or overloading someone’s mailbox or server with messages.*



- *Include a signature that has your phone number or if you are sending internal email, your extension. This will make it easier for your recipient to contact you if they need to speak to you in person. Avoid recalling messages. Take the time to really determine if a message is necessary or not before sending it in the first place.*

## **Student Feedback**

Students are invited to email the instructor as often as needed through D2L with any questions, concerns, or comments about the course. There is also an open discussion thread "Report Problems" to post any issues encountered with the course related to course functionality, navigation, etc. Student are also invited to share non-academic information within the "Course Lounge" open discussion thread. Students also have the opportunity to provide evaluative feedback about both the course and the instructor towards the end of the term.

## **Discussion Groups**

- Review the discussion threads thoroughly before entering the discussion. Be a lurker then a discussant.
- Try to maintain threads by using the "Reply" button rather starting a new topic.
- Do not make insulting or inflammatory statements to other members of the discussion group. Be respectful of other's ideas.
- Be patient and read the comments of other group members thoroughly before entering your remarks.
- Be cooperative with group leaders in completing assigned tasks.
- Be positive and constructive in group discussions.
- Respond in a thoughtful and timely manner.

## **Chat**

- Introduce yourself to the other learners in the chat session.
- Be polite. Choose your words carefully. Do not use derogatory statements.
- Be concise in responding to others in the chat session.
- Be prepared to open the chat session at the scheduled time.
- Be constructive in your comments and suggestion

## **Student Resources**

[Frequently Used Student Resources](#)

### **Technical Support**

Students who experience problems logging into their course, timing out of their course, using the course web site tools or experience other technical problems, should be encouraged to contact the [MTSU Help Desk](#) online (24/7) or at 1-615/898-5345.

## Students with Disabilities

Middle Tennessee State University is committed to campus access in accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Any student interested in reasonable accommodations can consult the [Disability & Access Center \(DAC\)](#) website and/or contact the DAC for assistance at 615-898-2783 or [dacemail@mtsu.edu](mailto:dacemail@mtsu.edu). Also, if you require the use of assistive technology, please make sure to download the documents in order to access the accessibility that I have built into the content for you.

## Hope (Lottery) Scholarship Information

Do you have a lottery scholarship? To retain the Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship eligibility, you must earn a cumulative TELS GPA of 2.75 after 24 and 48 attempted hours and a cumulative TELS GPA of 3.0 thereafter. A grade of C, D, F, FA, or I in this class may negatively impact TELS eligibility.

If you drop this class, withdraw, or if you stop attending this class you may lose eligibility for your lottery scholarship, and you may not be able to regain eligibility at a later time.

For additional Lottery rules, please refer to your [Lottery Statement of Understanding form](#) or contact your [MT One Stop Enrollment Counselor](#).

## The True Blue Pledge

### [I am True Blue](#)

As a member of this diverse community, I am a valuable contributor to its progress and success.

I am engaged in the life of this community. I am a recipient and a giver. I am a listener and a speaker. I am honest in word and deed. I am committed to reason, not violence. I am a learner now and forever. I am a BLUE RAIDER. True Blue!

## Title IX Statement

MTSU faculty are concerned about the well-being and development of our students and are legally obligated to share reports of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking with the University's Title IX coordinator to help ensure student's safety and welfare. Students who believe they have been harassed, discriminated against or been the victim of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking should contact a Title IX/Deputy Coordinator at 615-898-2185 or 615-898-2750 for assistance or review MTSU's Title IX website for resources.

<http://www.mtsu.edu/titleix/>

## Tutoring

Take advantage of our FREE tutoring service and learn how to study, get help with understanding difficult course material, receive better test grades, or simply improve your grade point average. Tutoring is available in *study skills* and *learning strategies* that includes sessions on time management, note-taking, when and where to

study, and memory principles. Tutoring is also available in over 200 courses including biology, history, computer information systems, physics, math, psychology, chemistry, economics, recording industry, and many more. The central location for tutoring is the Tutoring Spot, located in Walker Library, but is also conducted at various other campus sites.

For available tutoring opportunities, visit <http://mtsu.edu/studentssuccess/tutoring.php#on>. For questions, call the Tutoring Spot at 615-904-8014.

### **Tucker Theatre Box Office and Student Ticketing Policy**

Students MUST present a valid MTSU ID to receive a free ticket. M#'s are not accepted. Students may receive 1 FREE ticket per production (not Performance). Students must present their MTSU ID at the Main Box Office and receive their ticket. Tickets may be purchased before the day of the performance via the online sales system; however, free student tickets may not be purchased in advance. If a student ID is found not valid or expired, they will be required to purchase a ticket at the box office to see the performance. Attendance will be taken by use of the student's MTSU ID. The card will be scanned at the close of each performance, totaled and sent to all instructors. Attendance will not be credited without an ID, no M#'s. Tucker Theatre does maintain a late arrival policy. Students arriving more than (5) five minutes after the show has begun will not be admitted to the performance and thus not eligible for attendance credit. Lines can be long at the box office, so arrive early, or get your tickets in advance. Seating for shows begins 30 minutes prior to show time. Please be respectful of the theatre and performers. Disrespect or the use of electronic devices may result in your being asked to leave the theatre.

### **Scheduling Meetings with Dance Faculty**

This semester, students may request an office-hours meeting via email at [Jade.treadwell@mtsu.edu](mailto:Jade.treadwell@mtsu.edu). Please allow for 24hrs notice so that appropriate feedback and preparation can be accommodated.

**\* Syllabus is subject to change at instructor's discretion.**

*Revised August 21, 2022*

*Distance Education Faculty Services Office*

*Distance Education and Non-traditional Programs Department*

*University College*