

DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
DANCE 4472B:SPECIAL TOPICS

peddlest@uwo.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is intended to give the student further in-depth study of Dance 2476B Introduction to Theatre Dance.

Participation and assignments are intended to give the student a deeper understanding of selected aspects of dance with respect for the demands and acquisition of dance and performance techniques first studied in 2476B.

In addition research will be undertaken to establish the historic discrepancy in the development of opportunities in training, development, and professional engagement for people of diverse backgrounds.

COURSE CONTENT

The instructor will meet with the Special Topics student to discuss the course's technical content and expectations and determine the appropriate type/skills the student will create and teach to the class and/or specific students.

The Special Topics student will be expected to assume the role of 'dance captain' by giving assistance in the demonstration of movement sequences in general and in greater detail to class members who may be less technically proficient. Also, by ongoing research, the student will have the opportunity to add further depth of understanding to aspects of study in the course. Therefore attendance to all 2476B classes is mandatory.

In addition, the Special Topics student will submit the results of a detailed study into the historical origins of ballet, tap and jazz dance and how they are interconnected with current Americanised dance styles. The student will hypothesize on the discrepancies experienced by BIPOC dancers and artists past and present. This will be illustrated by examining portraits of selected black pioneers of dance.

Making Space on the Dancefloor: Stewarding Life as a BIPOC Performer

The Research will be the basis of a power point presentation given to the class.

EVALUATION

20% Participation in all 2476B classes and assistance in the development of the technical content for which they will be responsible.

20% Observation and critical input of the class development. The student will submit periodic reports to discuss their observations with the instructor detailing progress of the class in general and particular progress of those assigned students with technical challenges.

60% Research Project: Survey, Paper, Presentation.

- i) **Grading Scale:** A+=90-100%, A=80-89%. B=70-79%, C=60-69%, D=50-59%, F=0-49%
- ii) **Academic Consideration for Student Absence & Missing Work (≥10%):** Students are responsible for making up any missed classes or assignments as soon as possible. The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. Academic Consideration provides students with consistent, fair, and pedagogically appropriate consideration, without compromising the academic integrity of the course or program, when they have been unable to complete some component of a course due to short-term extenuating circumstances. Students who have long-term or chronic medical conditions (physical or mental) that may impede their ability to complete academic responsibilities are directed to seek Academic Accommodation through Accessible Education ([Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#)).

Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours and after the end of the period of absence covered, to the Academic Counselling unit or office of the Associate Dean, Undergraduate (TC 210), of the student's Home faculty together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the academic consideration being requested. Students are directed to read the Senate Policy on requirements and procedures for the supporting documentation.

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_pdf

Wherever possible students who require academic consideration should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner.

- iii) **Academic Consideration for Missing Work (<10%):** In cases where students miss work that is less than 10% of the total course grade due to medical illness or compassionate grounds, accommodation will be made by observation and/or written assignments. Students who have been denied accommodation by an instructor may appeal this decision to the Associate Dean's office but will be required to present appropriate documentation.
- iv) **Academic Offences:** Submission of work with which you have received help from someone else (other than the course instructor or TA) is an example of plagiarism, which is considered a major academic offence. Scholastic offenses are taken seriously, and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence as found at http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf:
- v) **Mental Health & Wellness:** Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to the Health and Wellness at Western page (<https://www.uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help or to go to the Wellness Education Centre located in Thames Hall room 2170. **Students in crisis in need of immediate care are directed to go directly to Student Health Services in Thames Hall 2170 or click on the big screen "I Need Help Now" button on the Health and Wellness page above.**
- vi) **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:** Students work with Accessible Education which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities

- vii) **Religious Accommodation:** Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays (other than statutory holidays),, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. The Diversity Calendar from the Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion provides information on multifaith, multicultural and diversity related holidays and observances and links to resources for more information. <https://www.edi.uwo.ca/resources/2816-2023-Diversity-Calendar-PDF.pdf>
- viii) **Contingency Plan:** Although the intent is for this course to be delivered in-person, the changing COVID-19 restrictions may necessitate some or all of the course to be delivered online, either synchronously (i.e. at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g. posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any assessments affected will be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.
- ix) **Gender-based and sexual violence:** Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence either recently or in the past you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html
To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca or call 519-661-3568
- x) **Examinations & Attendance:** Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examinations in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.