

## **TAPS 0310 – BEGINNING MODERN – FALL 2018**

M-T-W-TH @ 1:00-2:20pm

**Michelle Bach-Coulibaly (Tuesday/Thursday)**

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Office hours: Wednesdays 12:00-2pm or by appointment

**Julie Adams Strandberg (Monday/Wednesday)**

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Office Hours: Mondays 12:00-1:00 & 2:30-3:30 or by appointment

### **All course related communication – Canvas**

#### **Objectives – Students will:**

1. Engage with diverse movement languages including European and American Ballet, non-Western dance, Post Modern Dance, Yoga, Laban Movement Analysis, Contact Improvisation, and the techniques and styles of Modern Dance pioneers, including, but not restricted to: Martha Graham, Lester Horton, Doris Humphrey, Charles Weidman, Jose Limon, Mary Wigman, Hanya Holm, Merce Cunningham, and Paul Taylor
2. Learn principles of dance making to reenforce understanding of the development of this important American art form, including movement invention, sources of inspiration, musicality, and stage craft.
3. Experience essential elements of the artistic method such as collaboration, synthesis of information, divergent thinking, and personal accountability & self-assessment
4. Develop a critical eye for viewing dance
5. Acquire skills in speaking and writing about dance
6. Gain an appreciation for dance within social, cultural, and political contexts

#### **Texts:**

- "Why We Dance: A Philosophy of Bodily Becoming" - Kimerer L Lamothe
- "Reading Dancing: Bodies and Subjects in Contemporary American Dance" - Susan Leigh Foster - pp. 1-41
- Excerpts: "Writing About Dance" - Wendy Oliver
- Select articles of your choosing

#### **Course Requirements - 13 hours/week\***

- Class - 6 hours
- Independent studio sessions - 1 hour\*\*
- Engagement in other movement practices - 1 hour\*\*\*
- Journal Writing - 4 hours
- Readings - 1 Hour

#### **Additional course time**

- Three dance concerts - 10 hours
- Preparation for final Projects - 14 hours

\*Breakdown of requirements and hours for the whole semester is found at bottom of syllabus

\*\*Independent Studio Sessions: You are expected to spend at least one hour a week on your own to, for example: review combinations and concepts from class so that you are prepared to enter the next class with a clear understanding of the combination or with specific questions; work on particular exercises from class in areas where you need to improve; and/or focus on specific exercises that address your individual movement challenges. You should report on these sessions in your journal.

\*\*\*Engagement in Other Movement Practices: You are required to engage in at least one hour a week in other movement practices. These may include attending Master Classes, the Contact Jam on Sunday from 1-3 in Ashamu and/or other dance classes offered at the university or in the community, and/or participating in such practices as Yoga, Pilates, or Tai Chi. You should write about these practices in your journal and relate them to your growth and development as a dancer in this course.

### **Attendance**

Only **four** absences will be allowed in order to pass this course. You are responsible for making up any classes if your absences exceed **four**. It is your obligation to make these classes up either in the other technique classes at Brown or at another venue, with a written note from the instructor that you have done so. Dance must be experienced in the body and therefore must build upon daily practice. If you are unable to take class, but are well enough to observe, you will receive a 1/3 attendance credit, i.e. 3 days watching is equivalent to 1 day of attendance. You can learn a lot through watching. You should bring your journal and enter any observations about the class. You should NOT use this time to do homework for other courses.

### **Journals**

All students are required to process course material into a journal to include:

- Personal assessment of your own creative explorations about movement, performance, and creative process.
- Response to three in-class films
- Reviews of three dance concerts
- Discussion of assigned readings
- Discussion of any other optional readings that you find interesting, e.g. reviews of concerts, articles
- Report on your independent studio sessions
- Report on other movement practices that you engage in

We are particularly interested in your thought processes as you develop as a dancer and how you dialogue with other dancers and non-dancers. Journal entries should be placed on Canvas at least once a week and will be reviewed by the faculty periodically during the semester.

If you wish to also keep a book of drawings, diagrams, hard copies of articles, photos, etc. you are encouraged to do so, but you only need submit that portion of your journal once at the end of the semester.

## Assessment

- Participation in class
- Journal entries
- Final Project

## Film Days Dates - TBA

You will not be moving on these dates, but watching important dance related films. You will be required to take notes and write responses to these films and include them in your journals.

## Three Concerts

Family Weekend Concert, October 19, 20, 21– Ashamu - Required

Fall Dance Concert November 15, 16, 17, 18 – Ashamu - Required

One concert not a Brown - A list of local and regional concerts will be posted on Canvas

## Final Projects – December 5 and 6 during class time

You will have November 28 - December 4 to work on these projects during class time. They should consist of original collaborative works by you and your classmates. The collaborative process should be explored as a method of creative expression. These are your final and should indicate a high level of research, development and execution. Pieces thrown together at the last minute will not receive credit. Nothing prepares one better than rehearsal and adequate planning. Have Fun

## Accommodations:

*Brown University is committed to full inclusion of all students. Please inform us early in the term if you have a disability or other conditions that might require accommodations or modification of any of these course procedures. You may speak with us after class or during office hours. For more information, please contact: **Student and Employee Accessibility Services** at 401-863-9588 or [SEAS@brown.edu](mailto:SEAS@brown.edu).*

*Students in need of short-term academic advice or support can contact one of the deans in the Dean of the College office*

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\* Break down of class hours by semester:

- In-class time - 76.5 hours
- Weekly Journal Writing: Film Day notes/responses, personal logging of vocabulary, and embodied concepts - 12 Hours
- Weekly one-hour independent studio sessions - 12 hours
- Weekly reflection on Independent studio sessions in journals - 6 hours
- Engagement in other movement practices - 7 hours
- Reflection on other movement practices in journals - 7 hours
- Reading - 12 hours
- Reading Response Writings in Journals - 12 hours

- Three Dance Concerts - Family Week-End and Fall Dance Required + one additional TBA - 10 hours.
- Critical Responses papers - 8 hours
- Preparation for Final Projects - 14 hours