

Senior Projects (M/W)

Reyna Mondragon Class Location: DATH 127

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Course Description

This capstone course focuses on an individualized project in dance, specialized in, but not limited to, choreography, creative research, dance science, and dance pedagogy. In addition to ongoing group/collective processes inherent in this course, each student works directly with a faculty mentor throughout the development and execution of the proposed project. Each project is presented publicly as a culmination of the semester's work.

OBJECTIVES

1. Identify artistic and creative biases.
2. Identify, describe, and complete a proposed creative project.
3. Develop research methods appropriate to individual projects.
4. Identify ethical concerns regarding research, scholarly, and creative activities.
5. Participate in ongoing discussions with peers about individual research processes.
6. Develop a language of collective critique and self-assessment.
7. Communicate effectively in physical, verbal, and written forms.
8. Explore and expand aesthetic parameters beyond the known, the comfortable, and the expected in both process and presentation of the final project.
9. Share work with other communities through public presentations/performances.

Prerequisites

1. Nine hours of coursework appropriate to the proposed project, approved by the Dance Advisor and the Coordinating Faculty member.

Text/Resources/Materials

1. Due to the individualized nature of the Senior Project, each student should select appropriate resources and materials supportive of their described project.

GRADING REQUIREMENTS

Proposal: 10%

- Outline in detailed clarity the content, theme, form, and strategic plan for your project. Proposal requirements for projects will be discussed and planned individually.
 - Minimum 4 pages
 - Double-spaced
 - 12-point font / Times New Roman
 - 1-inch margins

Self-Evaluation: 20%

Each student will be responsible for developing a well-written, reflective evaluation paper of their individual process and presentation of their senior project. The paper must include ways that exposure to different ideas, perspectives, cultures, and viewpoints have affected the student's learning experience, the final product, their sense of social responsibility, and the development of teamwork.

- Minimum 3 pages
- Double-spaced
- 12-point font / Times New Roman
- 1-inch margins

Final Product/Paper & Presentation: 40%

- Depending on the nature of the individual senior project, each student will be assessed on the completion of a meaningful project and the presentation of that project in an appropriate forum. For choreography and performance, the final product is presented in a fully produced formal concert, and research projects are presented orally with visual aids.

“

Every day is a new adventure. Be curious, be brave, and never stop learning!

”

Process: 30%

Senior Project Portfolio Expectations and Guidelines:

Portfolio Components:

1. Class Process Notes:

- Documentation of Class Activities and Discussions: Maintain detailed notes on class activities, discussions, and how they relate to your project. Include responses and reflections on the exercises and their relevance to your work.

2. Research Notes & Bibliographic Sources:

- Research Documentation: Keep thorough records of all research conducted, including bibliographic sources, summaries, and how they inform your project. This section should serve as a scholarly backbone for your creative or research work.

3. Ethical and Moral Considerations:

- Ethical Reflections: Document and reflect on any ethical considerations and moral responsibilities that arise during your project. Consider how these concerns shape your approach and decision-making throughout the process.

4. Sound Sources (if applicable):

- Sound Integration: List and describe all sound sources used or considered for your project. Reflect on how sound complements and enhances your choreographic or performance work.

5. Ideas & Inspirations:

- Creative Inspirations: Compile a collection of ideas and inspirations that influence your project. This may include images, colors, textures, fabric swatches, or other visual aids that contribute to your creative vision.

6. Personal Reflections:

- Process Reflection: Regularly document your personal reflections on your progress, challenges faced, and how you overcame them. Include insights into your creative process and personal growth throughout the project.

Written/Verbal/Presentation Assignments:

- Assignment Documentation: Depending on the nature of your senior project, you will be responsible for additional assignments as required by your instructor. These should be included in your portfolio, alongside any other materials pertinent to your ongoing coursework.

Final Submission:

- Comprehensive Portfolio: The portfolio is the final component of your senior project and should include all required tabs mentioned above. Additionally, your proposal and final paper must be included, regardless of the project type. Think of this portfolio as a sample of your work, showcasing your process, growth, and final outcomes.

“ **Allow yourself to be vulnerable-life is too short to let fear hold you back.** ”

GRADING CRITERIA

- Superior Work
 - Exceeds all assignment requirements.
- B: Good Work
 - Meets assignment requirements consistently and conscientiously.
- C: Average Work
 - Generally addresses assignment requirements.
 - Shows minimal effort with some inconsistencies in quality.
- D: Poor Work
 - Only sporadically addresses assignment requirements.
 - Shows clear lack of preparation.
- F: Failing Work
 - Assignment is missing or is so poorly executed that it barely meets any requirements.

Graduation Requirement:

- To graduate with a dance major, you must earn at least a C in dance theory courses.

Teaching and Learning Philosophy:

Creative research is a deeply personal process that reflects your life, beliefs, and imagination. Success in this work requires a supportive environment where the artist, peers, instructor, and audiences contribute to the process. The key to success is honesty, which leads to truth and authenticity in your work. Allow yourself to be VOULNERABLE.



Concert Information:

Box Office Hours:

- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. One hour prior to each performance.
- Tickets to an individual production may be purchased approximately two weeks before that show opens.
- Seating availability is often limited, and many shows sell out quickly.
- Tickets can be ordered with a credit card over the phone by calling (940) 565-2428 or Metro (817) 267-3731 ext. 2428.
- The Box Office is located in the Radio, Television, Film and Performing Arts (RTFP) Building in the first floor lobby of the University Theatre (Room 104).
- At our Box Office location, we can accept cash, checks, and credit cards.
- The Box Office opens one hour prior to each performance for will-call, and to sell any remaining tickets for that performance.
- There is a NO LATE SEATING policy for productions in the Studio Theatre.
- We do not hold unpaid reservations for our performances.
- All sales are final. There are no refunds or exchanges.
- AA/ADA/EOE - Patrons who require special accommodations should contact the box office three weeks prior to their desired performance.

University Policies:

- Academic Integrity Policy
 - Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. [Insert specific sanction or academic penalty for specific academic integrity violation.]
- ADA Policy
 - UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the [ODA website \(https://disability.unt.edu/\)](https://disability.unt.edu/).
- Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)
 - The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.
- Emergency Notification & Procedures
 - UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.
- Retention of Student Records
 - Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student's records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University's policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.
- Acceptable Student Behavior
 - Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT's [Code of Student Conduct \(https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct\)](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) to learn more.
- Access to Information - Eagle Connect
 - Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu. All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student's Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail [Eagle Connect \(https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect\)](https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect).

University Policies:

- Student Evaluation Administration Dates
 - Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 [insert administration dates] of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the [SPOT website](http://spot.unt.edu/) (http://spot.unt.edu/) or email spot@unt.edu.
- Survivor Advocacy
 - UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct. Federal laws and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex as well as sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-5652648.
 - Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses
- Federal Regulation
 - To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the [Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website](http://www.ecfr.gov/) (http://www.ecfr.gov/). The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G).
 - The paragraph reads:
 - (G) For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.
- University of North Texas Compliance
 - To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.
 - If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:
 - (1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
 - (2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.
 - Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

University Policies:

- Student Verification
 - UNT takes measures to protect the integrity of educational credentials awarded to students enrolled in distance education courses by verifying student identity, protecting student privacy, and notifying students of any special meeting times/locations or additional charges associated with student identity verification in distance education courses.
 - See UNT Policy 07-002 Student Identity Verification, Privacy, and Notification and Distance Education Courses (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002>).
- Use of Student Work
 - A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g. software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student's permission unless all of the following criteria are met:
 - The work is used only once.
 - The work is not used in its entirety.
 - Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
 - The student is not identified.
 - The work is identified as student work.
 - If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student's written permission. Download the UNT System Permission, Waiver and Release Form.
- Transmission and Recording of Student Images in Electronically-Delivered Courses
 - No permission is needed from a student for his or her image or voice to be transmitted live via videoconference or streaming media, but all students should be informed when courses are to be conducted using either method of delivery.
 - In the event an instructor records student presentations, he or she must obtain permission from the student using a signed release in order to use the recording for future classes in accordance with the Use of Student-Created Work guidelines above.
 - Instructors who video-record their class lectures with the intention of re-using some or all of recordings for future class offerings must notify students on the course syllabus if students' images may appear on video. Instructors are also advised to provide accommodation for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings.
 - Example: This course employs lecture capture technology to record class sessions. Students may occasionally appear on video. The lecture recordings will be available to you for study purposes and may also be reused in future course offerings.
 - No notification is needed if only audio and slide capture is used or if the video only records the instructor's image. However, the instructor is encouraged to let students know the recordings will be available to them for study purposes.
- Academic Support & Student Services
 - Student Support Services
- Mental Health
 - UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:
 - Student Health and Wellness Center (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center>)
 - Counseling and Testing Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
 - UNT Care Team (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care>)
 - UNT Psychiatric Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry>)
 - Individual Counseling (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling>)

University Policies:

- Chosen Names
 - A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.
 - [UNT Records](#)
 - [UNT ID Card](#)
 - [UNT Email Address](#)
 - [Legal Name](#)
 - UNT eulDs cannot be changed at this time. The collaborating offices are working on a process to make this option accessible to UNT community members.
- Pronouns
 - Pronouns (she/her, they/them, he/him, etc.) are a public way for people to address you, much like your name, and can be shared with a name when making an introduction, both virtually and in-person. Just as we ask and don't assume someone's name, we should also ask and not assume someone's pronouns.
 - You can [add your pronouns to your Canvas account](#) so that they follow your name when posting to discussion boards, submitting assignments, etc.
 - Below is a list of additional resources regarding pronouns and their usage:
 - [What are pronouns and why are they important?](#)
 - [How do I use pronouns?](#)
 - [How do I share my pronouns?](#)
 - [How do I ask for another person's pronouns?](#)
 - [How do I correct myself or others when the wrong pronoun is used?](#)
- Additional Student Support Services
 - Registrar (<https://registrar.unt.edu/registration>)
 - [Financial Aid](#) (<https://financialaid.unt.edu/>)
 - [Student Legal Services](#) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services>)
 - [Career Center](#) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center>)
 - [Multicultural Center](#) (<https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center>)
 - [Counseling and Testing Services](#) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
 - [Pride Alliance](#) (<https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance>)
 - [UNT Food Pantry](#) (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry>)
- Academic Support Services
 - [Academic Resource Center](#) (<https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources>)
 - [Academic Success Center](#) (<https://success.unt.edu/asc>)
 - [UNT Libraries](#) (<https://library.unt.edu/>)
 - [Writing Lab](#) (<http://writingcenter.unt.edu/>)
- Academic Dishonesty: (<http://www.vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.html>): The University takes plagiarism and cheating very seriously. Plagiarized work will earn a zero for the assignment. Students will face action according to University guidelines for academic dishonesty. I reserve the right to submit any paper I suspect of plagiarism to Turnitit.com.
- Academic Ethics: (<http://www.unt.edu/csrr0>): Acts of academic dishonesty are subject to discipline at UNT. Cheating plagiarism and furnishing false or misleading information are acts of academic dishonesty. The definitions of these terms are clearly described in the Undergraduate Catalog (www.unt.edu/catalog) and by the Center for Students Rights and Responsibilities.
- Authorized Class Absence: (http://www.unt.edu/vpaa_fy0708_fhb/III-a.html): All travel by students off campus for the purpose of participation in UNT sponsored activities must be authorized by the dean of the school or college of the sponsoring department. Within three days after the absence, students must obtain authorized absence cards from the dean of students for instructors.
- Absence for Religious Holidays: (http://www.unt.edu/vpaa_fy0708_fhb/III-a.html): A student absent due to the observance of a religious holiday may take examinations/ complete assignments scheduled for the day(s) missed within a reasonable time after the absence. Class participants should notify the instructor via email of planned absences for religious holidays.

University Policies:

- Disability Support Services: (<http://www.unt.edu/oda>)): ODA Office in Sage Hall, Suite 167.
- Office of Disability Accommodation Statement: (ODA)- The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940-565-4323.
- To graduate, students majoring in dance are required to have a minimum grade of “B” in dance technique courses that comprise their major.