

**FALL 2022**

**Senior Projects DANC 4650**

**MAC LAB T/TH 11:00am-12:50pm**

**Faculty Contact Information:**

**Instructor:** Reyna Mondragon

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**Office Hours:** 2pm-4pm Tuesday and Thursday Room-103F

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

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

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- Identify artistic & creative biases.
- Identify, describe, and complete a proposed creative project.
- Develop methods of research appropriate to individual projects.
- Identify ethical concerns regarding research, scholarly and creative activities.
- Participate in on-going discussions with peers regarding the process of individual research.
- Develop a language of collective critique & self-assessment.
- Communicate effectively in physical, verbal and written forms.
- Explore and expand aesthetic parameters beyond the known, the comfortable and expected in both process and presentation of the final project.
- Share your work with other communities through public presentation/performance.

**PREREQUISITES**

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

## **TEXT/RESOURCES/MATERIALS**

Resources provided through CANVAS. As a part of the individualized nature of the Senior Project, each student should select appropriate resources and materials supportive of the described project.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS & EVALUATION:**

### **Attendance & Professionalism**

This is a course focused on individual and group experiences, investigation, and interaction. It is imperative that students accept the responsibility for attendance at all designated discussions, seminars, meetings, and presentations as a commitment to the art form, their peers, and themselves.

- Students are responsible for maintaining all scheduled appointments with the faculty mentor.
- If students are absent due to illness or for a University-excused event, they should be prepared to present documentation for missing a class/session (Dean's or doctor's excuse). Whenever possible, it is expected students to communicate with the instructor and peers if an absence is expected. You are allowed one excused absence without penalty. Beyond one absence, a student's grade will be dropped by one letter grade for each absence. Three or more absences will result in failing the course.

### **NOTE:**

*Due to the individual nature of each student's senior project, class content and schedule will vary.*

## **GRADING & REQUIREMENTS**

### **PROPOSAL**

**10%**

Written & Oral Presentation to Peers, Mentor & Designers

*Outline in detailed clarity the content, theme, form, and strategic plan for your project.*

*Proposal requirements for projects will be posted, discussed & planned individually.*

### **PROCESS**

**30%**

Students are expected to function independently and cooperatively in attending to all assignments

#### **• Journal/ Workbook**

The process of maintaining a well, organized journal of the process provides the student with an ongoing source of personal notation of activities, experiences, and ideas for current and future choreographic/performance/research endeavors. Recognizing the personal nature of journaling, students may develop a system that reflects individual preferences

- Notes/Responses to class process
- Research notes/Bibliographic sources
- Ethical and moral concerns and social responsibilities
- Sound Sources
- Ideas/Inspirations/Pictures/Colors/Textures/Fabric/Stuff
- Personal Reflections

#### **• Written/Verbal/Presentation Assignments**

Depending on the nature of the individual senior project, each student will be responsible for specific assignments required by the instructor in addition to assignments that may be a part of the ongoing course.

## **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.

## **SELF – EVALUATION**

**20%**

Each student will be responsible for developing a written, reflective evaluation paper of their individual process and presentation of their senior project.

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## **GRADING**

**A: Superior work** *Assignment requirements have been met and surpassed*

**B: Good work** *Assignment requirements have been met consistently and conscientiously*

**C: Average work** *Assignment requirements generally addressed Minimal effort evident with some unevenness of quality*

**D: Poor work** *Assignment requirements sporadically addressed Lack of preparation obvious* **F:** *Failing work. Assignment does not exist or exists in such haphazard form that elements are barely recognizable.*

*To graduate, students majoring in dance are required to have a minimum grade of C in dance theory courses that comprise their major. Therefore, to graduate you must earn a C or better in the course.*

## **Choreographic Projects:**

The intimate nature of the process of choreography requires a personal investment that allows the artist to reveal elements of life, belief, and imagination that hold value and interest. This kind of work must occur in a supportive environment that nurtures the process, the person, and the product. This intimacy is shared between the artist and the work, your peers, and instructor as well as potential audiences. The key to successful work is honesty. Within this honesty truth and authenticity are found.

## **Student Obligations to Academic/Production Work:**

DT students are expected to budget and organize their time and efforts to meet both their academic and production commitments satisfactorily and on time. The faculty and staff recognize that the academic and production assignments within the Department, as well as outside employment and other obligations, sometimes impose conflicting pressures on DT students. One of the principal responsibilities of each student is to carefully identify and monitor the commitments that comprise his/her departmental assignments and outside obligations. It is also important to keep in mind that production work and outside obligations do not constitute an excused absence from DT classes or from the completion of any required class assignments.

## **UNT POLICY STATEMENTS**

### **PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT**

PoE refers to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines as provided by UNT:

- While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis 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 will not be tolerated.
- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
- Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
- Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.
- Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people’s ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
- Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as “YELLING!”
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
- Avoid using “text-talk” unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.
- Proofread and fact-check your sources.
- Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.

## **STUDENT BEHAVIOR IN THE CLASSROOM**

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.

## **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.

## **ADA Accommodation Statement.**

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 at [disability.unt.edu](https://disability.unt.edu).

## **Course Safety Procedures (for Laboratory Courses)**

Students enrolled in this course are required to use proper safety procedures and guidelines as outlined in UNT Policy 06.038 Safety in Instructional Activities. While working in laboratory sessions, students are expected and required to identify and use proper safety guidelines in all activities requiring lifting, climbing, walking on slippery

surfaces, using equipment and tools, handling chemical solutions and hot and cold products. Students should be aware that the UNT is not liable for injuries incurred while students are participating in class activities. All students are encouraged to secure adequate insurance coverage in the event of accidental injury. Students who do not have insurance coverage should consider obtaining Student Health Insurance. Brochures for student insurance are available in the UNT Student Health and Wellness Center. Students who are injured during class activities may seek medical attention at the Student Health and Wellness Center at rates that are reduced compared to other medical facilities. If students have an insurance plan other than Student Health Insurance at UNT, they should be sure that the plan covers treatment at this facility. If students choose not to go to the UNT Student Health and Wellness Center, they may be transported to an emergency room at a local hospital. Students are responsible for expenses incurred there.

### **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 Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course materials.

### **Access to Information**

Eagle Connect. Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: [my.unt.edu](https://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: [eagleconnect.unt.edu/](https://eagleconnect.unt.edu/)

### **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 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](mailto: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 at [www.spot.unt.edu](https://www.spot.unt.edu) or email [spot@unt.edu](mailto:spot@unt.edu).

### **Survivor Advocacy.**

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit 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. UNT's Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim's compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](mailto:SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu) or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non- confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at [oeo@unt.edu](mailto:oeo@unt.edu) or at (940) 565 2759.