



Course Description

DAN2130 | Dance History 1 | 3.00 credits

In this course, students will study the origins and development of dance as an art form, tracing its evolution from primitive cultures to the present day and includes works from the Western canon. Students will analyze the contexts that shaped dance styles and techniques, exploring their connections to literature, music, and philosophy. Through examination of dance works, students will develop critical thinking skills and gain understanding of how dance reflects and influences culture across time periods, while considering its artistic and expressive elements. Writing intensive course.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will demonstrate an understanding of dance history by:

1. Analyzing the origins of dance in early societies
2. Comparing dance styles across different historical periods
3. Examining the evolution of dance techniques from antiquity to present
4. Evaluating the influence of societal factors on dance development
5. Interpreting the artistic intentions behind significant dance works
6. Tracing the progression of dance as a formal art form
7. Synthesizing knowledge of various dance traditions and their characteristics

Competency 2: The student will explore the relationship between dance and other cultural elements by:

1. Investigating the connection between dance and musical compositions
2. Examining the influence of literature on dance narratives
3. Analyzing the integration of philosophical ideas in dance creation
4. Assessing the role of technology in shaping dance performances
5. Exploring the interplay between dance and visual arts
6. Evaluating the impact of historical events on dance styles
7. Comparing the function of dance in different societal contexts

Competency 3: The student will develop critical thinking skills through dance analysis by:

1. Applying analytical frameworks to interpret dance performances
2. Critiquing the effectiveness of choreographic choices in dance works
3. Evaluating the technical and expressive qualities of dance movements
4. Analyzing the cultural significance of specific dance forms
5. Comparing the roles of choreographers and performers across time
6. Assessing the communicative aspects of dance as an art form
7. Interpreting the symbolic elements in dance compositions
8. Constructing well-reasoned arguments about dance's artistic value and cultural impact

Learning Outcomes:

- Demonstrate an appreciation for aesthetics and creative activities