

Study Abroad and Exchange Courses

SUBJECT: Dance

DEPARTMENT: Dance Drama and Performance Studies

SEMESTER: One

TITLE OF COURSE: Dance and Cultural Identity

LEVEL: I

CREDIT VALUE (15, 30 or 60): 30

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SYNOPSIS (100-200 words):

ASSESSMENT: (Please state assessment type. 15 credit courses should have at least 1 assessment, 30 credit courses should have at least 2 assessments. Exams should not normally be used.)

Second year maps dance as a discipline across different geographic, material and social sites, exploring how the discipline might relate to wider political and environmental issues by examining the impact of society on dance and reflecting on how certain discourses surrounding dance might in turn shape societal values, attitudes and perceptions of the body in contemporary society. The course aims to locate each student's individual signature as both a choreographer and dancer and to identify new styles of dance through integrating different traditional and contemporary dance forms, exploring how dance cultures are expressed and interpreted in different performance contexts.

International students taking dance will follow a weekly studio-seminar in 'Dance and Cultural Identity', where they will have the opportunity to engage in an investigation of their own dance practices and how these might relate and combine with other cultural dance practices. Supporting these seminars will be a weekly lecture series in 'Dance and Culture' which will expand on key theoretical aspects surrounding cross cultural dance practice as well as engaging in masterclasses in non western dance traditions to include Bharata Natyam classical Indian dance, Philippine folk dance and Japanese Butoh dance. Students will be expected to interrogate these and other movement approaches and develop their critical awareness of the historical background of global migration to include concepts such as Orientalism, Globalisation and Colonialism/Post Colonialism.

ASSESSMENT: The seminar/lecture series will be assessed on a group Research Seminar plus an accompanying essay (3000 words).