

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY FACULTY OF ARTS

SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS DNCE 407 INTERMEDIATE CONTEMPORARY DANCE III / DNCE 507 ADVANCED CONTEMPORARY DANCE II WINTER 2024

Instructor	Heather Ware (she/her)
Email Office Hours	heather.ware@ucalgary.ca Office hours - by appointment
Day(s),time(s):	In studio classes: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 12.00-13.50
	Assessment meetings (potentially via zoom - tbd): February 12 and April 08 / 2024 - if it is not your time slot for a meeting, class time will be used to work on your movement analysis or final assignment. Reading week, no classes: February 19 - 25 / 2024
Learning resources:	None required
required readings, textbooks and materials	
Learning Technologies and Requirements	There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2L.ucalgary.ca).
Prerequisites	Dance 405. Audition required if Dance 405 was not completed in the previous term. Dance 505. Audition required if Dance 505 was not completed in the previous term.

Course description

DNCE 407: Further intermediate study of the techniques of contemporary dance. DNCE 507: Advanced study of the techniques of contemporary dance.

This is an advanced technique class, aimed at building dancers with the physical, intellectual, emotional and practical tools to help them move towards healthy, engaged and passionate careers within a rapidly changing dance field.

As well as training physical awareness, technical refinement and athleticism in their movement capabilities, the class will offer tools for how to work within a contemporary creative process. Emphasis will be put on technical skills of the dancers as performers, particularly relating to the role which dance can play within today's changing society.

The class starts with reiterating our understanding of functional movement patterns and helps train dancers to recognise healthy movement habits and let go of unnecessary ones for their individual bodies. Emphasis on building personal healthy movement patterns is highlighted. We will focus on the ability to co-ordinate and conversely deconstruct the body's natural co-ordination. The movement combinations are created to trigger the connection between brain and body and to understand the different muscle tensions possible within our movement. The relation of the body to the space in which we move plays a crucial role, both within the studio as well as relating to the different spaces which dance can occupy outside of the studio. Anchored in contemporary dance technique there is focus on weight and momentum, curving and twisting the spine, finding a balance between release and stability. We will progress through a series of simple standing exercises into more complex combinations that move in and out of the floor. The musicality of the dancing body is brought strongly to focus.

The class will also include a component of written analytical work which we will then translate into practical physical components, and self-reflection. Creative tasks will be brought into the classwork as these advanced students further refine how to intertwine technique and creative practice.

Students must attend **six** events from a variety of disciplines. If live shows are not available, **Online links will be made available to the students on the D2L site**. See Assessment Components for Details.

Course learning outcomes

Through completion of this course, students should be able to:

- 1.) Begin giving form to their individual practice of contemporary dance
- 2.) Demonstrate self-motivation with regards to their dance practice
- 3.) Evaluate and apply necessary corrections to their own technical efforts at an advanced level
- 4.) Identify questions and problems regarding movement performance at an advanced level as well as initiate a search for solutions to these queries in analytical, exploratory, and collaborative ways.
- 5.) Demonstrate an advanced level of understanding of contemporary dance technique, specifically addressing co-ordination, habitual movement patterns, quality differentiation, focus, initiation, and rhythmic clarity.
- 6.) Demonstrate at an advanced level a technical ability to relate to gravity in multiple ways, to exchange weight between the floor and all body parts including the use of arms as weight-bearers, and to orient in space from any direction.
- 7.) Demonstrate artistic and performative skills of an advanced contemporary dancer
- 8.) Observe and articulate responses to dance performances through in-class discussion and written assignments, with a focus on the role which dance can play within a functioning society.

Course schedule

In studio classes: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 12.00-13.50

Assessment meetings (potentially via zoom - tbd): February 12 and April 08 / 2024 - if it is not your time slot for a meeting, class time will be used to work on your movement analysis or final assignment.

Reading week, no classes: February 19 - 25 / 2024

See Assessment components for individual Assignment deadlines. Please keep up with outline requirements and deadlines so that you are not caught in a bind at the end of the semester.

Assessment Components:

1. 35% Skill -ongoing*-

-Technical Proficiency, Clarity, Artistry, and Presentation-

The student will be assessed on their technical development in class on an ongoing basis, based upon the live in-studio classes.

2. 35% Learning Approach and Participation -ongoing-

- Attitude, Commitment, Progress, Ability to Assimilate Information, Attendance-

A significant part of the grade will be based on participation. By participating, we mean not only showing up for class, but attending to the material at hand. Students demonstrating self-motivation have the possibility to excel in this course. Effort shows and we will be sure to take note of those fully engaged in the class. If for some reason you are feeling unwell during class time, a substitute form of participation may be arranged; however do not expect to obtain this privilege more than once. Communication with instructor is key.

In the event of a COVID-19 diagnosis, symptoms, and/or required isolation, arrangements for remote access to missed material will be made.

3. 10% Self - Evaluation - submission deadline:

Mid-term: February 09 /2024

Final: April 05 / 2024

Twice throughout the semester, students will write a short (300 word) self-evaluation, reflecting on their progress through the course to date and setting strategies to continue progress throughout the semester and into the following year. Specific questions for the mid-term and final self-evaluations will be discussed in class and posted on D2L. Students are expected to invest in their self-evaluation as well as strategies for continued progress.

3. 5% Performance Attendance – submission deadline: April 08/2024

All students must attend/view: 3 specified dance performances, as well as 1 drama performance, 1 music performance and 1 art event. A selection of live performance events will be posted on D2L. In the event that live performance is not possible, a selection of links will be provided to the students for online performance events on D2L. Students must submit either a screen shot of the video screen for each online performance/event in photo format or a photo of the ticket stub for live events, to the appropriate D2L Dropbox. Submissions must include student name, date of viewing, title of performance, as well as category of performance, clearly written with each submission. Format will be discussed in class, unlabelled submissions will not be accepted. These photos must be submitted on or before *April 08, 2024*.

4. 5% Performance Response -

Deadline: March 18, 2024

To be discussed in class at the beginning of the term. Students are required to view/attend 3 specified performances during the semester. Students will select one of these performances to write a detailed response about (1000 words). Further details about the response will be discussed in class and posted on D2L. Responses must be submitted in the appropriate D2L Dropbox in PDF format. Responses must include student name, student ID number, and Assignment title in the file name.

- 5. 5% Midterm Movement Analysis students will be given a movement analysis assignment which will focus on building an understanding of how technical elements of classwork are used in performance work. This will include video analysis, a short written component and a live movement component. Assignment details will be discussed in class and posted on D2L. To be presented in class, February 13 & 15 / 2024. Written component is due via D2L the same day as your live presentation.
- 6. 5% Final Assignment this assignment will be a creative based, artist driven, exploration and culmination of the material presented throughout the semester, including but not limited to the work approached in class, performances viewed during term and videos presented during the class. Format will be a live in-class presentation. Assignment details will be discussed in class and posted on D2L. To be presented in class April 02 & 04 / 2024.

^{*}Assessment meetings will be held during class time February 12 and April 08 / 2024 to discuss progress.

Assessment expectations

<u>Guidelines for Submitting Assignments:</u> All written and /or video assignments should be submitted in the appropriate Dropbox folder on D2L. Live in-class assignments will be scheduled during the semester at least one week ahead of assignment date.

Missed or Late Assignments: Written assignments for this course must be received **before midnight** on the due date specified on the individual assignment as posted to D2L. The penalty for submission of late assignments is 15 % of the total value of the assignment. Late work submitted after 7 days, including Saturdays and Sundays, will not be accepted. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness and family emergency may be considered by the instructors.

Attendance and Participation Expectations:

A significant part of your grade is based on participation. Participation means not only showing up for class, but also attending to the material at hand with effort and engagement.

With regard to participation, classes are considered equivalent to assignments. Thus, more than 3 absences per term will have an adverse effect on your final grade. If you miss more than one week of classes, your final grade will begin to drop by as much as 10% per missed class.

If you miss more than two weeks of classes, you have the potential to fail the course. If you show up late for or leave early from class, this will be counted as half an absence. If for some reason you are feeling unwell during class time, a substitute form of participation may be arranged; however, you may not obtain this privilege more than once and you will receive half an absence.

For studio courses, if you opt out of full participation and choose to sit for a portion of the class, this will be counted as non-participation and will be marked as half an absence. Students are responsible for any and all material missed during an absence. If you sustain a significant injury during the term that will impact your participation for larger than a week's worth of placess and if this injury is verified by a medical

longer than a week's worth of classes and if this injury is verified by a medical practitioner's note, your case will be submitted to the Dance Division Committee to address your situation.

In the event of a COVID-19 diagnosis, symptoms, and/or required isolation, arrangements for remote access to missed material will be made.

Expectations for Writing:

Writing skills are important to academic study across all disciplines. Consequently, instructors may use their assessment of writing quality as a factor in the evaluation of student work. Please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar E.2 Writing Across the Curriculum policy for details.

Grading scale

Undergraduate: https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html

- A grade of "C-" or below may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation, see specific faculty regulations.
- The number of "D" and "D+" grades acceptable for credit is subject to specific undergraduate faculty promotional policy.

The following numerical rubric will be applied:

A+	97.6-100	Α	92.6-97.5	A-	90-92.5
B+	87.6-89.9	В	82.6-87.5	B-	80-82.5
C+	77.6- 79.9	С	72.6-77.5	C-	70-72.5
D+	67.6-69.9	D	62.6-67.5	F	0-62.5

Graduate: https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-2.html

• All grades of "C+" or lower are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements. Individual programs may require a higher passing grade.

Guidelines for Zoom Sessions Class will be in-person. However in the event of a student needing remote access to class material as the result of a *COVID 19 diagnosis, symptoms, and/or required isolation,* Zoom will be the platform used. Zoom guidelines below apply.

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a "live" video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the Code of Conduct). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/.

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

Academic Accommodation	It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations. Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfill requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/ .
Academic integrity, plagiarism	Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar. For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit: https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Procedure.pdf . Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity .
Internet and electronic communication device	The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Please refrain from accessing websites and resources that may be distracting to you or for other learners during class time. Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Electronic-Resources-and-Information-Policy.pdf .
Intellectual Property	Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.
Copyright	All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy	Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.
Student Support	Please visit this link for important information on UCalgary's student wellness and safety resources: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines
Arts Students' Centre Program Advising:	Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at ascarts@ucalgary.ca . You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
Faculty of Graduate Studies:	For graduate studies email: graduate@ucalgary.ca or call 403 220 4938. Visit the Faculty of Graduate Studies for more details: https://grad.ucalgary.ca/