

Dance and Drama

FINE ARTS DIVISION

Faculty

Julie A. Brodie
Assistant Professor of Dance (on leave, second semester)

Balinda J. Craig-Quijada
Assistant Professor of Dance

Daniel Elihu Kramer
Assistant Professor of Drama

Wendy MacLeod
James E. Michael Playwright-in-Residence

Harlene Marley
Professor Emerita of Drama

William M. Marshall
Associate Professor of Drama (on leave, second semester)

Margaret S. Patton
Professor Emerita of Dance

Andrew Reinert
Associate Professor of Drama (on leave, second semester)

Jonathan E. Tazewell
Chair, Associate Professor of Drama

Thomas S. Turgeon
Professor of Drama

The arts of the drama, the dance, and the film, past and present, are the concern of the Department of Dance and Drama. The central objects of our study are the play, the film, and the dance, and the ways they are brought to life before an audience. Students learn by doing the jobs of the artists who collaborate to make plays, dances, and films. Some courses concentrate on the arts as they were performed in their historical context; others explore in depth the work of the artists: the playwright, screenwriter, choreographer, actor, dancer,

director, and designer. Almost all courses require, in conjunction with reading and critical writing, the performance of problems and exercises. Students are encouraged to pursue independent work in either historical and critical research or in creative activity. All courses in the department are open to every student in the College; certain courses have prerequisites noted in the course descriptions.

DANC 105Y-106Y and DRAM 111Y-112Y, designated by a ◆ symbol, are considered especially appropriate introductory courses for first-year or upperclass students new to the department. As the foundation on which the other coursework in the department is built, these courses are recommended to those students considering majors in the department. They are also recommended for other students wishing to diversify their course of study by fulfilling distribution requirements in the fine arts. The major in dance and drama is normally open to students whose performance in DRAM 111Y-112Y or DANC 105Y-106 has been good.

Requirements for the Major

Students majoring in the department may emphasize either theater or dance, but in either case must fulfill the department's minimum requirements, distributed as follows:

Emphasis in Theater (5 1/2 units):

- DRAM 110 (audit)

- DRAM 111Y-112Y (1 unit)
- DRAM 213 (1/2 unit)
- 1 1/2 units drawn from DRAM 220 through 337
- 1 unit drawn from DRAM 351 through 357
- 1 unit drawn from other course offerings in the department
- DRAM 493 or 494 (1/2 unit)

Emphasis in Dance (5 1/2 units):

- DANC 105Y-106Y (1 unit)
- DANC 215 (1/2 unit)
- DANC 227Y-228Y (1 unit)
- 1/2 unit drawn from DRAM 220 through 337
- DANC 220 (1/2 unit)
- DANC 222 (1/2 unit)
- DANC 493 or 494 (1/2 unit)
- 1 unit of dance technique

The Senior Exercise

The Senior Exercise comprises three parts: a project, an oral discussion of the project, and a written examination. Each senior major, with the advice and consent of the department's faculty, designs a senior project, a major piece of creative or scholarly work. The student will initiate the work and collaborate with others to see it through to completion, all with guidance from one or more faculty members. When the work is finished, the student and department faculty members will discuss the preparation and choices that shaped the project. At the end of the year, every senior major will complete a six-hour written examination. The awarding of "distinction" or, in the case of honors candidates, the degree with honors is based on the student's performance on all three parts of the exercise.

Requirements for the Minor in Dance

The following courses are required for a minor in dance (3 1/2 units):

- DANC 105Y-106Y (1 unit)
- 1/2 unit of dance technique

- DANC 215 (1/2 unit)
- DANC 220 or 222 (1/2 unit)
- DANC 227Y-228Y (1 unit)

Year Courses

Introduction to the Dance

- ◆ DANC 105Y-106Y (1 unit)
Craig-Quijada

Introduction to the Dance is a one-year survey course designed to introduce dance as a performing art form, historically as well as in practice, and to explore how dance helps shape and is shaped by cultural values. The format is lecture and discussion, supplemented by readings, videos, and movement experiences. The first semester begins by looking at court dances of Africa, Japan, and France, then tracks the development of dance as a performing art in Europe and the United States from the Renaissance to the present, by identifying important stylistic trends and the works of major contributors to the field. While the focus is Western concert dance, we also examine some dance phenomena cross-culturally in order to broaden students' understanding of dance and movement and their relationship to cultural beliefs and practices.

The second semester's work continues to chart the historical development of concert dance, while beginning to explore student choreography. Assignments include short movement studies composed by students to demonstrate various aspects of the choreographic process. DANC 105Y-106Y students must also enroll in a dance technique course (DANC 107, 108, 109, 208, 209, or 309) during one or both semesters. Enrollment limited.

Introduction to the Theater

- ◆ DRAM 111Y-112Y (1 unit)
Staff

This course examines how theater differs from other arts and how theatrical artists go about their jobs of bringing a play to life on stage. This examination is accomplished through a series of performance or creative assignments. The class is divided into four sections; two meet in the morning and two in the afternoon. Plays,

problems, and exercises are performed and discussed in the sectional meetings; about every other week, sections are combined for lectures and demonstrations.

In the first semester, the course explores what a play is and how it is structured. Assignments consist of a series of playwriting problems, which students perform in class. In the second semester, students spend about six weeks studying the work of the designer and about six weeks studying the work of the actor. In both cases, the studies are carried out by a series of problems presented or performed in class by students working in teams. In addition, students read at least five plays and a series of essays about the theory and practice of the theater, complete a series of brief written assignments, and take written examinations. As a culmination of the work of both semesters, each student writes, directs, and presents to the class a short, ten-minute play, working with fellow students.

Any student with a general interest in the theater will find this a challenging course, regardless of previous experience. Because this course is an introduction to the arts of the theater, it has no prerequisite, but it is a prerequisite to many of the other courses in the department. Enrollment limited.

The Play: Playwriting and Dramatic Theory

- DRAM 331Y-332Y (1 unit)
Staff

In this course, the student is given weekly exercises exploring dialogue, monologue, suspense, politics, autobiography, and prismatic structure. The resulting short plays are given a group critique and then rewritten. Students will finish the first semester with a collection of short plays that can later be developed into longer works. In the second semester, students will begin to stage the scenes they're writing and will complete a one-act play. Students will also read and discuss a variety of plays relevant to their weekly assignments, drawn from the works of such playwrights as Pinter, Mamet, Margulies, Mcpherson, Vo-

gel, McDonagh, and Deavere Smith. Prerequisites: DRAM 111Y-112Y. Enrollment limited.

First-Semester Courses

Dance Technique

DANC 107, 108, 109, 208, 209, and 309
(1/4 unit)

Concurrent enrollment in dance technique is required for DANC 105Y-106Y and 227Y-228Y.

Beginning Modern Dance

- DANC 108 (1/4 unit)
Staff

This course's focus is on modern dance technique for the beginning-level student. During the semester, self expression through movement will be explored through exercises emphasizing the basic concepts of breath, mobilizing weight, and improvisation. The course involves intensive movement participation; however, there is no stress placed on public performance. No prior experience is necessary. No prerequisite. Enrollment limited.

Intermediate Modern Technique

- DANC 208 (1/4 unit)
Craig-Quijada

Intermediate Modern Technique furthers the work of the beginning-level course with increased application of movement principles established by creative artists and teachers from the American and European contemporary dance tradition. Movement fundamentals from other broad-based techniques and body therapies are also included. No prerequisite; however, permission of the instructor may be necessary if the student has no prior experience.

Intermediate Ballet Technique

- DANC 209 (1/4 unit)
Brodie

Intermediate Ballet Technique furthers the work of the beginning-level course with a more in-depth application of the ballet vocabulary and style. Prerequisite: DANC 109 or equivalent or permission of instructor.

Advanced Modern Dance TechniqueDANC 309 (1/4 unit)
Brodie

Advanced technique work in contemporary dance builds upon principles of movement established at the beginning and intermediate levels. In-depth exploration of floor work, improvisation, somatic practices, and a variety of postmodern styles promotes artistry, efficiency of movement, and integrated strength. Prerequisites: DANC 208 or permission of instructor.

The Dance: Production and PerformanceDANC 110 (audit)
Brodie, Craig-Quijada, staff

The Fall and Spring Dance Concerts give dancers, choreographers, and designers an opportunity to present their work in concert. Advised and directed by dance faculty members and guest artists, these concerts are the culmination of one or two semesters of preparation, rehearsals, and regularly scheduled showings of work-in-progress.

The Fall Dance Concert: In order to be considered as a choreographer, students must be enrolled in or have successfully completed DANC 227Y-228Y. (Please note: DANC 110 audit will be awarded to those dancers, choreographers, and production personnel whose work exhibited high standards.) Choreography proposals must be submitted to the dance faculty by the date announced early each fall semester. Each choreographer then shows the work-in-progress for final selection by the dance faculty. Spring Dance Concert choreographers are selected by the dance faculty.

Auditions to dance in either concert are held at the beginning of each semester. All dancers who perform in either concert are required to participate in Dance Technique (DANC 107, 108, 109, 208, 209, or 309). Designers are recommended by the design faculty of the Department of Dance and Drama.

The Play: Production and PerformanceDRAM 110 (audit)
Staff

The work of DRAM 110 involves the realization in the theater of the work of an important playwright, as expressed in the text for a particular play. Problems in textual analysis, historical research, and the creation of a production lead, by way of independent and cooperative activity involving acting, design, and special problems, to public performance before an audience. Note: Students who, in the judgment of the instructional and directional staff, have made significant creative contributions to the effectiveness of the production will have "audit" indicated on their academic record.

Elements of Theater, Film, and Dance Art (DANC, DRAM 218 through 337)

These courses provide a close examination of several aspects of film, theater, and dance arts: acting, writing, choreography, directing, and design. Reading, discussion, problem solving, and laboratory exercises will increase the student's understanding of the artistic experience and development of skills in the arts of theater, film, and dance. DANC 105Y-106Y or DRAM 111Y-112Y is the minimum prerequisite for all of these courses. Certain courses have additional prerequisites as noted below.

Introduction to FilmDRAM 218 (1/2 unit)
Staff

In this course we will consider the collaborative nature of filmmaking and how its various crafts combine to tell stories with perhaps the greatest mass appeal of any artistic medium. We will explore dramatic narrative structure, *mise-en-scène*, cinematography, editing, and film genres as they have been used and advanced in the history of cinema. This course requires attendance at weekly film showings in addition to regular class meetings. Prerequisite: sophomore standing. Enrollment limited.

Dance LabanotationDANC 220 (1/2 unit)
Brodie

This course covers the basic concepts and skills necessary for reading and writing Labanotation, a system for recording movement in symbolic form. Studio work will emphasize recreating and performing dances from written scores in addition to theory. Class requirements may fulfill Dance Notation Bureau standards for certification in Beginning Labanotation. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

The ActorDRAM 222 (1/2 unit)
Turgeon

Through the rehearsal and performance of various scenes, drawn from diverse periods of playwriting, students will explore the nature of the actor's contribution to the theater. Work will include readings, written assignments, and performance exercises. Prerequisite: DRAM 111Y-112Y. Enrollment limited.

The Scene DesignerDRAM 223 (1/2 unit)
Marshall

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the astonishing connection between a playwright's words and a designer's imagination. Students in this class will investigate the procedures used to design in the theatre. The course will include writing and research assignments, perspective drawing, model making, and computer aided design. Reading and class discussion provide a theoretical basis for such creativity while the assignments and projects provide the practice for this complex artistic endeavor. Prerequisite: DRAM 111Y-112Y. Enrollment limited.

The Costume DesignerDRAM 224 (1/2 unit)
Reinert

This course presents an introduction to the costume designer's creative process. Through a series of projects, students will explore the relation of the costume to the character, the plot, the work of the director, the actor, and the other designers. Projects

involve drawing, painting, collage, writing, and research. Prerequisite: DRAM 111Y-112Y. Enrollment limited.

The Stage and Its Plays (DRAM 351 through 357)

These courses provide a study, in terms of the theater, of selected plays of a period of notable dramatic achievement or the work of an important playwright. Emphasis, by means of problems and exercises, is on the theatrical qualities of the plays and their staging. Sophomore standing is the minimum requirement for all of these courses. Certain courses have additional prerequisites as noted below.

Theater of the African Diaspora

DRAM 357 (1/2 unit)
Tazewell

This course will study theater made by and about people of the African Diaspora. The emphasis will be on a textual understanding for the stage. An examination of these texts may reveal fundamental cultural similarities. We will consider the circumstances of enslavement, colonization, and political oppression and the effects these have on the play-making of these particular people. The readings will include the plays of Baraka, Fugard, Fuller, Hansberry, Hurston, Parks, Shange, Soyinka, Walcott, and Wilson. Prerequisite: sophomore standing. Enrollment limited.

Special Topic: Movement for the Actor

DRAM 392 (1/2 unit)
Kramer

Through exercises, physical training, and work on texts, this course explores how actors use their bodies to investigate plays and communicate with audiences and one another. The course gives particular emphasis to the work of the ensemble, the creative use of space, and movement as a tool of composition. Prerequisite: DRAM 222. Enrollment limited.

Junior Honors

DANC or DRAM 397 (1/2 unit)
Staff

Prerequisite: permission of department chair.

Individual Study

DANC or DRAM 493 (1/2 unit)
Staff

Students may undertake a project involving either creative activity leading to a major piece of work in one of the aspects of theater or dance art, or reading and scholarly research on a critical or historical subject culminating in a long paper. The course is intended primarily for the student majoring in dance or drama who is engaged in the preparation of a thesis as part of the Senior Exercise. Prerequisite: permission of department chair.

Senior Honors

DANC or DRAM 497 (1/2 unit)
Staff

Prerequisite: permission of department chair.

Second-Semester Courses

Beginning Ballet Dance

DANC 109 (1/4 unit)
Staff

The ballet style and movement vocabulary are presented in this technique course for the beginning-level student. During the semester, students will be introduced to the fundamental components of ballet technique, including line, position, and artistry, with a focus on correct body mechanics. The course involves intensive movement participation; however, there is no stress placed on public performance. No prior experience is necessary. No prerequisite. Enrollment limited.

Intermediate Modern Technique

DANC 208 (1/4 unit)
Staff

See first-semester course description.

Intermediate Ballet Technique

DANC 209 (1/4 unit)
Staff

See first-semester course description.

Advanced Modern Dance Technique

DANC 309 (1/4 unit)
Craig-Quijada

See first semester course description.

The Dance: Production and Performance

DANC 110 (audit)
Craig-Quijada, staff

The Spring Dance Concert: To be considered as choreographers, students who have choreographed for the Fall Dance Concert or students who are enrolled in or have successfully completed DANC 227Y-228Y will be given priority. Dance faculty will announce the selected student choreographers early in the spring semester. The same selection process is followed for both Fall and Spring Dance Concerts. See first semester course description for more detailed information.

The Play: Production and Performance

DRAM 110 (audit)
Staff

See first semester course description.

History of the Western Theater

DRAM 213 (1/2 unit)
Turgeon

This course presents an historical study of Western theater from its origins to the present time. The course will examine the evolution of the physical theater structure and production elements of each period, as well as the relationship between each style and its historical context. The format will include lecture and discussion, readings, and projects. Prerequisite: sophomore standing. Enrollment limited.

Contemporary Dance History

DANC 215 (1/2 unit)
Craig-Quijada

This course investigates the development of dance as a performing art, with particular emphasis on the United States in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. It will examine

major trends and multicultural aspects by observing the work of principle artists and companies. This course investigates aesthetic points of view, beliefs, and assumptions inherent in dance practices, dance criticism, and history writing. Prerequisite: DANC 105Y-106Y.

Elements of Theater, Film, and Dance Art (DANC, DRAM 220 through 337)

These courses provide a close examination of several aspects of film, theater, and dance arts: acting, writing, choreography, directing, and design. Reading, discussion, problem solving, and laboratory exercises will increase students' understanding of the artistic experience and develop their skills in the arts of theater, film, and dance. DANC 105Y-106Y or DRAM 111Y-112Y is the minimum prerequisite for all of these courses. Certain courses have additional prerequisites as noted below.

The Director

DRAM 221 (1/2 unit)
Kramer

This course examines the work of the director through the analysis of plays and the exploration of the visual means of realizing that analysis on stage. Work includes laboratory exercises, written assignments, readings, discussion, and lectures. This course requires attendance at a weekly lab in addition to regular class meetings. Prerequisite: DRAM 111Y-112Y. Enrollment limited.

Advanced Playwriting Workshop

DRAM 333 (1/2 unit)
MacLeod

In this course, students will be developing a full-length play while simultaneously presenting exercises that explore solo performance, non-linear narrative, and plays inspired by found text, history, and journalism. We'll look at the work of such writers/performers as Bill Irwin, Spaulding Gray, Eric Bogosian, David Kodeski, Anna Deavere Smith, and John Leguizamo. In addition, we will analyze

plays by contemporary playwrights such as Conor McPherson, Martin McDonagh, Doug Wright, and Harold Pinter while attempting their playwriting strategies. The semester will culminate in a staged reading of a full-length play. Prerequisite: DRAM 331Y-332Y.

Acting and Directing for the Camera

DRAM 336 (1/2 unit)
Tazewell

This course will focus on the understanding of cinema through the practical application of production and post-production techniques. Students will learn the art of telling a story on screen by taking on the roles of the major positions in a film production, including producer, director, actor, cinematographer, and editor. Prerequisite: DRAM 111Y-112Y. Enrollment limited.

The Stage and Its Plays (DRAM 351 through 357)

These courses provide a study, in terms of the theater, of selected plays of a period of notable dramatic achievement or the work of an important playwright. Emphasis, by means of problems and exercises, is on the theatrical qualities of the plays and their staging. Sophomore standing is the minimum requirement for all of these courses. Certain courses have additional prerequisites as noted below.

Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century Drama

DRAM 353 (1/2 unit)
Turgeon

This course will study the development of classicism in England and France in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Readings will emphasize textual understanding for the stage. The focus of the reading will be theater of England and France, covering texts of Corneille, Molière, Racine, Wycherley, Congreve, Dryden, Marivaux, Beaumarchais, Farquhar, Goldsmith, and Sheridan. Prerequisite: sophomore standing. Enrollment limited.

Junior Honors

DANC or DRAM 398 (1/2 unit)
Staff

Prerequisite: permission of department chair.

Individual Study

DANC or DRAM 494 (1/2 unit)
Staff

Students may undertake a project involving either creative activity leading to a major piece of work in one of the aspects of theater or dance art, or reading and scholarly research on a critical or historical subject culminating in a long paper. The course is intended primarily for the student majoring in dance or drama who is engaged in the preparation of a thesis as part of the final integrating exercise. Prerequisites: permission of department chair.

Senior Honors

DANC or DRAM 498 (1/2 unit)
Staff

Prerequisite: permission of department chair.

The following courses may be offered in 2006-07:

DANC 222 Dance Kinesiology
DANC 227Y-228Y The Choreographer
DRAM 213 History of the Western Theater
DRAM 225 The Lighting Designer
DRAM 326 Character Analysis
DRAM 335 Finding Your Story
DRAM 337 Shakespearean Scene Study
DRAM 351 Classical Theater
DRAM 352 The English Renaissance Theater
DRAM, DANC 397, 398 Junior Honors
DRAM, DANC 497, 498 Senior Honors