

Dance and Drama

Fine Arts Division

Faculty

- Julie A. Brodie
Assistant Professor of Dance
- Balinda J. Craig-Quijada
Associate Professor of Dance
(on leave)
- Daniel Elihu Kramer
Assistant Professor of Drama
- Hugh Lester
Visiting Professor of Drama
- Wendy MacLeod
James E. Michael Playwright-in-Residence (on leave)
- Harlene Marley
Professor Emerita of Drama
- Margaret S. Patton
Professor Emerita of Dance
- Andrew Reinert
Associate Professor of Drama
- Jonathan E. Tazewell**
Chair, Associate Professor of Drama
- Thomas S. Turgeon
Professor of Drama

The arts of drama, dance, and 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.

New Students

Students whose first course 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 first course symbol is TIVJSVQERGIMR. All students whose first course symbol is LEWFIIRKSS should consult with the department advisor.

Requirements for the Major

Students majoring in the department may emphasize either theater or dance. Students interested in film should follow the major for theater. In either case, students must fulfill the department's minimum requirements, distributed as follows:

Emphasis in Theater (5.5 units):

- YRMXHVE[RJVSQ](6%1 XLVSYKL)
- YRMXWHVE[RJVSQ](6%1 XLVSYKL)
- YRMXJHERGIXIGLRMUJI

- YRMXHVE[RJVSQ]XLIVGSYVWI offerings in the department
- DRAM 493 or 494 (.5 unit)

Emphasis in Dance (5.5 units):

- YRMXHVE[RJVSQ](6%1 XLVSYKL)
- YRMXWHVE[RJVSQ](6%1 XLVSYKL)
- YRMXJHERGIXIGLRMUJI
- YRMXWHVE[RJVSQ](6%1 XLVSYKL)
- YRMXHVE[RJVSQ](6%1 XLVSYKL)
- YRMXJHERGIXIGLRMUJI

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.

Honors

Students interested in reading for honors must begin during the junior year. In the Department of Dance and Drama, honors is a two-year process. All students reading for honors in this department are required to read both for junior honors and for senior honors.

To apply, the student will present a plan for a scholarly or artistic project in the subjects of dance or drama to the department faculty before the

first or second semesters of the junior year. This project will be designed XSXEIRSPXPIWXLERYRMXERHRSXQSVIXLERYRMXWSJXYXSVMEP

The faculty will evaluate this proposal in terms of its originality and ambition, its intrinsic and pedagogical value, and its practical feasibility. Students interested in becoming honors candidates in dance and drama should speak with their advisor or the department chair.

Requirements for the Minor in Dance

The following courses are required for a minor in dance (3.5 units):

- (%2'= =YRMX
- .5 YRMS HBRCKJGLRQMU
- (%2'YRMX YRMX
- (%2'YRMX
- 'LSSWISJXLIJSPPS[MRK GSYVWIW(%2'SV unit)

Year Courses

Introduction to the Dance

(%2'= =YRMX
Staff

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, exploring 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 written work and short movement studies composed by students to explore various aspects of the choreographic process in order to embody significant trends in the evolution of dance QEOMRK(%2'= =WXYHIRXW must also enroll in a dance technique GSYVWI(%2' SVHYVMRKSRSVFSXL semesters. Enrollment limited.

Introduction to the Theater

(6%1= =YRMX
Kramer, Tazewell, Turgeon, 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 pre-

vious 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

(6%1= =YRMX
Staff

In this course, the student is given weekly exercises exploring such things as dialogue, monologue, exposition, autobiography, writing for the opposite gender, and prismatic structure. The class discusses the resulting short plays in a group critique, after which they are 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 complete a one-act play, which will be performed as a staged reading. Students will keep a writer's notebook, do in-class exercises, and read a variety of plays relevant to their weekly assignments. Prerequisite: DRAM = =)RVSPQIRXPMQMXIH

First-Semester Courses

Dance Technique

(%2'ERH
YRMX

Concurrent enrollment in dance technique is required for DANC = = ERH

Intermediate Modern Technique

(%2'YRMX
Brodie

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, improvisation, 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

(%2'YRMX
Brodie

Intermediate Ballet Technique furthers the work of the beginning-level course with a more in-depth application of the ballet vocabulary ERHWX]PI4VIVIUYMWMXI(%2'SV equivalent or permission of instructor.

Advanced Modern Dance Technique

(%2'YRMX
Staff

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. 4VIVIUYMWMXIW(%2'SVTIVQMW sion of instructor.

The Dance: Production and Performance

(%2'EYHMX
Brodie, Craig-Quijada

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 works-in-progress.

The fall dance concert: In order to be considered as a choreographer, students must be enrolled in or have successfully completed DANC = = 4PIEWIRSXI(%2' audit will be awarded to those dancers, choreographers, and production personnel whose work exhibits 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 (%2'SV (IWMKRIVWEVIVIGSQIRHIHF] the design faculty of the Department of Dance and Drama.

The Play: Production and Performance

(6%1EYHMX
Staff

8LI[SVOSJ(6%1MRZSPZIW 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.

History of the Western Theater

(6%1YRMX
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.

Introduction to Film

(6%1YRMX
Tazewell

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-scene, cinematography, editing, and film genres as they have been used and advanced in the history of cinema. Assignments

will include readings, discussion, and written analysis of film. This course requires attendance at weekly film showings in addition to regular class meetings. Prerequisite: sophomore standing. Enrollment limited.

Elements of Theater, Film, and Dance Art (DANC or 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 the student's understanding of the artistic experience and develop their skills in the arts of theater, film, and HERGI(%2' = =SV(6%1 = =MWXLIQMRMQYQTVIVIU uisite for all of these courses. Certain courses have additional prerequisites as noted below.

Dance Labanotation

(%2'YRMX
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 the theoretical analysis of movement. Class requirements may fulfill Dance Notation Bureau standards for certification in Beginning Labanotation. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

The Director

(6%1YRMX
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. 4VIVIUYMWMXI(6%1== Enrollment limited.

The Scene Designer

(6%1YRMX
Lester

Working from varied scripts, students will move from a study of the visual choices implicit in the text to the process of designing scenery. The work of the course places an emphasis on collaboration and includes written assignments, drafting, sketching, and model building. Prerequisite: DRAM = =)RVSPQIRXPMQMXIH

The Costume Designer

(6%1YRMX
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, and the work of the director, the actor, and the other designers. Projects involve drawing, painting, collage, writing, and research. Prerequisite: DRAM = =)RVSPQIRXPMQMXIH

Special Topic: The Stage Manager

(6%1YRMX
Lester

This class will explore and teach the techniques and skills required of a stage manager for organizing the production, communicating across different disciplines (e.g., between the director, the backstage crew, the actors, and the producing organization), and keeping everything running smoothly. This refers not only to seamless management of the technical aspects of a production, but of the human aspects as well. 4VIVIUYMWMXI(6%1== Enrollment limited.

Junior Honors

(%2'SV(6%1YRMX
Staff

Prerequisite: permission of department chair.

Individual Study

DANC or DRAM 493 (.5 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, film, 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

(%2'SV(6%1YRMX
Staff

Prerequisite: permission of department chair.

Second-Semester Courses

Intermediate Modern Technique

(%2'YRMX
Staff

See first-semester course description.

Intermediate Ballet Technique

(%2'YRMX
Staff

Intermediate Ballet Technique furthers the work of the beginning-level course with a more in-depth application of the ballet vocabulary ERHWXJPI4VIVIUYMWMXI(%2'SV equivalent or permission of instructor.

Advanced Modern Dance Technique

(%2'YRMX
Staff

See first-semester course description.

The Dance: Production and Performance

(%2'EYHMX
Brodie, Craig-Quijada, staff

The spring dance concert: In order for students to choreograph for the spring dance concert, they must be enrolled in or have successfully completed TPIXIH(%2'SV'7XYHIRXW who have choreographed for the fall dance concert 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

(6%1EYHMX
Staff

See first-semester course description.

Contemporary Dance History

(%2'YRMX
Staff

This course investigates the development of dance as a performing art in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. The course examines major trends that impact dance-making, which include technology, globalization, and collaboration by observing the work of principle artists. This course investigates aesthetic points of view, beliefs, and assumptions inherent in dance practice, dance criticism, and history writing. Prerequisite: YMWXIM(%2' = =

History of Clothing and Fashion

(6%1YRMX
Reinert

This course surveys the history of Western clothing and fashion from the ancient world to the present day. Work will include papers, oral presentations, lectures, and discussion. Prerequisite: sophomore standing. Enrollment limited.

Elements of Theater, Film, and Dance Art (DANC or DRAM 220 through 337; DRAM 392.01 and 392.02)

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 develop their skills in the arts of theater, film, and HERGI(%2' = =SV(6%1 = =MWXLIQMRMQYQTVIVIUI usite for all of these courses. Certain courses have additional prerequisites as noted below.

The Actor

(6%1YRMX
Turgeon

Through the rehearsal and performance of various scenes, students will explore the nature of the actor's contribution to the theater. Work will include performance exercises, readings, and written assignments. 4VIVIUYMWMXI(6%1== Enrollment limited.

The Choreographer II

(%2'YRMX
Brodie

Special topics in dance composition are the focus of this course. Students will be presented with advanced choreographic theories and challenges. The choreographic assignments vary each semester and may include studies that emphasize partnering, the use of technology, collaboration, or site-specific work. Course requirements include the development and presentation of movement studies, readings, and discussions. Significant preparation time outside of class is required. Concurrent enrollment in a dance technique class is required. Enrollment limited.

Scene Painting

DRAM 334 (.5 unit)
Lester, Reinert

This course studies the procedures and materials of the scenic artist. Each student will produce a sequence of scenic projects leading up to a large final project. Whenever possible, the course will use faculty productions in the Bolton Theater as material for study. The format for this course will involve reading, demonstrations, and projects. Prerequisite: sophomore standing. Enrollment limited.

Special Topic: The Documentary

(6%1YRMX
Tazewell

This course is made possible by a gift from a Kenyon alumnus who has an interest in documentary film and social activism. Students will learn the practice of documentary filmmaking from visiting artists and through the

study of various documentary films. The instructor will coordinate and supervise film viewings, lectures, and readings and will support students as they develop the artistic and technical skills of documentary filmmaking. Four documentary-film professionals will visit for three-week modules each, teaching some aspect of documentary technique and style. There will be one major video assignment in each module and a public screening of projects at the end of the semester. This course is intended to be a fusion of practical filmmaking skills through the use of digital video technology while giving a deeper understanding of the nature of documentary through exposure to existing films and contact with professional filmmakers. The course is designed for the upper-level WXYHIRX4VIVIUYMWMXI(6%1 Enrollment limited.

Special Topic: Verse Acting

(6%1YRMX
Kramer

Students will study and perform scenes from Shakespeare, and possibly other authors writing in verse. The course will focus on textual analysis, methods of rehearsal, and performance approaches particular to working in verse. Additional prerequisite: YMWXI(6%1SVTIVQMWWMSRSJ instructor. 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.

Classical Theater

(6%1YRMX
Turgeon

This course studies the plays of Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, and Aristophanes. The emphasis is on

reading for a theatrical understanding of these ancient texts. Coursework includes projects, lecture and discussion sessions, and written assignments.

Junior Honors

DANC or DRAM 398 (.5 unit)
Staff

Prerequisite: permission of department chair.

Individual Study

DANC or DRAM 494 (.5 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, film, 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 498 (.5 unit)
Staff

Prerequisite: permission of department chair.

The following courses may be offered in 2008-09

(%2'&IKMRRMRK(ERGI
(%2'&IKMRRMRK&EPIX
(%2'8LI'LSVISKVETLIV-
(%2'(ERGI/MRIWMSPSK]
(6%18LI0MKLXMRK(IWMKRIV
DRAM 333 Advanced Playwriting
Workshop
(6%18LI7GVIIIR[VMXIV
DRAM 355 The Modern Theater
(6%18LIEIXVSJXLI]JVMGER
Diaspora