DANC 108: Dance History: Dancing - The Pleasure, Power, and Art of Movement

Thank you for your interest in Dance History 108.

Before our course begins online on August 19, 2013, I want to provide you with some information about the class and instructor.

Access Requirements:

No mandatory campus visits are required to take this course. The course, however, is NOT a self-paced course but an online community of learners working through a 17-week semester. It unfolds week-by-week with the whole class participating in weekly exercises and discussions together. This is NOT an independent studies course. This Dance History course is three units so you will have to log on at least 3 separate days a week for a minimum of six hours weekly to work in the course. You can pick whichever days and times suit you. A new week of course content with assignments is released every two weeks.

Students should always access the class web site in Moodle via MyCOM. For information about getting a MyCOM account, read the FAQ's on the MyCOM Portal login page. #7 on the Portal login page explains how to get to Moodle.

First Day of Class Instructions:

All enrolled students are required to login to the class Moodle website the first week of the semester in order to hold a place in this class. There will be a set of questions I would like you to answer in the first week of the course. It is a mandatory quiz regarding the class and the site itself called the START UP QUIZ to access your computer skills and your ability to navigate the class webpage. If a registered student does not login to the class site during the first week, that spot may be given to the next student on the waitlist. (The waitlist is long and there is a shortage of class spots to meet the demand; so know that I will honor the waitlist if you do not confirm your spot and begin the course as required.)

Waitlist & Add Codes:

If you are on the waitlist or attempting to add the course, email the instructor at sandi.weldon@marin.edu as soon as possible to indicate your desire to take the course and to receive course start up information. Please include your name, the section number of the class you wish to add, and your COM Student ID (if you have one) in your email. Please include the title of your email in the subject line. I do honor the official waitlist, adding students in the order they appear on the list. I will provide you with an ADD CODE in order to register for the class the first week.

Course Materials:

Required: Dancing

The Pleasure, Power and Art of Movement by Gerald Jonas. Publisher: Harry N. Abrams (September 15, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0810927918

Book Purchases:

Students may purchase their books online by visiting COM's online bookstore, or students may buy the books at the COM campus. Please purchase the editions listed, since content and pagination in old editions of texts do not match with course assignments. The quizzes and assignments are based on specific text passages.

What To Do When You First Access The Course Online:

Be advised that Moodle works best with Firefox or Internet Explorer. Not all features function with Safari for Mac users. If you run into any technical problems, check your browser using the helpful information at the following link: http://ilearn.csumb.edu/BrowserTestFiles/index.php
Take some time to familiarize yourself with these 2 helpful Moodle FAQs for students and bookmark them for future reference:

http://www.marin.edu/DE/faq.html
http://docs.moodle.org/20/en/Student_FAQ.

Finally, there is an important note that you should read and heed at the top right of your Moodle home screen: "Closing this browser does not end your session. In order to end a session you must click on Logout (top right side of browser window). If you do not log out, your session will remain active. The next person to use this computer will have full access to your account." Make yourself a sticky note to remind yourself to log out!

I hope this email answers most of your questions. If you have others, please email me. This is an exciting course and includes eight unique videos of many dance cultures and these videos correlate to each chapter in the text. Assignments include a choice of questions from the text, videos and a discussion board with other students in the course.

I look forward to a wonderful adventure in the discovery of the history of dance all over the world. I have been teaching in the College of Marin dance department since 1975 and teaching various forms of Dance History for several years now. This is one of the most exciting courses in dance that I have experienced. I hope that you will agree.

Have a successful semester!

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