

**Southeast Missouri State University**

**Department:** Department of Theatre and Dance                      **Course No.:** DA290

**Title of Course:** Dance in World Cultures                              **New:**                      Yes

**I. Catalogue Description and Credit Hours of Course:**

A study of non-Western dance styles and traditions around the world throughout history. (3)

**II. Prerequisite(s):**

None.

**III. Purposes or Objectives of the Course:** The student will be able to demonstrate:

- A. A general understanding of the forms and traditions of non-Western dance across world cultures throughout history;
- B. An ability to identify, research, discuss, and write about time periods, styles, recurring themes and trends, and other important historical elements in world cultures in an intelligent and informed manner;
- C. Written and oral ability in comparing and contrasting non-Western dance styles within and across time periods and eras;
- D. An increased appreciation and understanding of dance history, and the cultural and aesthetic values associated with that history.

**IV. Expectation of the Students:**

- A. Active attendance, engagement and participation in all class activities;
- B. Satisfactory completion of all research, written and oral assignments;
- C. Satisfactory performance on all written quizzes and tests;
- D. Attendance and satisfactory responses to two dance events.

<b>V. Course Content or Outline:</b>	<u>Hours</u>
A. Introduction	3
1. The educational value of the study of dance in world cultures	
a. Societal/cultural features of dance	
b. Aesthetic value	
c. Emotional, intellectual, and kinesthetic value	
B. World Dance History: Pre-1800	5
1. Pre-historical artifacts and theories	
a. Primitive and ancient dance	
b. Early religious dance	
2. Dance during the Middle Ages around the globe	
C. The Continuity of Indigenous World Dances: Post-1800	25
1. Asia (~54 countries)	
a. Eastern Asia	
i. China, Japan, Taiwan, N. & S. Korea, etc.	
b. Southeastern Asia	
ii. Cambodia, Thailand, Philippines, etc.	
c. Southern Asia	
iii. India, Sri Lanka, etc.	
2. Europe (~58 countries)	
a. Northern Europe	
i. Scandinavia (Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark, Iceland)	
b. Western Europe	
ii. France, Germany, the Netherlands, etc.	
c. Southern Europe	
iii. Spain, Italy, Greece, etc.	
d. Eastern Europe	
iv. The Balkans, the Baltic States, etc.	
3. Africa (~54 countries)	
a. Eastern Africa	
i. Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, etc.	
b. Middle Africa	
ii. Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, etc.	
c. Northern Africa	
iii. Algeria, Egypt, etc.	
d. Southern Africa (South Africa)	
e. Western Africa	
v. Nigeria, Ghana, etc.	
4. Oceania (~40 countries)	
a. Australia & New Zealand	
b. Melanesia, Micronesia, & Polynesia	
i. Papua New Guinea, Hawaii, etc.	

5.	The Americas (~35 countries)	
a.	North America	
i.	Canada and the United States	
b.	Central (and Latin) America	
ii.	Mexico, Costa Rica, El Salvador, etc.	
c.	South America	
iii.	Argentina, Brazil, Peru, etc.	
D.	Selected Dance Diasporas	12
1.	Africa (slavery influences in the Americas)	
2.	Asian (19 <sup>th</sup> century migrations)	
3.	British (Irish famine exodus, etc.)	
4.	Native American (enforced westward migrations)	
E.	Emerging 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Cross-Cultural Dance Forms	3
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>48 Hours</b>

## VI. Textbook(s) and/or Other Requirement Materials or Equipment:

### Required:

Vissicaro, Pegge. (Eds.). (2008). *Studying Dance Cultures around the World: An Introduction to Multicultural Dance Education* (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.

### Readings from the following sources:

Dils, Ann, & Cooper Albright, Ann. (2001). *Moving History/Dancing Cultures: A Dance History Reader*. Middletown, CT: Wesleyan University Press.

Hitchcock, Susan Tyler. (2004). *Geography of Religion: Where God Lives, Where Pilgrims Walk*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic.

Mitoma, Judy. (Ed.). (2002). *Envisioning Dance on Film and Video*. New York: Routledge.

Nadel, Myron Howard, & Strauss, Marc Raymond. (Eds.). (2003). *The Dance Experience: Insights into History, Culture and Creativity*. Hightstown, NJ: Princeton Book Company.

Reynolds, Nancy, & McCormick, Malcolm. (2003). *Dance in the Twentieth Century: No Fixed Points*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

**VII. Basis for Student Evaluation:**

	<i>Possible Points</i>
A. Active and engaged participation in class (5 points/class)	150
B. Dance video contextualized critiques & discourse (oral)	100
C. Independent Study Project	400
• Three written drafts (outline, 2-3 pages, 4-6 pages; 150 points)	
• Oral and/or dance presentations (150 points)	
• Final written research (100 points)	
D. Dance concert written analyses	150
E. Midterm and final test (Progressive and comprehensive)	200
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1000 points</b>