

**YORK UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF HEALTH
SCHOOL OF KINESIOLOGY AND HEALTH SCIENCE**

Course:	PKIN 0560 0.0 Modern Dance		
Term:	Winter 2023		
Prerequisite/Co-requisite:	none		
Course Website:	eClass		
Course Instructor:	Samara L. Thompson samara@yorku.ca appointment times by request		
Time and Location:	Section M	Tuesday, Thursday	11:30 am
Office Hours:	by request		

EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION

Organization of the Course

This studio course is an introduction to modern dance. No previous dance experience is necessary. The course is designed to give students a practical, theoretical, and artistic understanding of modern dance, with an emphasis placed on learning modern dance technique. Students are expected to learn and memorize the warm-up, centre work, combinations, and dance routines taught throughout the term.

Dance Attire

In order to dance and move freely, appropriate clothing is required. Please wear comfortable, form fitting clothing, such as tights and bodysuits or t-shirts and sweat pants (nothing too loose). Jeans and dress clothes are unacceptable. Students are expected to dance in bare feet. Hair must be securely fastened away from the face and neck. For your safety and the safety of fellow students, refrain from wearing jewellery and chewing gum.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Statement of Purpose and Learning Objectives

The purpose of this course is to teach students basic modern dance technique. As this course is practical in nature, the majority of class time is spent learning modern dance technique. By the end of term students use learned skills to choreograph a dance. A class is spent watching dance videos and movies. For a further breadth of understanding, an overview of modern dance history is presented. The specific learning objectives of the course are that students will:

- demonstrate basic modern dance technique, including but not limited to swings, triplets, contractions, and leaps.
- learn and memorize the warm-up, combinations, and dance routine.
- be able to integrate music and dance.
- have a basic understanding of modern dance history.
- understand the historical context in which these dances were created;
- demonstrate knowledge of the terminology involved in dance styles presented;
- understand how these movement techniques can be used throughout the life span for pleasure and health;
- with an understanding of the history of the dance forms, reflect on how that relates to current global affairs and current issues;
- present a breadth and depth of knowledge about the types of dance forms presented in this course;
- be able to easily navigate eClass;
- obtain an understanding on how dance can be part of one's daily physical activities;
- understand the complexities of learning new motor skills and be able to apply this concept to undertaking new forms of physical activity;
- be able to think independently, problems solve, and set tasks in order to learn in a sequential manner;
- develop peer relationships through eClass and the class for the purposes of mentoring and networking.

COURSE TEXT / READINGS

Selected Readings From:

Kraines, Minda G., Esther Pryor. *Jump Into Jazz*. Mountain View: Mayfield, 1996.
Macel Theys, Emily. *Modern Masters*. Dancespirit Magazine, March 11, 2011. Web. 6 May 2016.
Penrod, James. *The Dance Prepares*. Mountain View: Mayfield, 1990.

Reference Material (optional)

Beach Birds for Camera. Dir. Elliot Caplan. Cunningham Dance Foundation. The Foundation, 1992.
Bill T. Jones: Dancing to the Promised Land. Dir. Mischa Scorer. BBC, 2004.
The Dancemakers. Chor. Danny Grossman. CBC, 1987.
The Dance Works of Doris Humphrey. Chor. Doris Humphrey. Dance Horizons Video, 1999.
Human Sex. La La La Human Steps. Cinema Libre, 1988.
Isaora Duncan Dance. Dir. Andrea Mantell-Seidell and Julia Levien. Dance Horizons Video, 1995.
Lewis, Daniel. *The Illustrated Dance Technique of Jose Limon*. New York: Harper & Row, 1984.
Martha Graham in Performance. Prod. Nathan Kroll. Chor. Martha Graham. Kultur, 2002.
Penrod, James. *The Dance Prepares*. Mountain View: Mayfield, 1990.
The Pilobolus Dance Theatre. Dir. Merrill Brockway. WNET/13, 1998.
Very Dangerous Pastime. Dir. Laura Taler. Canada Dance Festival, 2000.

EVALUATION

Theoretical	30%
There will be a written test based on historical information and technical descriptions of modern dance.	
Practical	45%
Students are evaluated on their retention and execution of technique, exercises, and routines, as well as their progress and improvement. There will be a Practical Exam based on class material worth 45%.	
Participation	25%
Students are expected to participate fully. This portion of the grade also reflects attitude, effort, progress, attendance, and improvement. As dance training is cumulative in nature, regular attendance and punctuality are necessary for the learning process and as such are expected of the students in this class. Students must attend 80% of the course or a failing grade will result.	

GRADING, ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION

Attendance

Students are expected to attend classes. Students are to mark their attendance at the start of every class, unless directed to otherwise. If students arrive late, they should mark themselves as late.

Students are expected to participate in every class. After one absence, a student's participation mark may be penalized. Early departures are treated as a late and can result in a grade deduction. If a student attends a class for less than 20% of that class, it is considered an absence. Students will not receive a grade deduction for University approved reasons for absences (religious accommodations, compassionate grounds, etc.). Students must attend 80% of the course or a failing grade will result.

Grading Scheme

The grading scheme for the course is A, B, C, Pass, and Fail (e.g. A = 80 to 100%, B = 70 to 79%, C = 60 to 69%, F = below 59%). Assignments and tests will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade. For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar.

<http://calendars.students.yorku.ca>

Students may take a limited number of courses for degree credit on an ungraded (pass/fail) basis. For full information on this option see Alternative Grading Option in the Faculty of Health section of the Undergraduate Calendar.

<https://calendars.students.yorku.ca/2020-2021/programs/HH/kinesiology-and-health-science>

Physical Demands

This course will include elements that are physically demanding. Prior injuries can be aggravated by strenuous exercise so check with your physician and inform the Course Director before beginning the course if this is an issue for you. Be sure to share with the Course Director any changes in your injury or health that may impact your participation. Students are strongly encouraged to work within their own physical limits and to modify exercises so they can perform them without pain or undue strain. The instructor nor York University is responsible for any injuries or accidents incurred by students or anyone else resulting from doing the exercises taught in this course.

Assignment Submission

Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, assignments for this course must be received on the due date specified for the assignment. All assignments must be handed in through eClass. Google Drive links will not be accepted. Alternate arrangements may be considered on an individual basis and must be agreed upon by the Course Instructor in advance of the due date.

Lateness Penalty

Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized. The penalty is 5% per day that the assignment is late. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the Course Instructor but will require supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor's letter).

Missed Tests

Students with a reason for missing a course test, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc. may request accommodation from the Course Instructor. In such cases, tests may be rescheduled and/or alternate arrangements may be made on an individual basis. Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

In this course, we strive to maintain academic integrity to the highest extent possible. Please familiarize yourself with the meaning of academic integrity by completing SPARK's [Academic Integrity module](#) at the beginning of the course. Breaches of academic integrity range from cheating (i.e., the improper crediting of another's work, the representation of another's ideas as your own, etc.) to aiding and abetting (helping someone else to cheat). All breaches in this course will be reported to the appropriate university authorities, and can be punishable according to the [Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#).

eClass AND AUDIO-VISUAL RECORDINGS

eClass

Our course eClass page will have links to the readings, videos, and resources affiliated with this course. All assignments are to be turned in through eClass. No email submissions will be accepted, nor will Google Drive links.

Audio-Visual Recordings

As per University policy, all Zoom synchronous classes will be recorded and posted on eClass. The recordings are to be used for educational purposes only and as a means for enhancing accessibility. Students do not have permission to duplicate, copy and/or distribute the recordings outside of the class (these acts can violate not only copyright laws but also FIPPA <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90f31> and intellectual property rights). All recordings will be destroyed after the end of classes.

The instructor may also view the recordings: a) for grading purposes and b) for review of student responses to course material so that future course delivery can be improved upon.

Instructional videos posted to eClass by the instructor are not to be reproduced or distributed in any way, shape, or form. The videos are the intellectual/creative property of the instructor and are solely to be used by students enrolled in the course to learn course materials. Any violation is considered to be a breach of copyright and York's Policy of Academic Integrity and investigated accordingly.

Students are prohibited from recoding the live Zoom session or from posting them on social media. Like a classroom, Zoom meetings are designed as a space for learning and are meant for only those who are enrolled in the course. Any attempts by students to record the Zoom meetings or post them on the internet are considered to be in breach of copyright and York's Policy of Academic Integrity and investigated accordingly.

These course materials are designed for use as part of this course at York University and are the intellectual property of the instructor unless otherwise stated. Unless a user's right in Canada's Copyright Act covers the particular use, you may not publish, post on an Internet site, sell, or otherwise distribute this work without the instructor's express permission. Failure to abide by these restrictions may constitute grounds for academic misconduct proceedings and/or legal action against you.

IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Academic Standards, Curriculum & Pedagogy webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents):

- [Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#) and the [Academic Integrity Website](#)
- [Research Involving Human Participants](#)
- [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities \(Policy\)](#)
- [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities Guidelines procedures and Definitions](#)
- [Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#)
- [Religious Observance Accommodation](#)

York University seeks to provide for equal rights and opportunities without discrimination for all students. The overall aim is a climate of understanding and mutual respect for the dignity and worth of each community member so that each person feels a part of York University and is able to fully participate in university life.

The following information describes some of your important rights and responsibilities as students, along with the supports, accommodations and services made available to you by York.

Academic Honesty and Integrity

York students are required to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and they are subject to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty (secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/academic-honesty-senate-policy-on/). The Policy affirms the responsibility of faculty members to foster acceptable standards of academic conduct and of the student to abide by such standards. Comprehensive information about academic honesty, along with information about how to find resources at York to help improve your research and writing skills and cope with University life, can be found at: www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/

Conduct in Academic Situations

Students and instructors are expected to maintain a professional relationship characterized by courtesy and mutual respect. It is the responsibility of the instructor to maintain an appropriate academic atmosphere in the classroom and other academic settings, and the responsibility of the student to cooperate in that endeavour. Further, the instructor is the best person to decide, in the first instance, whether such an atmosphere is present in the class in keeping with the Senate Policy and Procedures on Disruptive and/or Harassing Behaviour in Academic Situations (secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/disruptive-andor-harassing-behaviour-in-academic-situations-senate-policy/).

Ethics Review Process

York students are subject to the York University Policy for the Ethics Review Process for Research Involving Human Participants (secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/ethics-review-process-for-research-involving-human-participants-policy/). Ethics approval must be obtained prior to the starting any research activities involving human participants, including research conducted by students in a graduate or undergraduate course, for an undergraduate thesis or project, or for a Major Research Paper, Thesis or Dissertation. If you are in doubt as to whether this requirement applies to you, contact your Course Director immediately. More information can be found at: www.yorku.ca/research/human-participants/

Religious Accommodation

York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs and practices of all members of the community, and making accommodations for observances of special significance to adherents. Should any of the dates specified in your course syllabus pose such a conflict for you, contact the Course Director within 14 days of the date for which accommodation is sought. Other procedures are outlined in the York University policy, guidelines and procedures on Academic Accommodation for Students' Religious Observances (secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/academic-accommodation-for-students-religious-observances-policy-guidelines-and-procedures/).

Please note that to arrange an alternative date or time for an examination scheduled in the formal examination periods (December and April/May), students must complete an Religious Accommodation Agreement, which can be found at: registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/exam-accommodation.pdf

Accessibility Services

Student Accessibility Services (accessibility.students.yorku.ca/) provides academic accommodations and supports for students with temporary and permanent disability including physical, sensory, medial, learning, and mental health disabilities. Students who had an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) in high school are eligible for support. Please note that registering with disabilities services and discussing your needs with your professors is necessary to avoid any impediment to receiving the necessary academic accommodations to meet your needs.

Academic Skills Support

York University Libraries (www.library.yorku.ca) and the Learning Commons (learningcommons.yorku.ca/) provide students with academic support for their course assignments and research requirements. The Libraries offer an array of supports, services, workshops, resources and people available to help ensure continued success during a student's academic career.

Centre for Human Rights, Equity, and Inclusion

The Centre for Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion (rights.info.yorku.ca/) facilitates confidential processes to discuss allegations of discrimination and harassment by York Community members. There are also robust training opportunities and workshops available to the community year round.

Counselling, Health and Well Being

Student Counselling, Health & Well Being (counselling.students.yorku.ca) supports students in realizing and developing their personal potential in order to maximally benefit from their university experience and manage the challenges of university life. Services include: peer-led workshops, certificate training programs, support groups, same-day and appointment-based counselling, short-term therapy, and more.

Sexual Violence Response and Support

The Centre for Sexual Violence Response, Support and Education (thecentre.yorku.ca) facilitates support, services and accommodations for those who have experienced sexual violence. The support offered is based on the needs and wishes of the person disclosing/reporting.

Student Community Relations

The Office of Student Community Relations (oscr.students.yorku.ca/) supports students impacted by critical incidents, facing personal crises or multiple complex issues, such as, but not limited to, critical illness or injury of a student, student death, attempted suicide and sexual assault. OSCR provides advice, referrals, alternate dispute resolution methods and judicial processes (local adjudication, tribunals).

HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION

COVID-19 Safety

In this course, all university community members must comply with York's health and safety protocols, found on the Better Together website. All are strongly encouraged to:

- self-screen using the Province of Ontario's self-assessment tool prior to coming to campus for any in-person activities if you have any symptoms of COVID-19 or have tested positive;
- NOT attend in-person activities at any of York's campuses/locations if feeling unwell or if you answer yes to any of the screening questions.

York University is a mask-friendly environment. All members of the York community share in the responsibility of keeping others safe on campuses and ensuring respectful interactions with one another.

Mental Health

We continue to deal with the impact of COVID-19 and its far-reaching consequences. Please be kind and gentle with yourselves and others. There are a number of online free resources available to help support you. If you need help, the following list of websites (this is not an exhaustive list) may be a good place for you to start:

- <https://good2talk.ca/>
- <https://counselling.students.yorku.ca/>
- <https://yubettertogether.info.yorku.ca>
- <https://yorkinternational.yorku.ca/>