Research
Choreography
TH 4391.020 | Spring 2020

Instructor Information
Ashley Meyer, M.A., Ph.D. Candidate (ABD)
Ashley.meyer@angelo.edu
Office: Carr EFA | Room 164 | Direct line: 325.486.6191
Office Hours: | 1:00PM-3:30PM M/W, or by appointment

Course Meeting Information
By arrangement

Required Text
Professor will provide articles in PDF format prior to reading.

Course Description
An independent research project into the process and application of choreography in live performance.

Course Content
This course will introduce the basics for choreography.

Course Specific Expected Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:
1) Understand important elements of choreography
2) Choreograph 2 short pieces for Blood Wedding

Assessment of Expected Learning Outcomes
This course will use a “point system” for all work, including tests and participation. There are 1000 points possible in this class. The breakdown is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment Type</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
<th>Total Assignments</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Journals</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood Wedding Piece 1</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood Wedding Piece 2</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final choreography Project</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The methods of assessment described below are followed by the correlating outcomes that they access.

1) **Journals**: Worth 35 points each for a total of 140 points. Students will write about their in-class performances and their experiences with the exercises to assess goals and outcomes of the common choreography exercises and experiences with incorporating choreography in live performance. The responses are an opportunity for the student to reflect on the experiences and for the instructor to follow individual progress more efficiently.

2) **Blood Wedding Dance Pieces**: Student will create two short pieces as dictated by parameters established by Director, instructor, and production needs.

3) **Blood Wedding Dance Pieces**: Student will create two short pieces as dictated by parameters established by Director, instructor, and production needs.

4) **Final Choreography Project**: Worth 300 points. Students will put together a final movement/dance piece using the guidelines provided by the instructor.

5) **Participation**: Students are expected to participate in class, including asking questions, answering questions, initiating classroom discussion, and participating fully in all classroom activities with a positive attitude. Students are also
expected to demonstrate growth in all objective areas on a daily basis. (Handout to follow). If your final point count is between two grades, participation will be taken into account to raising or lowering the grade.

**Grading**

Grades will be calculated using a 1000-point scale. You must earn the number of points listed below to receive the grade you want.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1000-970</td>
<td>A+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>969-920</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>919-890</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>889-850</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>849-810</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>809-780</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>779-750</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>749-710</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>709-660</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>659-620</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>619-590</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>589-550</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>549-0</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Blackboard**

We will not utilize Blackboard for this course.

**Content Disclosure**

Courses within the Department usually deal with works of dramatic literature, both on the page and on the stage. Sometimes the situations, actions, and language of these works can be off-putting or offensive to some students, who might be offended on such grounds as sexual explicitness, violence, or blasphemy. As the Department is devoted to the principle of free expression, artistic and otherwise, and it is not the Department’s practice to censor these works on any of these grounds, students who might feel unduly distressed or made uncomfortable by such expressions should withdraw at the start of the term and seek another course.

**Electronics Policy**

Cell phone use is not permitted in the classroom or during any class activity. Phones and other electronic devices are to be turned completely off (not just silenced) the moment you enter the studio and must remain off during the class period. Likewise, text messaging is prohibited in the classroom or during any class activity. Students utilizing the phone or messaging during class will be asked to leave the classroom and will receive an absence for the day. Messaging during an exam/performance will be considered an act of academic dishonesty. Computers and Ipad devices can be used in class for the purpose of note taking and research. Students misusing their computers (i.e. being on-line, or on social media) will lose their computer privileges for the duration of the course. Be physically and mentally present.

**Course Work Load**

According to the Angelo State University guidelines, students are expected to spend approximately two-three hours in preparation for each hour of lecture. The instructor anticipates that out-of-class work for this course will not exceed this guideline for most students.

**Late Work**: No late assignments will be accepted. All assignments will be turned in via email or in person.

**Attendance Policy**

We will meet one hour every week until material is taught to Blood Wedding cast, and then every other week to review material as outlined and to clarify problem areas in the research.
Please note: The only university-recognized excused absences are participation in official university business or for bona fide religious holy days. Participation in official university business must be documented by written notice from sponsoring faculty or staff member at least one week prior to the event.

Observance of a Religious Holy Day
Texas House Bill 256 requires institutions of higher education to excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day. The student shall also be excused for time necessary to travel. An institution may not penalize the student for the absence and allows for the student to take an exam or complete an assignment from which the student is excused. No prior notification of the instructor is required.

ADA Statement
Angelo State University complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Office of Student Services at (325) 942-2191, Student Life Office, room 112. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

Academic Advising
The College of Arts and Sciences and Department of Communication, Mass Media and Theatre require that students meet with a Faculty Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Faculty Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, faculty advisor, and the department chair. Communication, Mass Media, or Theatre majors who have questions about advising or declaring a major in the department, can call 942-2031. Undeclared majors are supported by ASU's Center for Academic Excellence located in Library A312, and can be reached at (325) 942-2710.

Grade Appeal Process (OP 10.03 Student Grade Grievances)
A student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see Operating Procedure 10.03 at http://www.angelo.edu/opmanual/docs/Section_10_Academic_Policies-Students/OP_10.03_Grade_Grievance.doc

Honor Code Policy
Violations of academic integrity are very serious matters and are clearly documented in the ASU Student Handbook. The work a student submits in a class is expected to be the student’s own work and must be work completed for that particular class and assignment. Plagiarism means intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one's own. This may include your own previous work. Plagiarism includes quoting or paraphrasing from other sources without acknowledging/citing the source of your information or presenting quoted material as your own words. You must be very clear about attribution of sources and you must know how to cite sources in a paper. Please see full Honor Code Policy at http://www.angelo.edu/cstudent/documents/pdf/Student_Handbook.pdf

Civility In the Classroom
Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. In order to assure that all students have an opportunity to gain from time spent in class, unless otherwise approved by the instructor, students are prohibited from using laptop computers, cellular phones or other text messaging devices, beepers, eating or drinking (except for water bottles), making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, or engaging in any other form of distraction in the classroom.

In instances where a student is proved to be a distraction, the student will lose five points from their grade. Second occurrence will result in ten points removed. On the third occurrence, the student will be removed permanently from the classroom.

Additionally, in the case of a violation of this policy, the instructor will talk with the student about the inappropriate behavior immediately and will follow-up after class or with a scheduled meeting.
In the case of a second incident, the instructor will refer the student to the department chair who will schedule a meeting with the student. At this meeting or any subsequent meeting, the chairperson will inform the student that repeated deviations from expected classroom behavior will result in removal from the class.

If a third incident occurs, the instructor will ask the student to leave the class. If the student refuses, the Campus Police will be called to remove the student. The student will be immediately dropped from the class and reported to the student Dean of Students office.
Spring 2020 Syllabus Contract
Return this signed page to the instructor
Due January 17

I__________________________have read the TH 4391 syllabus and understand its contents. I will fulfill the requirements necessary for the grade I want.

________________________________________
Student Name

________________________________________      ________________
Student Signature                                       Date