



## Study-Unit Description

CODE	DCS1006
TITLE	Dance in History and Society 2
LEVEL	01 - Year 1 in Modular Undergraduate Course
ECTS CREDITS	5
DEPARTMENT	Dance Studies
DESCRIPTION	<p>The study-unit is a continuation of DCS 1005 and continues to introduce the role of theatre and social dance forms in history and society. It explores how these forms developed and were connected to the wider world.</p> <p><u>Continuation of development of Study Skills:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identification of Key concepts</li> <li>- Development of academic writing and critical thinking skills</li> <li>- Taking part in and leading discussions/seminars;</li> <li>- Presenting verbally using a range visual/aural aids.</li> </ul> <p><u>Dance History</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>Study of specific history as a means of gaining understanding of the traditions, conventions and changes that inform a variety of dance practices;</u></li> <li>- <u>The development of Western theatre dance forms, highlighting such areas as the differences between ballet and modern dance.</u></li> <li>- <u>The interconnected nature of social and concert dance forms to other areas and historical developments.</u></li> <li>- <u>Study and debate of historical ideas within a socio-cultural context.</u></li> </ul> <p><u>Study-Unit Aims:</u></p> <p><u>The study-unit intends to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>Highlight the role of dance practices as a part of history and society;</u></li> <li>- <u>Provide an historical account of the development of dance practices over history;</u></li> <li>- <u>Develop skills related to critical thinking and analysis as related to dance history as a methodology for constructing dance knowledge;</u></li> <li>- <u>Develop foundational knowledge about dance that can be expressed in a logical written and oral form.</u></li> </ul> <p><u>Learning Outcomes:</u></p> <p><u>1. Knowledge &amp; Understanding:</u></p>

By the end of the study-unit the student will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of dance history and how to apply processes of analysis and discussion short essay form;
- Critically describe and debate the development and role of dance as a part of history and society;
- Articulate chosen historical accounts of dance practices and their place in dance history and society;
- Critically engage with multiple methodologies for constructing dance knowledge;
- Communicate a developing understanding about dance history in logical written and oral form demonstrating evidence of application of appropriate study skills.

## 2. Skills:

By the end of the study-unit the student will be able to:

- Critically evaluate current and historical texts and events from a range of perspectives;
- Identify and critically engage with the development of social and theatre dance forms from a historical perspective;
- Demonstrate and apply a range of study and class based skills including those related to close reading of texts, evaluation of video examples, critical thinking, class discussions, and academic writing.

## Main Text/s and any supplementary readings:

### Main Texts:

- Banes, Sally 1998. Dancing Women: Female Bodies Onstage (London: Routledge).
- Cohen, Selma Jeanne and Katy Matheson. 1992. Dance as a Theatre Art, sec. ed. (London: Dance Books).
- Gottschild, Brenda Dixon. 1998. Digging the Africanist Presence in American Performance: Dance and Other Contexts (Westport: Praeger)
- Lee, Carol 2002 Ballet in Western Culture: A History of Its Origins and Evolution. (London: Routledge).

### Supplementary Readings:

- Brown, Ronald K, (et. Al) 2019. Black Dance: A Contemporary Voice Leicester: Serendipity)
- Foster, Susan Leigh. 1986. Reading Dancing; Bodies and Subjects in Contemporary American Dance (University of California).
- Horosko, Marian. 2002 Martha Graham: the Evolution of Her Dance Theory and Training. (Florida University Press).
- Morris, Geraldine, and Nicholas, Lorraine (Eds.) (2017) Rethinking Dance History: Issues and Methodologies (London: Palgrave)

## **ADDITIONAL NOTES**

**Pre-requisite Study-unit: DCS1005**

## **STUDY-UNIT TYPE**

Lecture, Independent Study & Tutorial

## **METHOD OF ASSESSMENT**

<b>Assessment Component/s</b>	<b>Assessment Due</b>	<b>Sept. Asst Session</b>	<b>Weighting</b>
Assignment	SEM2	Yes	30%
Examination (2 Hours)	SEM2	Yes	70%

## **LECTURER/S**

Margherita Borg  
Deborah Williams

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*It should be noted that all the information in the description above applies to study-units available during the academic year 2022/3. It may be subject to change in subsequent years.*

<https://www.um.edu.mt/course/studyunit>