**DANC 485: Advanced Performance Studies: Senior Project**

**Spring 2021**
**Day:** Wednesday
**Time:** 5:00pm – 6:20pm
**Units:** 1
**Location:** Zoom Link

**Instructor:** Professor Jodie Gates
**Office:** Online
**Office Hours:** Tues/Weds/Thurs schedule via email
**Contact Info:** Jodiegat@usc.edu

**Catalogue Description:**
Development and presentation of senior project in performance, choreography, media, music, scholarship or entrepreneurial enterprise. Senior projects presented to faculty panel in open performance venue.

**Course Description:**
This seminar course is in preparation of the Senior Project. The final Senior Project will be presented in the final month of spring semester. Students are expected to conduct research, implement strategies and complete a 10 - 15-minute oral presentation. The presentation will be presented online April 14 - 16, 2021.

**Learning Objectives:**
The goal of the course is to give the student the capacity to develop a multidisciplinary research project. The students will be expected to draw from learning experiences gained throughout their career at USC, and combine two other disciplines of study other than dance to create the final research project. The acquired resources and in-class discussions will support an accomplished senior project, and will offer the student a greater understanding for their future dance-related careers. The class will primarily include lectures and guest speakers, including collaborative in-class work and exercises. There will be elected days focused on "field work" including independent study, collecting and populating a sustainable professional network, and

activating research which could include interviews, external mentorship connections, performance, choreography, art-making, scholarship or entrepreneurship among other disciplines. Weeks 9 – 14 will be reserved for preparation and presentations with peer and faculty feedback.

**Learning Objectives:**
- Effective use of research
- Build sustainable professional networks
- Practice and implement descriptive and authentic language (written, choreographic, oral or other) for presented senior projects
- Implementation of a viable project plan
- Completion of Project Presentation

Prerequisites:  senior standing
Concurrent enrollment:  DANC 480
Recommended Preparation: DANC 101, 120, 201, 220, 218, 301, 370, 480

**Course Expectations:**
Students are expected to attend each class meeting, be punctual to Zoom meetings, and be prepared with assignments completed as directed. The student is expected to do the following:

-         Actively participate in discussions and lectures
-         Field work and research expected outside of classroom

**Texts**
No textbooks are required for the course. Readings and videos will be assigned. Students must complete assignments and complete readings and viewings as designated throughout the semester.

Notebook required for in-class work, discussions, lecture series and written take a-ways.

**Assignment Submission**
In-class deliverables, email submission and Social Media platforms and/or Vimeo channels

**Late work**
Each day of late submission will take three points off those allotted for each assignment.

**Technology in the classroom**
Computer with built-in camera or connected external camera
Phone with built-in camera
Free video editing software for computer or phone
Free Vimeo and/or Skype account

USC Provided Zoom account

**Grading Dispute Note**
We want to make sure that your grades reflect your performance. If you feel there is an error in the grading, please let us know. To dispute a grade, you must request a review by email no sooner than one week and no later than two weeks from the date the grade was published on Blackboard. In the email you must identify yourself and the assignment you are questioning. You must provide a specific argument for the grade change, identifying the row(s) in the rubric where you feel you were mis-scored.

**Attendance**
Attendance and class participation is expected.

**Assignments and Assessments**

Grading:  letter grade based on the following in-class work and assignments:

1. **15% Participation, in-class discussions and in-class work**
2. **20% Final Project Proposal Draft, Due Jan 15**
3. **15% Project Assignment, Due April 28:**
   3 - 5 page written analysis and reflection. What have you learned through researching, developing and implementing the "Senior Project". Reflect and write about your experience at USC. What are you grateful for, and how has the program shaped your views.
4. **50% Final Project Presentation - April 14 – 16**:
   Senior Seminar Presentations via Zoom Webinar open to the public (Virtual Ted-Talk Format)

Course final grades will be determined using the following scale:

A       95-100
A-      90-94
B+      87-89
B       83-86
B-      80-82
C+      77-79
C       73-76
C-      70-72
D+      67-69
D       63-66
D-      60-62
F       59 and below

**Wellness Days for Spring 2021:**
- Friday, March 12
- Tuesday, March 23
- Wednesday, April 7
- Thursday, April 22
- Friday, April  30


**Final Project Presentation - April 14 – 16, 2021**:
Senior Seminar Presentations via Zoom Webinar open to the public (Virtual Ted-Talk Format)

# Course Schedule: A Weekly Breakdown

| | Topics/Daily Activities | Readings and Homework | Deliverable/ Due Dates |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Week 1** Jan 20 | Introduction<br><br>  Lecture #1 | Review syllabus<br><br>Commencement<br><br>What is your career goal after graduation? Have you researched, taken action and used your professional network?<br><br>Identify preferred TedTalk format | *Identify preferred TedTalk formats. Collect 1-3 links of your preferred format including examples. The class will review together Jan 27.*<br><br>*Due in class week 2 Weds Jan 27* |
| **Week 2** Jan 27 | Lecture #2 In class discussion | Present TedTalk preferences (1-2 mins) | *1-3 links of your preferred TedTalk format/example.* |
| **Week 3** Feb 3 | Lecture #3 In class discussion | Guest Speaker William Forsythe | |
| **Week 4** Feb 10 | Lecture #4 In class discussion | Guest Speaker, finance and budgeting | |
| **Week 5** Feb 17 | Lecture #5 | Guest Speaker Dwight Rhoden | |
| **Week 6** Feb 24 | Field Work | Research and build professional network | |
| **Week 7** March 3 | Lecture #6 | Guest Speaker Marjani Forte-Saunders | |
| **Week 8** Mar 10 | In-class Review | Dress Rehearsal with Spencer for Senior Projects | |
| **Week 9** March 17 | Lecture #7 | Guest Speaker Doug Varone | |
| **Week 10** March 24 | Discussion Review Projects | Dress Rehearsal with Spencer for Senior Projects | |
| **Week 11** March 31 | Lecture #8 | Guest Speaker Micaela Taylor | |
| **Week 12** April 7 | NO CLASS | WELLNESS DAY | |

| Week 13 April 14 | Prepare for presentation | April 14 – 16<br><br>FINAL PROJECT PRESENTATION<br><br>Senior Seminar Presentations<br><br>(Virtual Ted-Talk Format) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Week 14 April 21 | In-class discussion | Review | *Project Assignment Due April 28th 5:00pm PST* |
| Week 15 April 28 | In-class discussion | Review and reflection | *Project Assignment DUE* |

**Names and Pronouns**
If you want to be called by a different name or wish to be referred to by a different gender pronoun than the one under which you are officially enrolled, please let your professor know. Students are expected to respectfully refer to each other by their preferred names and pronouns in class.

**Equity, Diversity and Inclusion**
This class takes place at a university committed to equity for all students, where diversity and inclusion are considered critical to the academic environment. In this virtual classroom, free speech is respected, and civil discourse is expected, with a safe learning environment the priority. We will endeavor to use language that is respectful—sometimes being inquisitive and creative, because language changes all the time—particularly when it comes to differences in age, ethnicity, gender identity or expression, race or socioeconomic status.

**"Call-In" Agreement**
Optional policy about calling people IN to the conversation about racial justice, as opposed to calling people out.

**Statement on Physical Contact**
As an embodied art form, dancing is a physical and an emotional act. In the process of studying dance, students often experience physical contact with their instructors and peers. Faculty members may use touch to provide proprioceptive and kinesthetic feedback to students; they may use touch to correct alignment, improve technique, and promote healthier movement practices. In some classes, particularly those involving partnering, students' will experience physical contact with their peers. As developing artists experimenting with modes of

expression, students may also experience a variety of emotions in the classroom. As such, it is imperative that the studio-classroom be a safe, inclusive, and respectful space for all students and faculty. Open and honest communication and respectful and considerate interactions are always expected and are a fundamental requirement of studying in the USC Kaufman School of Dance. Unless otherwise articulated to a faculty member or peer, consent to discipline-specific and appropriate touching is assumed. Students always have the right to revoke that consent and should express any discomfort they feel in the classroom to the faculty instructor or Vice Dean immediately. USC Kaufman seeks to nurture compassionate artists who respect the dignity, humanity, and personal embodied experience of all individuals.

**Emergency Plan**
In the event of a university-wide emergency, guidance and directions will be shared by Campus Emergency Operations in all available outlets, including the website and TrojanAlerts. Students are encouraged to maintain close contact with all available communications avenues for updates to university operations.  USC Kaufman will abide by all university protocols and recommendations.  If the Kaufman Dance Center is not available when classes resume, students can receive updates from the school's Departmental Operations Center (DOC) on Ramo Lawn (between the Thornton School of Music and Norris Cinema, close to the Bing Theatre).

**Technological Proficiency and Hardware/Software Required**
Students will need an electronic device with access to Zoom and Blackboard for this course. They are asked to familiarize themselves with these two interfaces. Please see the links below for technology support.

**USC Technology Support Links**
Zoom information for students
Blackboard help for students
Software available to USC Campus

**USC Technology Rental Program**
We realize that attending classes online and completing coursework remotely requires access to technology that not all students possess. If you need resources to successfully participate in your classes, such as a laptop or internet hotspot, you may be eligible for the university's equipment rental program. To apply, please submit an application. The Student Basic Needs team will contact all applicants in early August and distribute equipment to eligible applicants prior to the start of the fall semester.

**Synchronous Participation**
In general, students should plan to attend every synchronous session for the classes in which they are enrolled, irrespective of when it occurs in their time zone. For this course, the weekly synchronous ZOOM session will be Tuesdays, from 2:00PM-3:50PM Pacific Time.

**USC Shibboleth Log In**

Students are expected to be signed-in to their USC account prior to the start of each Zoom class session to ensure a safe and smooth experience for all students.

**Time Zone Accommodations**

USC considers the hours from 7:00am to 10:00pm, in the local time zone for each student, as reasonable times for students to attend synchronous sessions or engage in synchronous learning activities or assessments. Should students be unable to attend synchronous sessions they are expected to watch the recorded Zoom session and any related PowerPoint presentations (both will be posted to Blackboard once done live) and complete the assignments for each week.

**USC's Nine International Offices**

Support for international students is also available through USC's offices in Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong and South China, Taiwan, South Korea, India, UK and Europe, Brazil, and Mexico. Additional details and contact information can be found at https://global.usc.edu/global-presence/international-offices/.

**Recording Online Classes**

For the Fall 2020 semester, USC policy requires that all classes conducted online be recorded for asynchronous viewing with transcriptions made available.

**"Camera On" Policy**

For this course, students are expected to have their cameras on during synchronous online sessions. Students facing challenging situations (internet connectivity, illness, home environments, etc) are encouraged to use a virtual background, which will eliminate most privacy concerns, and earphones or headsets to improve audio quality. Please contact your professor directly for additional accommodations.

**Etiquette and Participation**

Participation includes being attentive and focused; actively participating in physical exercises, discussions, breakout rooms, and group activities; asking thoughtful questions; coming to class fully prepared; and exercising personal responsibility and consideration of others at all times. Texting/Chatting during Zoom class sessions via cell phone and/or other private message apps is considered highly disrespectful.

**Religious Holy Days Policies**

University policy grants students excused absences for observance of religious holy days. You must inform the professor at least one full week in advance to request such an excused absence. You will be given an opportunity to make up missed work if necessary.

### *Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems*

**Academic Conduct:**
Plagiarism – presenting someone else's ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus* in Part B, Section 11, "Behavior Violating University Standards" policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable.  See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct.

**Support Systems:**
*Student Counseling Services (SCS) – (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call*
Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention. engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling

*National Suicide Prevention Lifeline – 1 (800) 273-8255*
Provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

*Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) – (213) 740-4900 – 24/7 on call*
Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm. engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp

*Sexual Assault Resource Center*
For more information about how to get help or help a survivor, rights, reporting options, and additional resources, visit the website: sarc.usc.edu

*Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)/Title IX Compliance – (213) 740-5086*
Works with faculty, staff, visitors, applicants, and students around issues of protected class. equity.usc.edu

*Bias Assessment Response and Support*
Incidents of bias, hate crimes and microaggressions need to be reported allowing for appropriate investigation and response. studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support

*The Office of Disability Services and Programs*
Provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange relevant accommodations. dsp.usc.edu

*Student Support and Advocacy – (213) 821-4710*

Assists students and families in resolving complex issues adversely affecting their success as a student EX: personal, financial, and academic. studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa

*Diversity at USC*
Information on events, programs and training, the Diversity Task Force (including representatives for each school), chronology, participation, and various resources for students. diversity.usc.edu

*USC Emergency Information*
Provides safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible. emergency.usc.edu

*USC Department of Public Safety  – UPC: (213) 740-4321 – HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24-hour emergency or to report a crime.*
Provides overall safety to USC community. dps.usc.edu