Instructor: Marissa Hallo Tafura  
Phone: 303-478-6902 (cell)  
Email: hallo@colorado.edu  
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, Buckingham S121, 12:30-1:30  
(You may also attend office hours in 3:15-4:15, Libby 140A faculty office on Tues/Thurs.)

Course Description

This course is designed as an introduction to the study of traditional and contemporary dances in cultures throughout the world. In addition to a theoretical component, students will engage in dance through physical experiences and as observers. By studying dances’ historical, political, environmental, religious and social contexts, students will gain insight into how dance is a cultural product, embodying values and beliefs. Students will be challenged to critically examine how their own cultural lens influences their interpretation of dance, perception of bodily and movement aesthetics, and cultural practices.

Attendance & Participation

You may miss two (2) class sessions without a penalty. [There is no difference between an excused and unexcused absence, except in extreme circumstances (i.e., serious illness, death of immediate family member); in these cases, if you contact the instructor as soon as possible and submit adequate documentation detailing your situation, the instructor may make accommodations.] Three late arrivals to class (after attendance has been taken) equal one absence. It is your responsibility to check in with the instructor at the end of class if you arrive late. For every absence exceeding your two allowed absences, your grade will automatically be lowered by a third of a letter grade (i.e. A to A-, B + to B, etc.). Sessions designated for guest teachers cannot be made up in any way, so it is not advisable to be absent on these days. If you are absent for more than 6 classes, you will receive a failing grade for the course.

Participation means being actively engaged in class discussions and activities. This should be done through active listening, conversation, questions, in-class note-taking, physical participation in dance form, etc. It is presumed that you have completed all assigned readings and activities necessary for that day (prior to the start of class). If you are unable to physically participate on a day reserved for dancing, you are required to notify the instructor prior to the start of class. If you become injured, please notify the instructor immediately.
You are required to sign in at the beginning of class. If you arrive late, please see me after class to sign in. DO NOT SIGN IN FOR ANOTHER STUDENT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, OTHERWISE YOU MAY RECEIVE A FAILING GRADE FOR THE COURSE.

**Technology Policy**

Students are not permitted to use laptops during class, with the exception for documentation for disability accommodations, and select classes when the instructor deems laptop use appropriate and necessary. **If you are found using technology inappropriately (not related to course learning, not staying on-task, etc.) or without prior permission from the instructor, you will be asked to leave the class and your overall course grade will be lowered by a third of a letter grade. This includes texting on your phone.**

**Communication**

I am very committed to supporting you in your learning and will be available to answer questions during office hours or by email and you can also reach me by phone. You will receive a response to emails within 24 hours, so please plan accordingly. It is helpful to make connections with classmates who can answer basic questions before I may have a chance to respond.

I am available to give you guidance and answer questions, but I ask that you **make an effort to get help from a classmate before you contact me** for assistance. This will support our classroom community, encourage classmates to know one another, and develop problem-solving skills. It’s not because I don’t want to help you!

**Attire**

You are required to wear appropriate attire on the days designated for guest teachers/dancing. This means that you must be able to move comfortably (do not wear jeans, short skirts, short shorts, etc.). Please be prepared to remove your shoes and/or socks.

**Assignments**

Please refer to the Course Schedule for all assignment due dates (additional assignments may be given in class). Your Course Schedule will state whether you should submit the assignment via Desire2Learn or bring a hard copy to class. Please save documents as your first initial followed by your last name, and include the name of the assignment (i.e., J Doe_CourtDance). Always include your name, course section, name of assignment and date on the top of your assignment.

10% will be deducted from assignments for each day they are late. If you submit an assignment after the first 10 minutes of class, 5% will be deducted for that day. No papers will be accepted if they are more than two days late (i.e. papers due on Tuesday will not be accepted on Friday).
All assignments must be typed, with the exception of responses to reading questions. Please save all assignments so that you may refer back to them at different points in the semester. Homework may be assigned in class or may be assigned through an email distributed to the class. You are required to check your CU email daily.

**Movie Screening** – You are strongly encouraged to attend COMM RAP’s Evening of Hip Hop on Wednesday, February 4 (documentary screening, 6-7:30 pm, guest lecture, 7:30-9 pm). Please speak to me immediately about any possible scheduling conflict.

**Quizzes**

Please see your course schedule for assigned weekly quizzes to be completed on D2L. Quizzes are normally due to be completed prior to our class on Thursdays. Quizzes may include information from assigned readings and lectures. The lowest two quiz grades will be dropped; this allows for illness and other issues that prevent you from completing a quiz on time.

**Mid-term Exam** – The mid-term exam will include information covered throughout the first half of the semester. Details to be announced.

**Final Exam** – Your final exam is scheduled for:

Tuesday, May 5, 4:30 pm - 7 pm

The final exam will include information covered throughout the second half of the semester. Details to be announced.

**Course Materials**

Required readings are posted on D2L. Please bring either your laptop/tablet or a hard copy of your readings to each class.

Visual elements are an essential part of this course and will be available on D2L.

**Grading Policy**

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>25% (2 will be dropped)</td>
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<td>Essays</td>
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<td>Micro-culture essay</td>
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<td>Hip Hop essay</td>
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<td>La Danza Azteca essay</td>
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<td>Mid-term</td>
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<td>Research Paper</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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Please speak with me early in the semester if you have any objections to partner dancing and contact with other students (generally hand holding, hand on a partner’s shoulder, etc.).

University Policies

Disabilities:

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to your professor a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner (for exam accommodations provide your letter at least one week prior to the exam) so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or by e-mail at dsinfo@colorado.edu.

If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see Temporary Injuries under Quick Links at Disability Services website (http://disabilityservices.colorado.edu/) and discuss your needs with your professor.

Religious Observances:

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, you are required to notify the professor by the start of the third week of classes of any religious observances that conflict with our course schedule.

Learning Environment:

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran’s status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student’s legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records.

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU-Boulder) is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. The University of Colorado does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status in admission and access to, and treatment and employment in, its educational programs and activities. (Regent Law, Article 10, amended 11/8/2001). CU-Boulder will not
tolerate acts of discrimination or harassment based upon Protected Classes or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. For purposes of this CU-Boulder policy, "Protected Classes" refers to race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or veteran status. Individuals who believe they have been discriminated against should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Student Conduct (OSC) at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at http://hr.colorado.edu/dh/

Honor Code

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-735-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html and at http://honorcode.colorado.edu