AAS 209 Indian Classical Dance: Bharatanatyam

This course satisfies the DEC category D
This course satisfies the SBC category ARTS.
Course Instructor: Malini Srinivasan
Section: 01
Office Hours: 5:30-6:30 HUM 1036
Instructor contact information: malini.srinivasan@stonybrook.edu

AAS 209 - D: Indian Classical Dance: Bharatanatyam

Introduction to the basics of Bharatanatyam (South Indian classical dance) technique. Includes primary postures and basic steps, or adavus. Class also covers the theory of Bharatanatyam including hand gestures, head, neck and eye movements, as delineated in Nandikeswara's Abhinaya Darpana. Students will gain a well-rounded knowledge of the dance by studying Bharatanatyam's form, content, basic history, music, and repertoire. By the end of the class, students will learn and present a dance piece, which they will perform in a public performance.

3 credits

Course Pre/co-requisites:
Advisory Prerequisite: Any dance class

Learning Outcomes for AAS 215

• By the end of the course, students will be able to perform the movements and gestures of Bharatanatyam, the Indian classical dance.
• By the end of the course, students will be able to identify the basic elements of the dance Bharatanatyam and understand its historical context.
• By the end of the course, students will be able to watch, understand and interpret classical performing art forms and distinguish them from popular and folk art forms of South Asia.
• By the end of this course, students will be able to work cooperatively in a small group environment.
• By the end of this course, students will be able to create dance and story-telling sequences based on the Bharatanatyam dance form.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance and Make Up Policy
Students are expected to attend classes and are evaluated on their participation in class. Students are expected to attend office hours if they missed class. Students are also expected to attend relevant performances and group meetings outside of class.

Please note the exam dates and deadlines: In fairness to all students, any late submission will be automatically marked down by one grade level for each 2 days of delay (i.e., a paper that would normally get an A will get an A- if submitted 2 days late, I plus if handed in 4 days late, etc. No Exam make-ups are allowed. Late quizzes must be handed in no later than the class after it was taken, otherwise it will not be graded.
Description and schedule of Required Readings and/or Assignments.

Desikachar, *The Heart of Yoga*, p. 5-14, 166, 175-176, 187
Dimmitt, Cornelia, and van Buitenen, J.A.B., *Classical Hindu Mythology*, Temple University Press, Philadelphia
Kishwar, Madhu, “Traditional Female Moral Exemplars in India” in *Education about Asia*, Volume 6, Number 3, Winter 2001

Requirements for written assignments: all essays should follow MLA format

Graded Assignments
Practical midterm, written midterm, practical final (performance), presentation, quizzes, 3-4 performance reviews/written assignments

Midterm Exam includes multiple choice, short essay and long essay questions.

GRADING:

**Requirements:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percent of grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam (practical)</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam (written)</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam (practical)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance reviews and assignments</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MEETING SCHEDULE

Mon Jan 27  Studio – Basic positions, Thatt Adavu, Naat Adavu.


Mon. Feb. 3   Studio - Thatt Adavu, Naat Adavu, walking, Single Hand Gestures
Readings (to be discussed in class):
Leela Samson

Wed. Feb. 5   Studio - Thatt Adavu, Naat Adavu, Single Hand Gestures

Mon. Feb. 10  Studio – Thatt Adavu, Naat Adavu, Single Hand Gestures
The Heart of Yoga by Desikchar, p. 5-14, 166, 175-176, 187

Wed. Feb. 12  Studio - Paraval Adavu
Lecture – Gesture, Rhythm & Music
Reading (to be discussed in class):

Mon. Feb. 17  Studio - Paraval Adavu, Head Movements
Reading: Malavika Sarukkai, “Soundarya and Rasa” p. 9-11
Madhu Kishwar, “Traditional Female Moral Exemplars in India”, p. 23-31

Wed. Feb. 19  Studio - Sarikkal Adavu, Head Movements
Lecture – Mythology - Siva
Readings (to be discussed in class):

Mon. Feb. 24  Studio - Sarikkal adavu.
QUIZ – Single Hand gestures

Wed. Feb. 26  Studio –Theermanam Adavu, Jump
Lecture - Mythology- Krishna
Reading (to be discussed in class):
Dimmitt, Cornelia, Classical Hindu Mythology, pp. 100-137.

Mon. Mar. 3   Studio – Jump and Practical Midterm Review
Lecture - Mythology- Goddess
Reading (to be discussed in class):
Dimmitt, Cornelia, Classical Hindu Mythology, pp. 219 – 242.

Wed. Mar. 5   Practical Midterm

Mon. Mar. 10  Studio – Performance item, Head movements, Naat adavu choreo
Lecture: Margham – Pushpanjali, Alarippu
Reading (to be discussed in class):
Vatsyayan, Indian Classical Dance , 'Repertoire,' p. 29-34
Lecture - Margham: Jathiswaram, Sabdam
Reading (to be discussed in class):
Vatsyayan, *Indian Classical Dance*, 'Repertoire,' p. 29-34

Mar. 17-23   SPRING BREAK

Mon. Mar. 24   Studio – Performance item, Head Movements; Poem Choreography
Lecture - Margham: Varnam, Padam
Reading (to be discussed in class):

Mon. Mar. 31   Margham Video, Performance Item

Wed. Apr. 2   Studio – Performance item, Head Movements; Poem

Mon. Apr. 7   Studio – Performance item
Lecture – Repertoire: Thillana
Reading - Mrinalini Sarabhai, Rukmini Devi

Wed. Apr. 9   Studio – Performance item, Poems
Reading (to be discussed in class):
Head Movement Quiz

Mon. Apr. 14   Studio – Performance item, Poems
Reading (to be discussed in class):

Wed. Apr. 16   Studio – Performance item
Midterm Review

Mon. Apr. 21   Written Midterm

Wed. Apr. 23   Studio - Performance item

Mon. Apr. 28   Studio – Performance item

Wed. Apr. 30   Studio – Performance item

Mon. May 5   Final Recital at Wang Theater

Wed. May 7   Studio - performance break-down
CLASS PROTOCOL
Cell phones must be switched off during class.

CLASS RESOURCES (examples below)
Library resources
Blackboard
Writing Center
Career Center
Others (see link) http://stonybrook.edu/aadvising/tut.html

The University Senate Undergraduate and Graduate Councils have authorized that the following required statements appear in all teaching syllabi (graduate and undergraduate courses) on the Stony Brook Campus. See also http://www.stonybrook.edu/provost/facultyinfo/Syllabus%20Statement.doc

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES (DSS) STATEMENT
If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Disability Support Services, ECC (Educational Communications Center) Building, room128, (631) 632-6748. They will determine with you what accommodations, if any, are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

Students who require assistance during emergency evacuation are encouraged to discuss their needs with their professors and Disability Support Services. For procedures and information go to the following website: http://www.stonybrook.edu/ehs/fire/disabilities

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT (must be the following language as approved by the undergrad council):
Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty are required to report any suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. Faculty in the Health Sciences Center (School of Health Technology & Management, Nursing, Social Welfare, Dental Medicine) and School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at http://www.stonybrook.edu/uaa/academicjudiciary/

CRITICAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT (must be the following language as approved by the undergrad council):
Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Judicial Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students' ability to learn. Faculty in the HSC Schools and the School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures.