



DAN-345 Dance for the Special Child

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| <b>Course Code</b><br>DAN-345                   | <b>Course Title</b><br>Dance for the Special Child | <b>ECTS Credits</b><br>4                  |
| <b>Department</b><br>Music and Dance            | <b>Semester</b><br>Spring                          | <b>Prerequisites</b><br>DAN-317           |
| <b>Type of Course</b><br>Required               | <b>Field</b><br>Dance Pedagogy                     | <b>Language of Instruction</b><br>English |
| <b>Level of Course</b><br>1 <sup>st</sup> Cycle | <b>Year of Study</b><br>4 <sup>th</sup>            | <b>Lecturer(s)</b><br>Julia Brendle       |
| <b>Mode of Delivery</b><br>Face-to-face         | <b>Work placement</b><br>N/A                       | <b>Co-requisites</b><br>None              |

**Objectives of the course:**

This course will deeply explore the possibilities, therapeutic approaches and techniques used in teaching dance to children/adolescents with mild to moderate mental and physical disabilities. In addition, techniques for teaching the gifted child will be addressed, as well as the issues surrounding the integrated classroom. Perspectives on semi-professional and professional companies that work with performers with differently abled bodies, leading to the question and discussion about disability and performativity, will be analyzed.

**Learning Outcomes:**

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Teach the basic dance elements to differently abled and/or gifted children.
2. Distinguish between different forms of disabilities and select an appropriate approach to teaching.
3. Manage classroom activities in groups that include people with special needs.
4. Handle specific ethical issues in the classroom or performance situations.
5. Analyze and discuss professional pieces featuring differently abled performers.
6. Design a lesson plan for a group of children or adolescents with special needs.

**Course Contents:**

1. Introduction
2. Physical disabilities
3. Mental disabilities
4. Teaching strategies
5. Classroom strategies/Group strategies
6. Lesson Plans
7. Therapy versus Art?
8. Process of creating a performance
9. Exceptional learners
10. Example of school programmes inclusive of differently abled dancers
11. Professional Dance inclusive of differently abled dancers
12. Presentations and Reflection

**Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:**

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| Lectures, supplemented by video, discussion and studio practice |
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**Assessment Methods:**

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| In-class Participation, Assignments, Presentation, Research Paper, Written Mid-Term Examination, Final Lesson Plan/Teaching Presentation |
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**Required Textbooks/Reading:**

A Course Reading Packet will include excerpts from the following:

| <b>Authors</b>                             | <b>Title</b>   | <b>Publisher</b>                                | <b>Year</b> | <b>ISBN</b> |
|--|--|---|-------------|-------------|
| Albright, Ann<br>Cooper                    | <u>Choreographing Difference:<br/>The Body and Identity in<br/>Contemporary Dance</u>                | Middletown, CT:<br>Wesleyan<br>University Press | 1997        | 0819563218  |
| Benjamin, Adam                             | <u>Making an Entrance: Theory<br/>and Practice for Disabled and<br/>Non-Disabled Dancers</u>         | New York:<br>Routledge                          | 2002        | 0415251443  |
| Dip, Grad;<br>Dunfy, Kim;<br>Scott, Jeremy | <u>The Freedom to Move:<br/>Movement and Dance for<br/>People with Intellectual<br/>Disabilities</u> | Sydney:<br>MacLennan/Petty                      | 2003        | 0864331851  |
| Kuppers, Petra                             | <u>Disability and Contemporary<br/>Performance: Bodies on Edge</u>                                   | London & New<br>York: Routledge                 | 2003        | 0415302382  |

**Recommended Textbooks/Reading:**

| <b>Authors</b> | <b>Title</b>   | <b>Publisher</b>                             | <b>Year</b> | <b>ISBN</b> |
|----------------|--|--|-------------|-------------|
| Benari, Naomi  | <u>Inner Rhythm: Dance<br/>Training for the Deaf</u>                                 | London:<br>Routledge                         | 1995        | 3718656728  |
| Stinson, Sue   | <u>Dance for Young Children:<br/>Finding the Magic in<br/>Movement</u> , 4th Edition | Reston, VA:<br>National Dance<br>Association | 1988        | 088314381X  |