

UMBC UGC Change in Existing Course: VPA 325 Contemporary Art in Process

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Proposed Effective Date: 1/15/09

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COURSE INFORMATION:

change		current	proposed
x	course number(s)	VPA 325	VPA 325
x	formal title	Contemporary Art in Process	Dance and the Contemporary Arts
x	transcript title (≤24c)	Contemporary Art in Process	Dance and Contemp. Arts
x	prerequisite	VPA 225 or permission	One of the following: VPA 225, DANC 202, ART 323, THTR 311, MUSC 322
<input type="checkbox"/>	credits		
<input type="checkbox"/>	max. repeat credits		
<input type="checkbox"/>	grading method(s)	X Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail	X Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail

CURRENT CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

The study of new directions in the visual and performing arts. The course integrates the Inter-Arts Series into its structure and introduces students to contemporary artistic imperatives, the artistic process, and artists and their work in dance, music, theatre and the visual arts. It also explores the possible interrelationships of the arts today. The visual and performing arts series brings some of the most advanced and influential artists to the UMBC campus to present their work and discuss its motives. Readings and discussions prepare students for the series of events and discussions with the artists.

PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION: no changes change in description

The study of new directions in the visual and performing arts through the perspective of dance. The course integrates the Inter-Arts Series into its structure and introduces students to contemporary artistic imperatives, the artistic process, and artists in their work in dance, music, theatre and the visual arts. It also explores the interrelationships of the arts today. Students develop writing skills for critical inquiry and analysis of the arts in purpose, process and performance.

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE:

With the introduction of separate BA programs in Dance, Music and Visual Arts, by 2002, the VPA degree concentrations in these discipline areas are being phased out. The dance department has retained the BA in VPA/Dance as an option for dance majors; however, this will change soon. After of discussions with the Dean of CAHSS, the department plans to re-configure the VPA/Dance degree as a separate track within the Dance BA.

The dance department is committed to the importance of interdisciplinary study in the major and has retained two VPA courses (VPA 225 and VPA 325) as requirements for the BA in Dance. VPA 225 Ideas in the Arts is an introductory course in appreciation and art-making across the arts disciplines, and is attended by students across all disciplines. Over the past three to four years, VPA 325 Contemporary Art in Process has been attended almost exclusively by dance majors. The chairs of Music, Theater and Visual Arts agree that the course should be designed to better serve dance major, and should be controlled by the dance department.

The proposed DANC 325 is a re-design of VPA 325 with a greater focus on the relationship of the contemporary arts to dance. This reflects the evolving orientation of the course over the past three to four years.

Prerequisites: Since VPA 225 is no longer required for majors in the other arts disciplines, the DANC department would like to broaden the prerequisites for the new DANC 325 to make the course attractive to students who have taken either VPA 225, or a course focused on modern history of one of the arts disciplines.