

# FA156 DANCE LAB: BODY SPACE IMAGE. DANCE AND VISUAL ARTS

Seminar Leader: Eva Burghardt  
Email: e.burghardt.bard.edu  
Office Hours: by appointment

## Course Description

In addition to the ongoing movement training, which will be held outside as much as possible, the focus of this course will be the crossover of dance and visual arts, looking at dance and choreography outside of its usual context, the theatre space. Drawing from contemporary dance and improvisation techniques, students will train their body as an “instrument,” deepening its awareness, sense of presence and musicality, practicing listening to oneself as well as others. Starting from this inner awareness, we bring the attention to our surroundings, making connections to other bodies, objects, space and architecture. How can we stay connected while maintaining distance to each other?

Weather permitting, we will take our explorations out into the neighborhood to work site-specifically. How can we refresh our eyes and reshape experiences of known places with our present body? How can the experience of the surrounding inspire, inform and bring form to the dances within us or create relationships with the environment we live in. How does our body relate to forms, lines, textures, colors, sounds, the history or memories of a place? How does it change our experience of a place as a dancer or spectator? Open score improvisations and tasks will be given to be explored individually and with the group.

In case there is a return to online courses, students will be given various tasks to explore the making of dance and movement based video art, that can be shared and discussed online.

Throughout the course, we will look at- and discuss works from artists who had a big impact in widening the understanding of dance and choreography, crossing the borders between dance and visual arts. From postmodern artists Trisha Brown, Simone Forti and Anna Halprin to contemporary artists, such as Tino Sehgal, William Forsythe, Willi Dorner or Anne Imhoff.

Two off-site excursions to performances in Berlin, including discussions and a written reflection afterwards, will be an integral part of the course.

## Requirements

Students are expected to:

- Turn off phones during class time.
- Initiate appointments with Professor or Arts Staff outside of class time.
- Always allocate extra time for work preparation and clean-up for independent production.

- Respond to emails from the Professor in a timely manner.
- Inform Professor at the beginning of the semester if photos of student's identity, artwork, works in progress are NOT to be taken and / or used for Bard College Berlin.
- Remove all artworks, art materials, and / or any personal belongings before the end of the semester. Failure to remove works or return spaces clean and empty may result in final grade penalization. Donating unrequested artworks and / or art materials is not permitted and will still be considered student property, expected to be removed by your inspection deadline. Please contact Studio Arts Manager Joon Park for more information: j.park@berlin.bard.edu

### Academic Integrity

Bard College Berlin maintains the staunchest regard for academic integrity and expects good academic practice from students in their studies. Instances in which students fail to meet the expected standards of academic integrity will be dealt with under the Code of Student Conduct, Section 14.3 (Academic Misconduct) in the Student Handbook.

### Attendance

Attendance of ALL classes is expected.

More than one absence (that is, absence from one three-hour session per week) in a semester will significantly affect the participation grade for the course.

Students are expected to attend all off-campus classes punctually, from start to finish. If there is a scheduling / travel conflict, the Professor must be informed in advance.

Tardiness after five minutes will be considered an absence.

Please note that Bard College Berlin does not offer credit for any course in which a student has missed more than 30% of classes, regardless of the reasons for the absences, whether excused or unexcused.

The full Bard College Berlin attendance policy can be found in the Student Handbook, Section 2.8.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR FALL 2020: Students must refrain from in-person attendance if they are feeling ill.

### Assessment

Students will be evaluated based on class participation, discussions, one mid-term essay (ca. 1000 words) and a final presentation.

Please note: While the mid-term essay will be written individually, the final presentation will partly be done collaboratively.

### Policy on Late Submission of Artworks / Presentations

Assignments (artworks, essays, performances, oral presentations) that are up to 24 hours late will be downgraded one full grade (Example: B+ becomes C+). The Professor is not obliged to accept assignments that are more than 24 hours late. Where a Professor agrees to accept a late assignment, it must be submitted within four weeks of the deadline. Thereafter, the student will receive a failing

grade for the assignment. Grades and comments will be returned to students in a timely fashion. Students are also entitled to make an appointment to discuss assignments and feedback during instructors' office hours.

Students receive mid- and end-of-semester grades for their seminar work. Students are entitled to make an appointment with an instructor to discuss seminar participation, or may be asked to meet with the instructor at any stage in the semester regarding class progress.

## Grade Breakdown

Students will be evaluated based on class participation, discussions, one mid-term reflection/essay (ca. 1000 words) and a final project presentation. Attendance at all classes is essential. Absences can only be excused if a medical note is submitted to the registrar's office.

Please note: While the mid- term essay will be written individually, the final project can be done collaboratively.

- Class participation (includes attendance, active participation in praxis and theory, communication habits with Professor and among other students as well as maintenance of all common and private spaces used for production / rehearsal): 50%
- Homework and in-class work, including Mid-term essay: 25%
- Project presentations for critiques (includes end of semester presentations / performances): 25%

## Schedule

Week 1: Aug 31 – Sept 4

Friday: 14-17:15

Outdoor Movement Training

Course introduction: Crossover of dance and visual arts. Part I

Week 2: Sept 7 – Sept 11

Friday: 14-17:15

Outdoor Movement Training

Mandatory in-class facility orientations

Crossover of dance and visual arts. Part II

WEEK 3: Sept 14- Sept 18

Friday: 14-17:15

Outdoor Movement Training

Crossover of dance and visual arts. Part III

Dance Critiques: how to write about dance? Preparation for off-site visits

WEEK 4: Sept 21- Sept 25

Friday: 14-17:15

Outdoor Movement Training

Introduction to Dance Improvisation Technique. Time- Space- Effort

WEEK 5: Sept 28 - Oct 2

Friday: 14-17:15  
Outdoor Movement Training  
Dance Improvisation Technique. Body- Space- Landscape  
Working with Objects. Instant Composing

WEEK 6: Oct 5 - Oct 9  
Friday: 14-17:15  
Outdoor Movement Training  
Approaches to Composition and Choreography in Site Specific Contexts

WEEK 7: Oct 12 - Oct 16  
Friday: 14-17:15  
Outdoor Movement Training  
Site Specific Work/Research  
Deadline for Mid-term Essay

Fall Break: Oct 19 – Oct 25

WEEK 8: Oct 26 – Oct 30  
Friday: 14-17:15  
Outdoor Movement Training  
Site Specific Work/Research

WEEK 9: Nov 1 – Nov 6  
Friday: 14-17:15  
Outdoor Movement Training  
Site Specific Work/Research  
Research and development of Final Presentation

WEEK 10: Nov 9 – Nov 13  
Friday: 14-17:15  
Outdoor Movement Training  
Site Specific Work/Research  
Solo and/or Group Rehearsals of Final Presentation

WEEK 11: Nov 16 – Nov 20  
Friday: 14-17:15  
Outdoor Movement Training  
Site Specific Work/Research  
Solo and/or Group Rehearsals of Final Presentation

WEEK 12: Nov 23 – Nov 27  
Friday: 14-17:15  
Outdoor Movement Training  
Site Specific Work/Research  
Solo and/or Group Rehearsals of Final Presentation

WEEK 13: Dez 1 – Dez 4

Final Presentation

WEEK 14: Dez 7 – Dez 11

Friday: 14-17:15

Cool-down, Bodywork

Evaluation and Critique

WEEK 15

Dez 14 – Dez 18

Completion Week

NOTE: there will be two off-site visits á 2 hours (dates to be announced)