

FA156 Dance Lab: Body Space Image. Dance and Visual Arts

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

This is a practice based course, exploring the crossover of dance and visual arts. Through an ongoing movement training, based on improvisation and somatic practices, 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 attention to our surroundings, making connections to other bodies, objects, space and architecture. We will be looking at dance and choreography outside of its usual context, the theater space. These following aspects will be explored in practice and theory:

Transforming the Body
Sculpting Dances
Site Specific Dances
Choreographing Things
Tracing Movement

Towards the end of the course students may choose one of these aspects to deepen and develop for their final presentation, including sketches, experiments and scores. The final presentation can be developed individually and/or with the group.

Throughout the course, we will look at- and discuss works from artists who have 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 and 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 the 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 their professors in a timely manner.
- Inform their professors 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 highest standards of academic integrity and expects students to adhere to these standards at all times. 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 at all classes is a crucial part of the education offered by Bard College Berlin. To account for minor circumstances, two absences from twice-per-week courses or the equivalent (e.g. one absence from a once-per-week course) should not affect the participation grade or require documentation. Absences can only be excused if a medical note is submitted to the registrars office. Students should not attend class when they test positive for COVID-19. Professors need not offer the option of remote participation in classes.

Bard College Berlin may not offer credit for any course in which a student has missed more than 30% of classes, regardless of the reasons for the absences. The full Bard College Berlin attendance policy can be found in the Student Handbook, Section 2.8.

Assessment

Students will be evaluated based on class participation, including showings, discussions, one mid-term project and a final presentation.

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

Students are also assessed on their ability to work independently and responsibly. They will be graded on their ability to communicate with the Professor as well amongst themselves. This also includes their ambition to create artworks as well as their willingness to budget their time for all requirements connected to this class. This assessment also includes preparation, production, and cleaning up of spaces used at Bard College Berlin.

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 should be submitted by the new deadline agreed upon by both parties. 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 and showings, one midterm reflection/essay (ca. 1000 words) and a final project presentation.

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 mid term/end of semester presentations/ performances): 25%

NOTE:

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

there will be 2-3 EXTRA rehearsals before the final presentation (dates to be announced)

Scheduled class times will be available online under the relevant course heading:

<https://berlin.bard.edu/academics/courses/>

Week 1: [Sep 4 – Sep 8]

Friday: 9:30-12:45

MOVEMENT IMPROVISATION_Listening

Introduction: Dance and Visual Arts. Part I

Week 2: [Sep 11 – Sep 15]

Friday: 9:30-12:45

TOOLS FOR IMPROVISATION_Time-Space-Effort

Mandatory factory orientation, please bring laptops

Week 3: [Sep 18 – Sep 22]

Friday: 9:30-12:45

TRANSFORMING THE BODY_Body as a container. Working with (inner) images

Theory: Dance and Visual Arts. Part II

Week 4: [Sep 25 – Sep 29]

Friday: 9:30-12:45

SCULPTING DANCES_Body as sculpture

Dance and Visual Arts. Part III

Week 5: [Oct 2 – Oct 6]

Friday: 9:30-12:45

SITE SPECIFIC DANCE

Week 6: [Oct 9 – Oct 13]

Friday: 9:30-12:45

CHOREOGRAPHING THINGS_Body-Space-Image

Week 7: [Oct 16 – Oct 20]

Friday: 9:30-12:45

TRACING MOVEMENT_Dancing and drawing

Deadline for Mid-term Essay

Week 7 Fall break: [Oct 23 – Oct 29]

Week 8: [Oct 30 – Nov 3]

NO CLASS, off-site visit instead (date to be announced)

Week 9: [Nov 6 – Nov 10]

Friday: 9:30-12:45

Movement Improvisation Training

Solo and/or group development of final presentation

Week 10: [Nov 13 – Nov 17]

Friday: 9:30-12:45

Movement Improvisation Training

Solo and/or group development of final presentation

Week 11: [Nov 20 – Nov 24]

Friday: 9:30-12:45

Movement Improvisation Training

Solo and/or group development of final presentation

Week 12: [Nov 27 – Dec 2]

Friday: 9:30-12:45

Movement Improvisation Training

Solo and/or group development of final presentation

Week 13: [Dec 4 – Dec 8]

Friday: 9:30-12:45

Movement Improvisation Training

Final presentation

Week 14: [Dec 11 – Dec 15]

Friday: 9:30-12:45

Cool-down, Bodywork

Evaluation and Critique

Week 15: Completion week / Inspection [Dec 18 – Dec 22]

Facility Guidelines:

“The Factory” – Eichenstrasse 43

The Factory Policy Agreement

- 1) "The Factory" at BCB (Eichenstrasse 43) has space and facilities available to BCB students with an academic purpose for using the building. Mandatory in-class orientations are required to retain chip access to the Factory. Chip access to The Factory is from 7am to 10pm everyday during the semester. At 10pm students will be asked to leave the building by BCB security personnel.
- 2) Students agree to only use the common spaces that are available for their needs, and must respect private spaces that are off-limits. For requesting to reserve the dance / theater space and / or Seminar Room 6, please fill out the online Factory Reservation Form. The Factory Staff will get back to you within two weekdays. (Monday - Friday).
- 3) No smoking is allowed anywhere inside the building. There are to be no projects using open flames (such as candles, torches, lanterns, fireworks, etc.) inside any part of the building.
- 4) Fire exits and lanes must be kept clear of any obstructions.
- 5) Spray painting and handling of any hazardous (chemical or combustible) material is not allowed inside the building. Contact the Studio Arts Manager concerning working with these materials. All work surfaces (indoor and outdoor) must be properly protected with a drop cloth or a packing paper provided by the workshop.
- 6) No sandals, flip-flops, or bare feet will be allowed inside the workshop and studio 6.
- 7) Students must make sure all lights are turned off and doors are closed when leaving the building. No windows or doors are to be left opened or cracked. All electrical items must be unplugged when not in use.
- 8) If BCB workshop tools must be borrowed for a purpose outside of the building, please contact The Studio Arts Manager (by appointment).
- 9) There are to be no architectural changes to studios or any areas inside or outside of the building without first speaking with the Studio Arts Manager.
- 10) During completion week, any space used by a student must be returned empty with clean walls and floors. All garbage must be bagged (or boxed) and properly disposed of. Final grades may be penalized and / or fines imposed if items are left (or renovations unfinished) by the inspection deadline.
- 11) Contact Studio Arts Manager directly with any questions: j.park@berlin.bard.edu

AV Facilities – Platanenstrasse 98 (downstairs)

- 1) BCB's AV (Audio / Visual) facilities provide a limited quantity of AV equipment to support those students enrolled in arts classes that require specific items. AV facilities do not include any black and white or color printing services for students.
- 2) The opening times may change every semester to adapt to specific course times. Borrowing equipment is currently implemented by scheduling an advance appointment through this link: <https://avroom.youcanbook.me/> AV facilities are ONLY available during days when classes are held (closed during official BCB holidays).
- 3) All items checked out are due back during AV hours the following day, unless other arrangements have been made in advance directly with AV Staff.
- 4) Items to be reserved on a specific date should be requested at least one week in advance. Without reservation, availability is limited to a first-come, first-serve basis.
- 5) The AV Staff may exclude students from borrowing items at any time, if the student:
 - failed to return items in time
 - failed to return items in person (pick up and/ or return by friends is not allowed)

- returned items with missing pieces
 - returned items damaged or in poor shape
- 6) AV equipment will be given out only to those students responsible in organizing, picking up as well as returning their items IN PERSON. No exceptions.
 - 7) All items returned late, regardless of patron's position at BCB, will be subject to a 1 Euro fine, per day.
 - 8) Any item returned without accessories (such as cables, SD card, batteries, tripod head, lens cap, etc) will be subject to a 1 Euro fine, per day (the same as late returns).
 - 9) Any items missing will be subject to patron reimbursement for its value (or under special circumstances, replacement, at the discretion of AV Staff). Any items damaged or malfunctioning are expected to be reported to Staff upon check-in.
 - 1) Please use the AV email to inquire about equipment or policy, as well as to reserve (av@berlin.bard.edu). Do not contact AV Staff through their personal emails.
 - 2) We strongly suggest personally visiting the facilities to inquire and reserve before borrowing equipment!
 - 3) AV equipment is limited at BCB. Whenever possible students are encouraged to use their own devices (computers, cameras) for production purposes.
 - 4) Contact AV Staff directly with any questions: av@berlin.bard.edu

Photo Darkroom Facilities – Platanenstrasse 98 (downstairs)
Computer Pool and Media Lab – Kuckhoffstrasse 24 (upstairs)

** Guidelines to be offered during orientations.