

Barnard College Dance in Paris Summer Program

(Appropriated from the USF/Barnard Dance in Paris program syllabus used for the past 10 years)

Paris, France

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Course Outline/Syllabus

Course Description

This 28-day course is an immersion in Parisian culture from the point of view of the dancer. The course is divided into three major components: technique, composition, and history. Students will take a series of technique classes in modern, ballet, improvisation, world dance forms, and yoga, taught by Barnard/USF and international guest faculty, as well as opportunities to take alternative technique classes in some of Paris's professional dance studios. Students will be exposed to the rich artistic side of Paris through lectures and performances, as well as assigned readings by major dancers/writers/artists who have drawn on the Parisian landscape as inspiration for their work.

A final choreographic project based on compositional exercises that will take students to various Parisian locales, will be presented during the final week of the course. We will also visit many important locations essential to studying the history of dance in Western culture, including Versailles, Théâtre de la Ville and the Paris Opera.

Outcomes

- Students will develop a sense of themselves as artists on a global scale
- Students will study the connection between artists of different mediums (literature, painting, etc.) and their relationship to art-making
- Students will experience a new laboratory for their own choreography
- Students will present one's own choreography to a global community in order to share their singular experience with international artists in a new setting, which allows for feedback, exposure to a new dance audience, and a broader community.
- Students will be introduced to artists, teachers, choreographers and performances that rarely make their way to the United States thus opening students up to a broader palette of movement language.

- Students will build confidence as an independent artist in an urban environment, and using that information as inspiration for new choices as a dancer/choreographer in the professional world.

Course Requirements and Grading

Since this is an intensive course, a thorough dedication and active participation is essential. Many of the assignments will require that the student go very far outside of one's comfort zone, not only as dancers, but as people. How far one ventures outside this zone toward become fuller artists will determine not only a student's success in this course, but will be lessons students can carry with them, hopefully, forever.

The readings are included to enhance an understanding of the artist's approach to being a global citizen in the city of Paris, as well as to provide historical and logistical information about dance in Paris. Students are required to complete the reading assignment in a timely fashion in order to be able to participate in the class discussions.

Students are required to keep a journal of their observations on their choreographic journeys through Paris, as well as their choreographic assignment, technique class observations and other discoveries during their time in Paris. A final choreographic piece to be presented to a live audience should be the product of the month-long investigation of a particular subject/theme (in whatever shape that may take) during their time in Paris.

There will also be a required final paper to be handed in via e-mail after the final class day in Paris.

- 15% Attendance at all technique classes, workshops and performances
- 15% Pro-active involvement in all aspects of the course via discussions, class participation
- 45% Journal and final choreographic study/presentation
- 25% Final Paper