Athletes taking a knee, bodies marching in the street, dance movements that go viral… How can Dance Studies help us see and understand the urgency of movement in our current moment? At the same time, how does dance challenge normative conceptualizations of history and politics? Exploring dance and embodied politics of the 20th and 21st century through the lens of Dance Studies, this course works from the perspective of “Critical Moves” proposed by late dance theorist Randy Martin: “Critical moves. Steps we must take. Movement that informs critical consciousness.” The interrelationship between theory and practice will be emphasized throughout the semester through reading, writing, movement exercises and creative workshops. Students will read, write, and move; view and discuss performances; pursue a final research project through embodied, visual, and text-based methods; and work on a collective performance intervention that will take place on campus during the semester. No prior dance experience necessary, per se, but what is required is an openness to engage with embodied practice and a bodily perspective.