Critical Moves: 
Dance Studies Perspectives on Performance, Politics and Activist Bodies
Dash Chapman
F 11:00PM - 3:30PM

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 through reading, writing, movement exercises and creative workshops. No dance experience necessary, just open curiosity.

Creative Interventions: Innovations for Change
Deborah Goffe, Jana Silver, Natalia Sowall
MW 10:30AM - 11:50AM

This course will deeply explore the intersections between global environmental change, sustainability, the arts, education, and social action. In particular, we will highlight the essential role that creativity and art-making plays in organizing, strategizing and initiating powerful and effective social change. Through creative thinking and expanding on one's artistic practice, students will learn powerful and productive ways to be agents of social change. In this course consideration of how social, economic, cultural, political, and ecological concerns relate to identity and positionalities. This project-based course will include engagement in a cycle process of making, assigned readings, guest speakers, group discussion, and individual research.

Embodied Community, Dancing Community: Building Bridges with our Bodies and our Stories
Jodi Falk
M 6:00PM - 8:30PM

This course is designed for students interested in merging social activism, performing and literary arts and teaching. It teaches students to use movement arts and literary arts in settings such as senior centers, residential treatment centers for incarcerated youth, and youth recreation centers. In studio sessions, students will learn how to construct classes and dance and movement exchanges or events for community sites. Students will reflect on movement practices that help inform the body as a site for community-based learning in dance, or CBLD, as well as the body as a wellspring for personal and cultural narrative, a source for healing trauma, and develop theoretical bridges between community concerns, needs, and assets and the university’s role in this work. Much time will be spent together off-site in various locations throughout the Pioneer Valley, where students themselves will facilitate movement/theatre experiences.

Making Dances 1
Daphne Lowell
T/TH 10:30AM - 11:50AM

This course is designed for any student curious about the design in motion: choreography. It will introduce theories and processes of movement composition and choreographic analysis. We will work with movement prompts and structured improvisations to discover ways to generate movement, and to compose it into set forms. We'll question expectations about what dance, or a "good" dance is, and push to broaden movement preferences. In the process students will hone skills in perceiving, describing and interpreting compositional strategies in choreography. They'll also study works of established choreographers from a range of styles, examine in depth the work of one choreographer, and learn to write analytically about choreography. Students will work with group forms in class, but craft assigned studies in solo form, leading to a final, complete dance performed in an informal showing. No previous experience in dance is required. Concurrent study of dance technique is encouraged.

Modern Contemporary Dance Technique 2
Deborah Goffe
MW 2:30PM-3:50PM

As an advanced-beginning level class, this course will establish and build on students’ foundational experience with modern dance technique. By practicing in-class exercises and phrase-studies, students will refine bodily awareness and articulation, hone spatial and rhythmic clarity, develop facility in perceiving and interpreting movement, and practice moving with our dance musicians’ scores.

Modern Contemporary Dance Technique 4
Deborah Goffe
MW 4:00PM - 5:20PM

This course is designed for advanced-intermediate level dancers, as we continue to build on students’ previous study of modern dance technique. As is true in Modern-Contemporary 3, the studio will be our laboratory for a semester-long exploration of a wide range of modern dance concepts with a focus on deepening sensibility, clarifying points of initiation in the body, expansive use of space, connectivity and increasingly complex phrase work. Along the way we will give continued attention to alignment, spatial clarity, breath, increasing range of motion and the development of strength and stamina.