Course Description:
DAN 300: Modern Technique II/III
M/W 1:20-2:50 & F 12:30-2:30
Visiting Assistant Professor: Kellie Lynch, kellieannlynch@gmail.com or kalynch@wesleyan.edu

Course Objectives: This modern dance technique class will serve as your weekly practice for technical comprehension and artistic expression. We will explore complex spatial and rhythmic patterns; ease in effort; weight and gravity as a method of release and propulsion; and complicated movement sequences that challenge your embodied cognition as well as stamina. In this class you will be invited to embrace risk and explore beyond what you feel is your physical threshold. Throughout the semester you will be encouraged to sustain the balance between artistry and technical consistency as well as growth.

Course Requirements:

1. Participation: Be prepared to work hard. Show up on time. Participate fully in class. Be thoughtful in your approach to class taking.

2. Response Writings: 1 page, single-spaced, typed essays | 2 reading responses & 1 concert response. TBA and due via email.

3. Written Personal Reflections: There will be TWO typed personal reflections due via email throughout the semester.

   Friday, October 20th by 5pm | Mid-term Reflection DUE
   Friday, December 15th by 5pm | Final Reflection DUE
   *Note I will deduct points for late evaluations.

In 1 page, single-spaced, please thoughtfully address the following points:

   Mid-Term Reflection: 5 Points
   1. What were your goals, if any, coming into this course?
   2. What have you gained from this course so far?
   3. What are some challenges you are facing; how might you overcome these challenges?
   4. Where are you now?

   Final Reflection: 5 points
   1. Where were you when you started this course?
   2. Where are you now as we come to an end?
   3. Did you accomplish the goals you set forth?
   4. How will you carry this experience over to the next semester?

Grading: Your grade is based primarily on the consistent commitment to the course objectives via your dance practice in each class. Each student’s trajectory will be evaluated by way of personal progression throughout the semester. For example: Are you embodying corrections?
Are you recognizing your challenges and working hard to overcome such challenges? Attending every class without obvious progress will not result in an “A” or “B”. The discipline and rigor in your dance practice lies in your ability to make new discoveries and surpass your challenges.

**Grade breakdown:** 65% Attendance, active participation and consistent effort in class throughout the semester. 15% Evaluation of overall growth. 10% Completion of writings. 10% Completion of reflection papers.

**Excellence = A range.** In addition to attending and committing fully to every class, excellence in this course is measured by personal as well as physical transformation according to the course objectives. **Outstanding = B range.** Outstanding students attend all classes and fulfill what is asked of them in each class **Average = C range.** An average approach to this course is to attend without progression. **Below Average = D range.**

*Final Grades are not negotiable. If expectations are not clear and/or if you are curious about how you are progressing please make an appointment with your professor(s) throughout the semester.*

**Attendance:** Absences: You are allowed TWO absences total. If you are too sick or injured to participate in class you may observe with permission and take notes. Sick: If you are too sick or for another reason cannot to come to class, please email me. A student must obtain a physician’s note for any injury or illness that will remove the student from class for more than one week. *Leaving early for break is an unexcused absence.* Multiple absences will result in the lowering of a letter grade. Excessive absences from studio practice will be assessed on an individual basis by the dance faculty. **Late arrivals:** 2 late arrivals = 1 absence. *If you have a class across campus prior to this class, please tell me.*

**Attire:** Please wear clothes you can move in and bring a long sleeve shirt and pants. We will make friends with the floor in this class. Remove all watches, dangling jewelry, and turn off your cell phones.

**Office Hours:** 15 minutes before class starts and 15 minutes after class ends.

*This syllabus serves as your contract for the class.*