

## Independent Study Guidelines

### **Overview of project:**

An Independent Study, formally known as a Performance Project, is to be completed the first or second semester of junior year. It includes a choreography project, a 5-page research paper investigating a choreographer from the past and the present that has inspired you and a reflective journal which would include research about your process. All Dance Emphasis students are required to complete an Independent Study. The choreography projects can be submitted to the Dance Showcase. If a student's interest lies in Pedagogy, Dance Therapy or other areas, a formal proposal can be submitted to do a research paper or non performance based presentation.

### **Aim of project:**

The aim of an Independent Study is to begin to identify the area you wish to pursue for your Senior Capstone by investigating different choreographers, writing a reflective journal and creating a piece of choreography.

### **Choosing topic:**

Some topic suggestions are; choreography in the genre of dance you wish to pursue, dance therapy, business ownership or dance education at the elementary or secondary level. Your topic should be directly related to your specific area of interest in dance and begin to define your focus after you graduate.

### **Your journal should include:**

- Some preliminary thoughts and ideas you have in choosing your area of interest.
- A minimum of 15 1-page entries throughout the process detailing how you write and organize your choreography.
- Research about choreographers that you can draw inspiration from, videos or professional performances you are watching and researching to guide you in your process.
- Self Evaluation. What is working in your process and what isn't?
- Document your rehearsal process.
- A Conclusion summarizing your success and failures.

**Your Paper should include:**

- A formal cover page.
- An introduction, body and conclusion. The introduction should state the intention of the assignment. The body should present your research. The conclusion should reflect on how your two choreographers have inspired you and your work.
- Paper should be 5 pages.
- Please use MLA format. In text citation and works cited are mandatory.

**Performance Criteria**

- Choreographed pieces need to be 3 to 5 minutes in length.
- Performances must occur on site. (The Newman Dance Studio, The Hennessy Theater or The Johnson Theater). Off site requests to choreograph or perform must be included in your proposal and approved by the dance faculty.
- All costumes, set design, and construction of materials must be provided by the student.

Please make an appointment with Gay Nardone or Assaf Benchetrit to discuss and submit your proposal for this project by WEEK 3 of Fall semester.