DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMANCE STUDIES

http://perf.tamu.edu

Head: D. Dox

Graduate Advisor: K. Pullen

Performance studies is an academic discipline that examines relationships between performance and culture. We study traditional art forms such as music, theatre, and dance but also explore a broad range of cultural expression, including rituals, festivals, religious ceremonies, games, parades, storytelling, clothing, folklore, indigenous arts, and the mass media. Those with MA degrees in performance studies may pursue a doctoral degree in the field of performance studies, as well as folklore, theatre, music, dance, communication, and cultural studies. Or, they may teach at the secondary level, work in arts advocacy, for NGOs that specialize in cultural preservation, or in a variety or public humanities positions.

Students in the MA in Performance Studies at Texas A&M University may use performance as research in many of their class projects and for their theses. Many undertake fieldwork or archival research and attend conferences with financial support. All admitted students are offered graduate assistantships for the two years of the program.

Faculty

Ball III, James R, Assistant Professor
Performance Studies
PHD, New York University, 2012

Bustos, Isaac D, Instructional Assistant Professor
Performance Studies
PHD, University of Texas, 2010

Cardoso De Cardoso, Leonardo, Assistant Professor
Performance Studies
PHD, University of Texas at Austin, 2013
MMU, University of Texas at Austin, 2010

Del Campo, Matthew J, Lecturer
Performance Studies
PHD, Florida State University, 2016
MMU, Florida State University, 2012

Dexter, Rayna M, Instructional Assistant Professor
Performance Studies
PHD, Kent State University, 2009

Donkor, David A, Associate Professor
Performance Studies
PHD, Northwestern University, 2008

Dox, Donnalene, Professor
Performance Studies
PHD, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, 1995

Garaiasso, Mariana S, Instructional Assistant Professor
Performance Studies
DOC, University of Texas, 2005

Kattari, Kimberly A, Assistant Professor
Performance Studies
PHD, University of Texas at Austin, 2011
MMU, University of Texas at Austin, 2005

Lieuwen, Peter E, Professor
Performance Studies
PHD, University of California at Santa Barbara, 1984

Morris, Jeffrey M, Associate Professor
Performance Studies
PHD, University of North Texas, 2007

Price, Zachary F, Assistant Professor
Performance Studies
PHD, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2013
MFA, New School University, 2004

Putcha, Rumya S, Assistant Professor
Performance Studies
MFA, University of Chicago, 2011
PHD, University of Chicago, 2011

Regan, Martin P, Associate Professor
Performance Studies
PHD, University of Hawai’i at manoa, 2006

Wilborn, David F, Associate Professor
Performance Studies
DOC, University of Texas, 1994

Masters

• Master of Arts in Performance Studies (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/liberal-arts/performance-studies/ma)

Courses

PERF 600 Graduate Scholarship in Performance Studies
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Overview of history, key issues, and major arguments in performance studies.
Prerequisites: Admission to the MA in Performance Studies or approval of instructor.

PERF 601 Theories of Performance Studies
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Overview of major theories of performance studies and related disciplines; also includes major critical and cultural theories that contribute to the field.
Prerequisites: Admission to the MA in Performance Studies or approval of instructor.

PERF 602 Research Methods in Performance Studies
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Examination and assessment of primary research methods in performance studies; emphasis on post-positivist methods; includes examination of ethical imperatives in research.
Prerequisite: Admission to the MA in Performance Studies or approval of instructor.
PERF 603 Performance, Power, and Identity
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Issues in, and production of, power and identity in expressive culture, examines how forms of power and varieties of social identity shape, and are shaped by, performance.  
Prerequisites: PERF 600 or approval of instructor.

PERF 604 Performing Vernacular Culture
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Examines populist and counter-traditions in expressive culture; emphasis on contemporary cultures of performance and/as practices of everyday life.  
Prerequisites: PERF 600 or approval of instructor.

PERF 605 Globalization and Performance
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Examination of global performances; theoretical and methodological approaches to globalization and/in performance and/as practices of everyday life.  
Prerequisite: Graduate classification.

PERF 606 Performing Gender and Sexuality through Music
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Examination of how gendered and sexual identities are explored and contested through musical performance.  
Prerequisite: Graduate classification.

PERF 607 Performance and Technology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Exploration of the intersection of performance and technology; special emphasis on the impact of technology on aesthetics, social and political formations, and the body.  
Prerequisite: Graduate classification.

PERF 608 Performance and the Art of Government
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Examination of performance in political processes and institutions; using the tools of performance studies to analyze and interpret the work of states and governments.  
Prerequisite: Graduate classification.

PERF 610 Graduate Studies in Dance Research
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Examines key theoretical and methodological issues in dance studies from a performance studies perspective.  
Prerequisite: PERF 602 or approval of instructor.

PERF 611 Religions, Spiritualities, and Performance
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Examines the intricate relationship between religious traditions and performance. Focus on contemporary religious movements.  
Prerequisite: Graduate classification.

PERF 612 Performing Texas
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Explores "Texas" as a set of complex performances that construct specific identities and communities.  
Prerequisite: Graduate classification.

PERF 614 Soundskapes
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Explores sound in social life; sound as performative of identity; sound performance.  
Prerequisite: Graduate classification.

PERF 615 Spectacle and Performance
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Examination of various popular performances as spectacle.  
Prerequisite: Graduate classification.

PERF 616 Sport as Performance
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Explores sport as manifold modes of cultural performance; focus on embodiment, gender, race, nationalism, spectacle, politics, warfare, and media.  
Prerequisite: Graduate classification.

PERF 620 Critical Ethnographic Methods in Performance Studies
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Critical methods in performance ethnography; emphasis on political dimensions of field encounter. May be taken two times for credit.  
Prerequisites: PERF 600; PERF 602.

PERF 621 Graduate Studies in Popular Music Research
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Examination of context, politics, and political economy of specific popular music forms.  
Prerequisite: Graduate classification.

PERF 622 Performance and the Construction of American Identity
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Role of performance in construction of national identity; special emphasis on post-Civil War US.  
Prerequisites: PERF 600, PERF 601, PERF 602, or approval of instructor.

PERF 623 Phenomenology and Music
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Theoretical and methodological potentials of phenomenology in analyses of music; special emphasis on use of phenomenology to examine multiple aspects of music production, including embodiment.  
Prerequisites: PERF 600, PERF 601, PERF 602, or approval of instructor.

PERF 625 Latino/a Expressive Culture
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Explores how issues concerning Latinos, including race and ethnicity, religion, border politics, immigration, the drug war, family, gender and sexuality, and class, are reflected and debated through expressive forms of performance such as theater, comedy music, folklore and performance art.  
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the MA in Performance Studies program or approval of instructor.

PERF 628 American Theatre: Gender on the U.S. Stage
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Focuses on 18th-21st century texts and performers in order to account for transformations in representations as well as lived experiences of gender.  
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the MA in Performance Studies or approval of instructor.

PERF 629 Directed Studies
Credits 1 to 3. 1 to 3 Other Hours.
Directed studies in specific areas of performance studies. Student may take up to two sections of directed studies in the same semester, with a maximum of 6 credits.  
Prerequisites: PERF 600, PERF 601, PERF 602, or approval of instructor.

PERF 685 Directed Studies
Credits 1 to 3. 1 to 3 Other Hours.
Directed studies in specific areas of performance studies. Student may take up to two sections of directed studies in the same semester, with a maximum of 6 credits.  
Prerequisites: PERF 600, PERF 601, PERF 602, or approval of instructor.
PERF 691 Research
Credits 1 to 3. 1 to 3 Other Hours.
Research for thesis.
Prerequisites: Approval of department head.