



UC RIVERSIDE - Faculty Instruction Evaluation (iEval)

Spring 2019

Course: DNCE 244 Section: 001 - SPECIAL TOPICS IN DANCE MAKING
Instructor: Joel Smith

Question # 20: Please comment on how the instructor's teaching helped your learning of the material in this course. Please give serious thought to your comments. Your comments will be studied by the professor after the grade and performance evaluation of your work have been submitted and may be used in changing future offerings of the course. In addition, these comments are placed in the instructor's file and may be used for purposes of evaluating the instructor's teaching. The information collected will remain anonymous.

- Appreciated the time put into individual interests!
- Appreciated the self-designed nature and the well-equipped nature of the course. Course attended to the complex nature of the various materialities of encounter: mobile parts (equipment), moving needs and concepts. In support of that, the professor engaged as artist and technician + opened ability for students to share interests lead all to significant discovery. Appreciated space for "rabbit hole" discovery, learning with or without customary yet still accountable production. Course supports grad development and the fact that study may not occur in a straight line + digital (and artistic) pursuits often need what was offered and valued: individualized time to finetune needs, consider archival goals and methods, capacious research encouragement to try completely new roles and conceptual methods, and the exploration of new or unexplored software/app capacities. Also, it was comfortable being part of/in a new course and course-concept of this reach.
- Professor Joel Smith is a wonderful teacher. He modeled the excellence he wanted from us by creating an amazing video project himself. He was extremely generous with helping us one on one and even shot video of me for my project to create a mini doc. He went that extra mile for us. I enjoyed the innovative hands on model of his class, where we all learned from each other. He created a safe and supportive environment for me to get over my phobia with media, technology and all things digital. His class model supported students who were at different levels. He gave us access to high quality equipment. He has us focus our energies where they are most needed and does away with needless busy work. It was a pleasure to take his class he is a gift.
- I so appreciated having the space to work independently with the support of faculty and colleagues. This course is in many ways what I hoped MFA core courses would look like--having a framework to develop my own practice and a space for discussion, critique, and shared resources. Joel made himself available in ways above and beyond this quarter--supporting students technically and and as a collaborator.
- This was the perfect course for me this quarter. I feel like it has prepared me more for the job market.
- Thank you for giving us the space to experiment. I enjoyed the freedom to try new things and permission to make mistakes/fail. I really appreciated the guidance for formatting our final submissions and would love to have used some similar format to check in throughout the quarter. I feel like I learned a lot from the glimpses I got of my colleagues projects and would like to have had more structure in how we all shared.
- This class was experimental in nature, open-ended in many ways, and a learning experience for everyone. There was trust placed in the graduate students to be diligent in their individual projects that enhanced the reality of each individual's situation. Joel Smith's willingness to go above and beyond to mentor students outside of class time was truly remarkable. His combination of sensitivity and rigor helped us as a class to connect and share in a unique and rare way.