

# College of Performance, Visualization and Fine Arts



## PERF 301 Syllabus

Section 501 (46234)  
Performance in World Cultures  
Spring 2026 - College Station

## Course Information

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**Meeting Times:** Meeting Type: LEC

Meeting Days: MW

Start Time: 4:10PM

End Time: 5:25PM

Start Date: 01/12/2026

End Date: 05/05/2026

**Meeting Location:** HECC 100

**Credit Hours:** 3

## Instructor Details

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Dr. William Connor

**Email:** willconnor@tamu.edu

**Office Location:** LAAH 130

**Phone:** +1 979 326 5151

**Office Hours**

M,W 3-4pm

**Preferred Contact Method**

email

## Catalog Description

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Performance in World Cultures. (3-0). Credit 3. Application of the tools of performance studies to explore the enactment of the arts in world cultures and the ways the people of every society express themselves in performance; examination of different genres of performance through music, theatre, verbal art and dress. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor; PERF-301 also taught at Galveston campus.

## **Course Prerequisites**

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**Prerequisite/Corequisite(s):** Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor; PERF-301 also taught at Galveston campus.

## **Course Learning Outcomes**

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Upon completion of this course, the learner will be able to:

- Define performance in clear, academic terms
- Critically analyze performances to more fully understand their direct and indirect meaning, including cultural and social associations or subtexts.
- Develop skills to diversify perspectives, and relate those perspectives to a variety of situations

### **Additional Learning Outcomes:**

- Hold respectful discussions and discourse on difficult topics.
- Understand self, including personal bias and prejudices.
- Understand how power or authority is distributed within organizational systems, including recognizing potential forms of privilege, oppression, and discrimination.
- Understand, as an overarching goal, how to use and promote informed dialogue to overcome issues dividing, not uniting, individuals and

humankind.

- Understand tolerance and intolerance and have knowledge of when it is appropriate to be intolerant of specific behaviors/activities that violate our core values as people and Aggies.
- Understand how to function effectively in a multicultural and global society.
- Understand conflict from multiple viewpoints.
- Incorporates “Aggie Experience Activities” into the course.
- Incorporates small group discussions into the course.

## Special Course Designation

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KCRA - Core Creative Arts

KUCD - University Required Cultural Discourse

The learning outcomes for PERF301 are designed to meet four Core Creative Arts Learning Objectives:

- **Critical Thinking:** creative thinking; innovation; inquiry; and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information
- **Communication:** effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
- **Teamwork:** ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- **Social Responsibility:** intercultural competence; knowledge of civic responsibility; and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

## Textbook and/or Resource Materials

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This material is: Optional

N/A

**Notes:**

Any required reading or watching will be provided.

## **Grading Policy**

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**Final grades will be administered using a letter grade system as follows:**

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

F = 0-59

### **Grade Breakdown:**

**Class Participation (05%):** Participation in class discussions, completing in-class surveys, and following class rules.

**Group Project Performance Reflection Posts (10%):** Attending class project performances and the submission of reaction discussion posts reflecting the connections observed between the performances attended and course topics. Due by the end of exam week, May 03, 2026, 23:59pm - submitted in .pdf form online via Canvas.

**Analysis Papers (20%):** Two written essay discussions of an approved performance attended, relating it to three different class discussions. Details for writing and submitting the analysis paper will be discussed in class. The first paper will be due 29 Mar, 23:59pm. The second paper will be due 03 May, 23:59 pm. Both papers to be submitted in .pdf format online via Canvas.

**Midterm Exam (10%):** Online exam consisting of 25 multiple-choice questions. The exam may be started any time after it opens and will be timed to be completed in 60 minutes. Exam opens at 09:00 on 04 Mar, 2026 and closes at 23:59 on 04 Mar, 2026.

**Collaborative Project (25%):** A group project (groups assigned by the instructor) that will consist of aspects outlined in class, focusing on involvement in the end-of-term, all-class project presentation. Each group will be expected to , devise a 5-min performance related to their group members that involves something performative and links to class lessons. Furthermore, individuals will be tasked with assessing other groups' performances. All performances will take place during the final week of classes (Week 15 - 20-22 Apr).

**Final Exam (30%):** In-person exam consisting of 50 multiple-choice questions, a portion of which are responses to videos watched as part of the exam. The exam is slated for 15:30-17:30 pm on Friday May 01, 2026 in HECC 100.

## **Late Work Policy**

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Work submitted by a student as makeup work for an excused absence is not considered late work and is exempt from the late work policy ([Student Rule 7](#)).

## **Course Specific Late Work Policy**

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Work received after 23:59 on the day the work is due will be accepted, but penalized 10 points off the overall grade per day late for two days. No late work will be accepted after two days past the due date.

## **Course Schedule**

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**Week 01** (12-16 Jan)

Introduction

What is a Performance?

**Week 02** (21-23 Jan)

Aesthetic and Cultural Performances

Performing Community

**Week 03** (26-30 Jan)

Performing Rites of Passage

Performing Tourism

**Week 04** (02-06 Feb)

Performing Nostalgia

Performing Narratives

**Week 05** (11 Feb only)

**(09 Feb is PVFA Research and Creative Works Day and the instructor is required to attend. Class will not be held on 09 Feb.)**

Performing Aesthetics

**Week 06** (16-20 Feb)

Performing Status

Performing Power

**Week 07** (23-27 Feb)

Performing Belief Systems (part 01)

Performing Social Unrest

**Week 08** (02-04 Mar)

Project Day 01 / Midterm Review

Midterm Exam

**Week 09** (09-13 Mar)–

Spring Break

**Week 10** (16-20 Mar) –

Performing Subcultural Values

Performing Make Believe

**Week 11** (23-27 Mar) –

Performing Spirituality

Project Day 02

**Week 12** (30 Mar-01 Apr)

Performing Seasons

Performing Ecology

**Week 13** (06-10 Apr) –

Performing Solidarity

Performing Protest

**Week 14** (13-17 Apr) –

Performing Belief Systems (part 02)

Performing Cultural Preservation

**Week 15** (20-24 Apr)

Project Presentations

**Final Day of Classes** (27 Apr) –

Review

**Final exam** - In-person Friday 01 May, 15:00-17:30 HECC  
100

## **Additional Course Information**

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### **Group Project Performance Reflections:**

End-of-term group performances will be held during the final week of the semester. Student are required to attend all performances. A discussion response for each performance should be posted on Canvas by the end of exam week (03 May, 2026 23:59). Reflections should consist of 1-2 paragraphs and contain at least two points relating the performance to class lessons.

### **Performance Reflection Grading as Follows:**

Each student should write nine (9) performance responses posted reflecting a relationship to class topics. For completing that task in full: 100  
For each post that does not reflect a relationship to class, ten points (10) will be deducted from the overall score for the assignment. For any missing responses, ten points (10) will be deducted from the overall score for the assignment. 0 performance responses posted: 0

### **Analysis Paper Details:**

Students should attend two entertainment-based performances outside of the group performances and these should be used for writing two

analysis paper. The papers should recall how the event relates to the course material and should not simply recount the event.

- Paper submission 01 is due on 29 Mar, 2026, 23:59.
- Paper submission 02 is due on 03 May, 2026 23:59
- ~500-700 words, double-spaced, font size 12pt or higher
- Paragraphs **MUST BE** at least 4 sentences, indented paragraphs, no space between paragraphs
- International Academic English standards (no slang, contraction, use of conjunctions at the beginning of sentences, et cetera)
- Include a title and author, but no abstract necessary for this course
- Include any relevant dates, places, times, artist names, et cetera, as related to the performance being addressed
- Is to be submitted via Canvas in the assignment submission file tab prior to the due date (see above)
- The paper should be submitted in .pdf format
- Name file with course number, contents of paper, student name, and student ID number (eg. "PERF 301 Analysis Paper 01 Carl Pants 713413471")
- No full citations needed, but please reference academic material in text - mention where you got any information you did not write...DON'T Plagiarize!!! (See below) (eg. "Thompson says in her 1997 book..." or "not all pigeons carry leprosy (Bamburg, 2002)...")
- Wikipedia is NOT a valid source
- **Do not use AI for any part of this paper.** Any use of AI will result in failure as well as being reported to the Aggie Honors Office.



## Collaboration Project Details:

- Students will be put into groups during the third day of class.
- The term project will be assigned in class following the group formation. Submissions of a group project proposal will be due on 11 Feb, 2026.
- Presentation will vary depending on the specific project, however, expect a performative project that will be approximately at least 5 minutes in length.
- Project types will be discussed in class. Each project will have a research component, a creative component, and a performance component.
- All projects will be presented between 20-22 Apr, 2026.
- Groups will be 4-5 people each and will be determined by the teacher.
- All groups will have a separate group page on Canvas via the main PERF 301 page
- All group members must be directly involved
- All group members must be enrolled in PERF 301
- You may use a serious academic tone, but humor is also appreciated.
- No full citations needed, but please reference academic material - mention where you got any information that is not your own... (see writing details above)

## AI Statement

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AI is not to be used under any circumstances in this course. If AI is found to be used for any project, paper, homework, or anything else related to class work or administration, the student will immediately receive a failing score

for the course and an official investigation will be filed with the Aggie Honors Office.

## Technology Support

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### Technology Services (IT) - Main Campus

Hours: 24/7

Phone: (979) 845-8300

Email: [helpdesk@tamu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamu.edu)

Call/Chat/Email/visit: <https://it.tamu.edu/help>

### Canvas LMS Technical Support

Hours: 24/7/365

Phone: (877) 354-4821

Email: [support@instructure.com](mailto:support@instructure.com)

Support is available by clicking the Help button at the far left in the Canvas global navigation menu.

Canvas Resources are also linked on the home page of every Canvas course.

## University Policies

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This section outlines the university-level policies that must be included in each course syllabus. The TAMU Faculty Advisory Council established the wording of these policies.

## Academic Integrity Statement and Policy

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*"An Aggie does not lie, cheat or steal, or tolerate those who do."*

"Texas A&M University students are responsible for authenticating all work submitted to an instructor. If asked, students must be able to produce proof that the item submitted is indeed the work of that student. Students must keep appropriate records at all times. The inability to authenticate one's work, should

the instructor request it, may be sufficient grounds to initiate an academic misconduct case” (Section 20.1.2.3, [Student Rule 20](#)).

You can learn more about the Aggie Honor System Office Rules and Procedures, academic integrity, and your rights and responsibilities at [aggiehonor.tamu.edu](http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu).

## University Attendance Policy

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The university views class attendance and participation as an individual student responsibility. Students are expected to attend class and to complete all assignments.

Please refer to [Student Rule 7](#) in its entirety for information about excused absences, including definitions, and related documentation and timelines.

## Course Specific Attendance Policy

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Students are allowed two unexcused absences for this course. Any absences beyond the initial two unexcused absences will result in five (5) points being removed from the student’s final grade per day absent (see chart below). For example: a student who has 0-2 unexcused absences will have no points removed from their final grade, but a student who has 5 unexcused absences cannot make any higher than an 85 (even if they have a perfect score in the course to that point –  $100 - (5\text{pts} \times (5-2)\text{ absences}) = 100-15 = 85$ ). **Points removed from a student’s final grade as a result of unexcused absences cannot be made up.**

Table to calculate grade deduction based on number of unexcused absences

Number of (unexcused) Absences	Deduction	Final Number Grade (from 100)	Final Letter Grade (from 100)
1	0	100	A
2	0	100	A
3	5	95	A

4	10	90	A
5	15	85	B
6	20	80	B
7	25	75	C
8	30	70	C
9	35	65	D
10	40	60	D
11+	45+	55 or less	F

Attendance for group project presentations is mandatory and holds extra penalties for unexcused absences. Missing a day of the presentations will result in an additional five (5) point reduction in your final grade. Missing a group's performance will result in a zero for your group project score. Penalties from these unexcused absences cannot be made up.

## **Makeup Work Policy**

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Students will be excused from attending class on the day of a graded activity or when attendance contributes to a student's grade, for the reasons stated in Student Rule 7, or other reason deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Please refer to [Student Rule 7](#) in its entirety for information about makeup work, including definitions, and related documentation and timelines.

Absences related to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 may necessitate a period of more than 30 days for make-up work, and the timeframe for make-up work should be agreed upon by the student and instructor" ([Student Rule 7, Section 7.4.1](#)).

"The instructor is under no obligation to provide an opportunity for the student to make up work missed because of an unexcused absence" ([Student Rule 7, Section 7.4.2](#)).

Students who request an excused absence are expected to uphold the Aggie Honor Code and Student Conduct Code. ([See Student Rule 24.](#))

## **Notice of Nondiscrimination**

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Texas A&M University is committed to providing safe and non-discriminatory learning, living, and work environments for all members of the University community. The University provides equal opportunity to all employees, students, applicants for employment or admission, and the public, regardless of race, color, sex (including pregnancy and related conditions), religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status.

Texas A&M University will promptly, thoroughly, and fairly investigate and resolve all complaints of discrimination, harassment (including sexual harassment), complicity, and related retaliation based on a protected class in accordance with [System Regulation 08.01.01](#), [University Rule 08.01.01.M1](#), [Standard Administrative Procedure \(SAP\) 08.01.01.M1.01](#), and applicable federal and state laws. In accordance with Title IX and its implementing regulations, Texas A&M does not discriminate on the basis of sex in any educational program or activity, including admissions and employment.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries and complaints regarding the non-discrimination policies: Jennifer M. Smith, TAMU Associate VP & Title IX Coordinator at YMCA Ste 108, College Station, TX 77843, 979-458-8407, or email [civilrights@tamu.edu](mailto:civilrights@tamu.edu). For other reporting options, visit the [U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights Complaint Assessment System](#) to locate the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

## **Civil Rights, Free Speech, and Title IX Policies**

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Texas A&M University is committed to fostering a learning environment that is safe and productive for all. University policies and federal and state laws prohibit discrimination and harassment based on an individual's race, color, sex, (including pregnancy and related conditions), religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic

information, veteran status, or any other legally protected characteristic. This includes forms of sex-based violence, such as sexual assault, sexual harassment, sexual exploitation, dating/domestic violence, and stalking.

Students can report discrimination/harassment, access supportive resources, or learn more about their options for resolving complaints on the [University's Civil Rights & Title IX webpage](#).

Students should be aware that all university employees (except medical or mental health providers) are mandatory reporters, which means that if they observe, experience or become aware of an incident that they reasonably believe to be discrimination/harassment alleged to have been committed by or against a person who was a student or employee at the time of the incident, the employee must report the incident to the university.

## **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy**

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Texas A&M University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability or think you may have a disability, please contact the Disability Resources office on your campus (resources listed below). Disabilities may include, but are not limited to, attentional, learning, mental health, sensory, physical, or chronic health conditions. All students are encouraged to discuss their disability-related needs with Disability Resources and their instructors as soon as possible.

To request academic accommodations, contact the designated ADA office based on your location:

- Texas A&M University, College of Nursing, College of Dentistry, Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy College Station, College of Medicine, School of Public Health, Institute of Biosciences and Technology, EnMed Program, Bush School in Washington DC, Mays Business School – CityCentre, TAMU Engineering Academies, Texas A&M University Higher Education Center at McAllen and Texas A&M University at Galveston should contact Disability Resources at (979) 845-1637 or [disability@tamu.edu](mailto:disability@tamu.edu).

- Texas A&M University School of Law should contact the Office of Student Affairs at (817) 212-4111 or [law-disability@law.tamu.edu](mailto:law-disability@law.tamu.edu) to request accommodations.
- Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy in Kingsville should contact the Disability Resource Center at Texas A&M University-Kingsville at (361) 593-3024 or [drc.center@tamuk.edu](mailto:drc.center@tamuk.edu) to request accommodations.
- Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences in Canyon should contact the Office of Student Accessibility at West Texas A&M University – Canyon at (806) 651-2335 or [osa@wtamu.edu](mailto:osa@wtamu.edu).

If you are experiencing difficulties with your approved accommodations, contact the office responsible for approving your accommodations or the Texas A&M ADA Coordinator Julie Kuder at [ADA.Coordinator@tamu.edu](mailto:ADA.Coordinator@tamu.edu) or (979) 458-8407.

## **Pregnancy Accommodations**

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Texas A&M provides reasonable accommodations to students due to pregnancy and/or related conditions, such as childbirth, recovery, and lactation. Students should contact the University's [Pregnancy Coordinator](#) as soon as they become aware of the need for accommodation. Depending on the circumstances, accommodations could include extended time to complete assignments or exams, changes in course sequence, or modifications to the physical classroom environment.

Texas A&M will also allow a voluntary leave of absence, ensure the availability of lactation space, and maintain grievance procedures to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints of sex discrimination. For information regarding pregnancy accommodations, email [TIX.Pregnancy@tamu.edu](mailto:TIX.Pregnancy@tamu.edu).

## **Statement on Mental Health and Wellness**

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Texas A&M University recognizes that mental health and wellness are critical factors influencing a student's academic success and overall wellbeing. Students are encouraged to engage in healthy self-care practices by utilizing the resources

and services available through [University Health Services](#). The [TELUS Health Student Support app](#) provides access to professional counseling in multiple languages anytime, anywhere by phone or chat, and the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline offers 24-hour emergency support at 988 or [988lifeline.org](#).

## **Texas A&M College Station**

Students needing a listening ear can contact University Health Services at 979.458.4584. Call 911 or visit your nearest emergency room if you are currently experiencing a life-threatening situation or if your safety is at risk. 24-hour emergency help is also available through the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (988) or at [988lifeline.org](#).

## **Statement on the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)**

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FERPA is a federal law designed to protect the privacy of educational records by limiting access to these records, to establish the right of students to inspect and review their educational records, and to provide guidelines for the correction of inaccurate and misleading data through informal and formal hearings.

Currently enrolled students wishing to withhold any or all directory information items can do so within [howdy.tamu.edu](#) using the Directory Information Withholding Form. The complete [FERPA Notice to Students](#) and the student records policy is available on the Office of the Registrar webpage.

Items that can never be identified as public information are a student's social security number, citizenship, gender, grades, GPR, or class schedule. All efforts will be made in this class to protect your privacy and to ensure confidential treatment of information associated with or generated by your participation in the class.

Directory items include name, UIN, local address, permanent address, email address, local telephone number, permanent telephone number, dates of attendance, program of study (college, major, campus), classification, previous institutions attended, degrees, honors and awards received, participation in



officially recognized activities and sports, medical residence location, and medical residence specialization.

## **Free Speech and Civil Discourse**

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Texas A&M recognizes that the pursuit of truth through open and robust discourse is critical to academic inquiry. However, as a community of scholars, the university has an aspirational expectation that such discourse will be conducted in accordance with Aggie Core Values. In this “marketplace of ideas,” we encourage civil dialogue creating an environment that allows individuals to express their ideas and to have their ideas challenged in respectful and responsible ways. Students can learn more about Freedom of Expression and Free Speech on the [University's website](#) about the First Amendment.