

Fall 2021

JNST 000L

Modern Dance

Wed. 6:00-8:50pm

Prof. Julie Townsend

Modern Dance emerged in the late-19<sup>th</sup> and early-20<sup>th</sup> century as a challenge to the “high art” of ballet. An art form without a single codified technique, Modern Dance has included collective and improvisational movement, experimental practices, activism, and cults of personality. In this course, we will explore the history of Modern Dance, the aesthetic questions that drive this art form, and the ways in which Modern Dance might be read as an intervention in socio-political-cultural issues. We will draw upon video, photography, historical writing, and theoretical texts to help us understand ways of telling the story of Modern Dance. In some instances, we will engage with movement practices to develop kinesthetic experience and learning as part of our work. No dance experience or prior knowledge of dance history is required for this course.