Dance Majors will take every opportunity to attend a live dance performance that is presented on campus. They will write a brief synopsis, no longer than one page, of the concert and the insights they gained as an artist, dancer, choreographer and teacher.

Please consider the following questions to assist you:

(Questions taken from: “Dance Composition, a practical guide to creative success in dance making.” Jacqueline M. Smith-Autard)

- Did the dance seem significant and worth watching, or was it obscure and meaningless?
- Did the dance have continuity? Did it sustain interest throughout or were there some weak parts?
- Was every part of the dance essential to the whole?
- Was the style of dance clearly established and then maintained throughout?
- Was there enough depth and variety in the material content or was it too simple, naïve and predictable?
- Was the construction of the dance seen to have unity through its rhythmic structure?
- Was the choice of music – or other stimulus for accompaniment- suitable for the theme of the dance?
- Was the dance constructed with an understanding of the stimulus?
- Were the movement images translatable?
- Did the form aid understanding of the underlying theme?
- Was the idea easily perceived or did the onlooker have to search intently to find meaning, and indeed, perhaps read into it that which was not meant to be?
- Is the communication based on an individual distillation of expression or a hackneyed set of clichés?
- Did the choreographer choose the ‘right’ movements in relation to the idea?
- Was there a width of movement content which created variety and interest?
- Was there balance of action, qualitative, space relationship emphasis or too much concentration on any one?
- Were the movements easily discernable as symbolic or representative of meaningful communication?
- Was there enough qualitative or dynamic variation in the dance?
- Were the motifs apparent and foundational to the rest of the content of the dance?
- Was there enough repetition to establish the meanings in the chosen movements or was repetition overstressed?
- Did the dance utilize variety and contrast in the best and most appropriate ways, or was contrast just put in for its own sake without due reference to the total meaning?
- How did the climax or highlights emerge? Were they apparent or forceful enough?
• Did the transitions merge into and become part of the whole and were they effectively employed as links between parts?
• Was the dance coherent in style?
• Is the dance relevant in today’s dance context?
• Were they performers able to present the style with sufficient clarity?
• Were the performers sincere and involved in the rendering?
• Did the performers make real the images and movement content?
• Were the lighting, costuming, props and staging elements relevant to the idea?
• What feeling and emotions did you as an audience member experience?
• What insights or questions have you gained from this viewing experience?