AADS 1001.01 Capoeira: The African-Brazilian Dance of Deception
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Sunday, 2:30-4:30pm (six 2-hour sessions: 1/15, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/19, 3/26; one 3-hour session: 4/2, 2:30-5:30pm)

Course Description
Capoeira is an African-Brazilian Art form that embodies self-defense, music, culture, and history. For more than 50 years, Capoeira has been taught by Mestres (Masters) across America. Known as the “Dance of Deception,” Capoeira is a fun interactive way to learn not just a Martial Art but also a way of life. In this course, we will explore the history and practice of this art form from its origins in Africa to its importation with the forced migration of African captives to Brazil. We will also learn phrases and songs in Brazilian Portuguese, and discuss, build and play the musical accompaniments to Capoeira, namely the Berimbau. The course will have invited lectures by various Vanderbilt-affiliated faculty/students.

Class set up, Learning Objective
Typical Class is approx. 30-40 min discussion/lecture on history/culture of Capoeira; 30 min on music and building/playing the Berimbau and other instruments used in Capoeira; 15 minute break; 15-30 min learning Portuguese language; 50 minutes learning movements used in Capoeira; and 15 min for playing in Roda (Capoeira Circle).

Attendance and participation:
Classes will be held on Sundays from 2:30pm-4:30pm and include breaks. The last class, which will be the final performance, will be 3 hours. Attendance and full participation is required.

The Final Day: (750-1000 words) in which you will have the opportunity to reflect on the experience of the class, and a performance (language and Roda) will be conducted bring all movement, song, instrument playing, and Axe together.

Attire:
Participants should dress in comfortable clothing, either sweats or some other athletic attire. Oftentimes, and is suggested, no shoes or socks be worn. Please bring a drink, a snack, and a small towel. Capoeira is for everyone. It is a workout, so if you have a physical challenge you should contact the instructor.

Evaluation
The instructor will evaluate students on five areas:
(1) Attendance 20% mental and physical presence in the class (see more on attendance & participation above),
(2) Participation 35% having read required section of text, hand-outs or video assignment, as well as movement, trying to play new instruments, and songs,
(3) Written 15% short final paper (750-1000 words) covering your journey to Capoeira (more above),
(4) Oral 10% language and songs learned, and
(5) Performance 20% the final Roda.

REQUIRED READINGS: