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Social media platforms as educational interfaces

A Case Study in Dance in Higher Education

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Context: Bringing History To Life

Module: *Theoretical Concepts in Dance*: analysis of historical and contemporary choreographic work

Learning methods: Lectures, seminars, viewings of dance works, reconstructions

Rationale: Pedagogical link between history, professional practice, and student as choreographer

Reconstruction as a method to bridge the gap between lecture/seminar and studio learning



Dance History and Social Media

Multimedia 'bulletin boards' to support reconstruction work

social media platforms: padlet, pinterest

Accessed by students before and/or after taught sessions as an additional learning method

Social media platforms as alternative educational interfaces to VLEs



Aims of the Project

explore the use of social media platforms as alternative educational interfaces to the VLE

collate useful online resources in my subject area

help students to recognise reliable online source materials





Multimedia Bulletin Boards



Emerging Themes: Autonomy

‘...I think we feel we’re getting the choice to look at, I mean, obviously we all learn in different ways, and I think giving us a variety of sources to look at, we can pick out which we think we’re going to learn the most from, rather than being like read this essay, and I don’t really work well with essays, so when I read them only little bits go in, so I can fill in the gaps with other sources.’



Emerging Themes: Visuality and Functionality

‘It looks more interesting. You look at it and think ‘Oh I’ll just look at that’ or ‘I might look at that’ instead of reading.’

‘Yeah and you can see the structure of different sources, so you can just pick something in between lectures of something you can just go on that and read it and stuff, or look at it, its a lot quicker or easier if you know what I mean.’

‘If you went on the VLE you don’t, when you click on it you don’t know if it’s going to be a 200 page thing or if it’s going to be some pictures, you don’t know what it’s going to be...’





Potential Developments: Students as co-creators of learning resources

Content sharing amongst students
Opportunities for discussion
Videos of class work



Development

Use of tumblr blogs with the same cohort on the third year
module *Choreography 3: Experiments in Performance*

Enhances: discussion, content sharing and critical reflection





Any Questions?

