

First Half of Major:

Annotated Bibliography

Relevant Course Texts:

Almog, Joseph. *What Am I?: Descartes and the Mind-Body Problem*. Oxford University Press, Oxford 2002. This text was extremely important for situation the mind and body when understanding human wellness

Daniel, *Dancing Wisdom*. *Dancing Wisdom* is written by a scholar with the intersections of dance and anthropology. Daniel is professor of dance and Afro-American studies at Smith College in Massachusetts. In her book, *Dancing Wisdom*, she explores three African-derived religious systems from the Caribbean Basin and northeast part of South America. In the study of these three cultural groups, Daniel focuses on the reliance on dance in their religious belief systems. In her work Daniel advocates for “the misunderstood and oppressed performative dances in terms of physiology, psychology, philosophy, mathematics, ethics, and aesthetics,” validating the nature of these practices as religious study. Daniel’s work is interesting because she uses a lot of terms, like “belief,” and “prayer,” meaning she is likely viewing these religious groups from the WRP. I think this book will be important to my paper because it is an interesting perspective. In this work, Daniel is centering dance in african-derived religions. This perspective is also interesting because she is looking at three different religions in comparison!

Covington-Ward, Yolanda, and Jeanette S. Jouili, eds. *Embodying Black Religions in Africa and Its Diasporas*. Duke University Press, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctv1txdg9n>. Dr. Jeanette Jouili is currently an associate professor of religion at Syracuse University. Her research focuses on Muslim communities in contemporary Europe where she has conducted ethnographic fieldwork for two decades. In their book “*Embodying Black Religions in Africa and Its Diasporas*,” the two examine embodied practices, ways of knowing, and spiritualities In Africa and its Diasporas. The book lays out a multitude of different examples of the importance of embodiment in African and diaspora cultural groups. Like in her previous group, Covington-Ward and in this book, her partner Jouili calls for religious scholars to exert more attention to the study of the bodily practices and embodiment in African and African-diaspora religions. Again the scholars are both outsiders from these religious traditions, but both approach this research from an anthropological, participant observation, approach.

Csordas, Thomas. *Embodiment and Experience: The Existential Ground of Culture and Self*. Cambridge University Press, London 1994. This philosophical text introduces the body as a living being, that informs our self-knowing through a subjective point of view.

Fogel, Alan. *Developing through Relationships : Origins of Communication, Self, and Culture*. New York, Harvester Wheatsheaf, 1993. This particular text introduces the idea of

communication occurring through relationships, both verbal and nonverbal, forms our idea of the “Self” and cognitive processing of the self.

Green, Doris. “Traditional Dance in Africa.” *African Dance: An Artistic, Historical and Philosophical Inquiry*, Africa World Press and Red Sea Press, Trenton 1995. This text furthered my understanding of different types of dance in Africa and how dance can operate to hold knowledge of a community. This was important for me to understand the importance of moving together in building community.

Hinde, Robert A. *Relationships: A Dialectical Perspective*. Psychology Press, 28 Jan. 2015. This important text demonstrates how humans are constantly shaping each other’s way of living and understanding our “Self” through the relationships we keep. This was important for me to understand the importance of community in building well-being.

Kwashie Kuwor, Sylvanus. “Understanding African Dance in Context: Perspectives from Ghana.” *Africology: The Journal of Pan African Studies*, vol. 10, no. 4, 2017.

*Important for understanding a cultural philosophy that is centered around moving the body. In this text I learned how dance can be rooted in learning how a culture operates. This was important for me to understand the importance of the body in culture forming.

Ruthellen Josselson. *The Space between Us : Exploring the Dimensions of Human Relationships*. Thousand Oaks, Ca, Sage Publications, 1996. Foundational text for understanding how humans are shaped cognitively by humans that we regularly interact with...important for understanding community in building well-being

Senior Project Texts found on ‘Class Structure’ Page