Final Project

The final assignment for this course is to write a 10-page paper analyzing a particular piece of choreography, dance film, or dance event (social dance or dance training) through the lens of gender. In your paper, you should consider your own ideas, as well as, the ideas of others, and through navigating layers of arguments and counterarguments, come to some conclusions. Thus, this assignment is part exam (can you pull forth the most relevant arguments from the course materials to address your topic?) and part essay (can you synthesize those arguments with your own ideas to provide a cogent point of view?). Your paper must cite relevant arguments gathered from your readings this semester. This project is your opportunity to synthesize your learning from the semester (this is why I’ve been encouraging you to take notes throughout the course). You should also do some additional research to see what others have written about your specific topic. The paper is due May 5 and it is worth 30% of your grade.

In your paper, be sure to:

- Cite the most relevant theories from course readings
- Address counterarguments to your arguments
- Engage in dance analysis (looking at the kinds of parameters we identified early in the course – e.g. use of space, movement quality, relationships between dancers, relationship to the music, etc.)
- Support your analysis with description of specific aspects of and/or moments in the dancing
- Come up with a sense of the big picture (rather than just making arguments about small moments here and there)

Due: Monday May 5 in class (bring 8 printed copies)
Length: 10 pages (or a bit longer if needed)