

Melissa Stonehouse

Feedback on coursework provided by Professor Paul Dowling

***Critical Review***

The review has been carried out with a good deal of enthusiasm, the candidate looking beyond the review article to an earlier article in which the attitude scale that is used was originally developed. A number of relevant points are made about the articles, including questioning the time lapse between them and the increase in the media profile of dance in the interim. The measurement of social class is also problematized and some of the criticisms of exploratory factor analysis are mentioned. The review also notes that the implications for the curriculum that are identified in the paper do not seem to derive legitimately from the research. The criticism that the researcher's scale lacks validity is slightly misplaced as the scale itself was generated empirically rather than deductively from a research question; the problem is rather with the way in which the research is presented.

***Research Proposal***

The discussion of research raises relevant methodological issues, though without going very far in engaging the arguments that are presented in their own terms. The proposal itself has clearly been well thought out and evidences a good level of understanding of research methodology, including some of the nuances in approaches to phenomenological research.