

## **DSC 295 (001) Special Topics: Data for Dancers**

Tuesdays 1:55-2:45 pm, Carmichael Gym 2307

1 credit hour

Instructor: Layla El-Khoury

Description: An introduction to principles of communicating data through dance. Students will break down data from research or an area of interest to focus on the “why” and “so what”, and communicate their findings to an audience through movement and choreographic devices. Students will create and perform a duet or small group movement study based on their data investigation of interest. Dance experience is not required but recommended.

Layla El-Khoury is a PhD student in the Biological & Agricultural Department where she previously received her BS and MS in Biological Engineering. Layla has been dancing since she was three and began teaching and choreographing in 2016, serving on faculty at a local dance studio. She has been a member of the State Dance Company (SDC) since fall 2021. Through SDC she has had the opportunity to merge her research with dance, developing new techniques for communicating STEM concepts and research to those outside the field, making education more accessible and engaging. She has choreographed two pieces, [Force of Flows](#) (fall 2021) about streambank erosion and [Is there away?](#) (fall 2023) about plastics and microplastics in our streams. She submitted *Force of Flows* to the [Dance your PhD](#) contest where it won the physics category. Last fall Layla was a guest lecturer in a dance composition class where she paired the dancers with graduate students. The dancers in the class created solos/duets based on graduate research. During the Arts NC State’s “Arts and Your Major” series last fall, Layla led a session about [using dance to explain STEM research](#).

Contact Layla El-Khoury ([lcelkhou@ncsu.edu](mailto:lcelkhou@ncsu.edu)) with questions.