

**Freshmen Seminar Program
Course Proposal**

**BODY OF KNOWLEDGE
With Professor Petry, Department of Dance**

April 2016

Biography of Susan Van Pelt Petry

Susan Petry is Professor in the Department of Dance, and is a choreographer and performer. Her research is focused on developing solo dance theatre work, incorporating text, movement, and music. In addition, she works with ensemble groups often exploring deep musical alignments. Professor Petry was been teaching for over thirty years in courses for dance majors as well as general education dance history. In 2016 she was awarded the OhioDance Outstanding Contributions to Dance in Education award, and in 2013 the Greater Columbus Arts Council awarded her the Ray Hanley Artistic Excellence award. Susan has taught in many colleges and universities, summer dance festivals, and in K-12 residencies. She has also taught yoga, and is a lifelong student of several movement practices as well as poetry writing. Petry was chair of the Department of Dance for nine years, and in 2016 is returning to teaching and choreography.