

COURSE OUTLINE

DANC-150 Dance Improvisation 3 Credits

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

This course will provide students with guided exploration in the elements of dance for the creative development of personal movement repertoire, spontaneous group interaction, and choreographic and movement observation skills. It emphasizes the exploration of movement through spur-of-the-moment problem solving and creative risk-taking. This course is designed to evoke the student's creative individuality and sense of ensemble. It may also include weight-sharing and contact improvisation. Prerequisite: DANC-100 or DANC-140 or DANC-160 or DANC-170 or DANC-192. (3 hours weekly)

Overall Course Objectives

1. Demonstrate abilities in leadership, following, and democratic group decision-making
2. Sense physically, sentiently, and personally the neuromuscular logic of the body and address the specific quirks, strengths, weaknesses and preferences of one's own body
3. Acknowledge and disregard one's own preconceived notions of what dance/movement "should" be like according to a previous sense of intellectual logic or form
4. Develop the skill of following a movement/movement idea as it applies to direction, form, energy, dimension, texture, shape, tempo/rhythm focus and/or feeling
5. Communicate motionally, without need for verbal cues, to another mover and/or group and sense the motion and intention of another mover and/or group
6. Develop the ability to maintain the improvisational process while performing in front of an audience
7. Exhibit the fortitude and stamina to follow through the process (obstacle/problem solving/goal) without backing away from the challenge
8. Become motionally inventive
9. Select and recall improvised movement for the purposes of creating choreography
10. Explain and embody basic concepts of weight-sharing and contact improvisation

Major Topics

- I. Guided Improvisation
- II. Authentic Movement
- III. Solo, Duet and Group Movement Explorations
- IV. Improvisation Theory
- V. Self-discovery and Assessment through Journaling
- VI. Weight-Sharing and Contact Improvisation
- VII. Developing Choreographic Phrases from Improvisation

Course Requirements

Grading/exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty. Demonstration of course objectives through in-class dance presentations will determine the final grades.

Other Course Information

This course is used to fulfill the requirements for Dance Performance majors and serves as an Arts & Sciences, Fine Arts and Humanities elective. Participation is required to master course objectives.