

COURSE OUTLINE

DANC-286 Modern Dance III 2 Semester Hours

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

This course is a continuation of DANC-187, Modern Dance II, at a higher level of proficiency. A continued study of modern dance technique on an intermediate level with emphasis on expanded movement vocabulary involving sequences of greater complexity—kinesthetically, spatially and musically. Course work continues study of various modern dance theories, history and improvisation. Prerequisite: DANC-187. (3 hours weekly)

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate at an intermediate level an understanding of modern dance vocabulary by participating in class discussions and passing written assignments.
2. Satisfactorily pass practicum examinations demonstrating technical proficiency in performance of movement sequences.
3. Demonstrate an intermediate understanding of rhythmic patterns and phrasing.
4. Articulate key historical events/elements in post-modern dance.
5. Communicate in a written critical analysis a dance concert.
6. Identify and develop improvisation as a source of movement invention.

Major Topics

- I. Enhanced familiarity with modern dance vocabulary
- II. Continued history of post-modern dance
- III. Require students to identify different choreographic styles
- IV. Study of modern dance criticism
- V. Improvisational movement skills
- VI. Warm-up and center exercises as follows:
Warm-up exercises including:
 1. Exercises utilizing inward and outward rotation to motivate movement as well as to support dynamic alignment
 2. Isolation of body parts
 3. Sequencing exercises which focus on coordination of body parts
 4. Stretches and exercises designed to develop muscular control
 5. Exercises designed to encourage dynamic alignment through proper support (breath, rotational, etc.)
 6. Exercises moving from sitting or lying on the floor to standing

Center floor work including:

1. Study of movement suspension
2. Falls and recoveries
3. Exercises focusing on shift of weight and change of level
4. Combinations of movements which travel across the space, as well as combinations which remain in one place
5. Exercises focusing on breath and rotational support of movement phrasing
6. Combinations of movements designed to emphasize phrasing and dynamic range
7. Combinations of movements designed to explore the role of breath in dynamic alignment and performance
8. Movement sequences designed to balance off the vertical axis
9. Movement sequences designed to encourage personal expressiveness and provide opportunities for individual choice-making
10. Movement sequences encouraging the students to present a world view set by a specific choreographic style

Course Requirements

Grading/exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include:

- Grading: Criteria for evaluation is mastery of major topics as demonstrated through:
 - Daily active participation 70%
 - Practicum examinations 15%
 - Written assignment(s)/examination(s) 15%
- Completion of assignment(s) and practicum/final examination(s)
- Attendance at an area performance

Writing: May include a paper or papers assigned by the individual faculty member.

Other Course Information

This course may be used as a Dance elective, Fine Arts elective, Humanities elective and an Arts and Science elective. This course will be used to fulfill the requirements for Dance majors.