

Montgomery County Community College  
 DAN 151  
 Dance Improvisation  
 3-1-2

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is designed to help students discover and develop their creative movement potential. Through guided movement exercises, the class will explore the basic movement elements of space, time, weight, and flow and the spontaneous use of movement through structured improvisations derived from movement concepts, games, imagery, media sources, chance procedures, and various improvisational practices. This course meets General Education Core Goal 7: Aesthetic Sensibility and the Arts.

**REQUISITES:***Previous Course Requirements*

- \* Students must have successfully completed or tested out of REA 011 Fundamentals of College Reading or REA 017 Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension Development II
- \* Students must have successfully completed or tested out of ESL 010 Basic Writing I or ENG 010A Basic Writing I

*Concurrent Course Requirements*

None

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Spontaneously generate movement material which explores and expands the student's expressive range. (Core Goal 7.1)	Movement Activities Lecture/Discussion Assigned Readings AV/Multimedia Materials Journaling	Movement Activities Student Presentations Reflection Paper
2. Perform in-class improvisations alone, with a partner, and in a group with confidence and commitment to the movement. (Core Goal 7.1)	Movement Activities Lecture/Discussion Assigned Readings AV/Multimedia Materials Journaling	Movement Activities Student Presentations Reflection Paper
3. Use visual images to generate movement. (Core Goal 7.2)	Movement Activities Movement Activities Lecture/Discussion Assigned Readings AV/Multimedia Materials	Movement Activities Movement Activities Student Presentations

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
4. Create movement studies using chance operations. (Core Goal 7.2)	Movement Activities Lecture/Discussion Assigned Readings	Movement Activities Student Presentations
5. Articulate issues in movement improvisation verbally and in writing. (Core Goal 7.1 and 7.2)	Movement Activities Lecture/Discussion Assigned Readings AV/Multimedia Materials Journaling Reflection Paper	Discussion Journaling Reflection Paper
6. Create movement scores which will be used as structures for improvisation. (Core Goal 7.2)	Movement Activities Lecture/Discussion Assigned Readings AV/Multimedia Materials	Movement Activities Student Presentations
7. Create structures for group improvisation. (Core Goal 7.1 and 7.2)	Movement Activities Lecture/Discussion Assigned Readings AV/Multimedia Materials	Movement Activities Journaling Reflection Paper Student Presentations

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria.*

#### SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

1. Preliminaries – Introduction to Improvising
2. Inner Sensing/Imagery
3. Working with Space
  - a. Pathways
  - b. Body shapes
4. Energy Qualities/Effort Factors
  - a. Time
  - b. Force
  - c. Flow
5. Contact Improvisation
  - a. Working with physical contact
  - b. Weight sharing – counter tension
  - c. Weight sharing – counterbalance
  - d. Lifts & rolls
  - e. Improvising & weight sharing with a partner

6. Chance Procedures
7. Movement Scores
8. Authentic Movement
9. Group Process in Improvisation

**LEARNING MATERIALS:**

Nachmanovitch, Stephen. (1990). *Freeplay: The Power of Improvisation in Life and the Arts*. New York: Jeremy P. Tarcher/Perigee.

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

**COURSE APPROVAL:**

Prepared by: Dr. Melinda Copel	Date: 2/10/2008
Revised by: Dr. Melinda Copel	Date: 11/30/2010
Interim VPAA/Provost Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 2/23/2011
Revised by: Dr. Melinda Copel	Date: 6/21/2012
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 8/27/2012
Revised by: Dr. Melinda Copel	Date: 7/2013
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 7/29/2013
Revised by: Melinda Copel	Date: 7/14/2017
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:	Date: 8/28/2017



*This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.*