

Common Course Outline

DANC 137

Composition I

3 Semester Hours

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

Improvisation

Introduces creative process of spontaneous movement with emphasis on the development of an individual movement vocabulary and expanded facility for expressivity; may be repeated up to a maximum of 6 credit hours. Three hours of studio a week.

Prerequisite: DANC 114 (conc.), or DANC 120 (conc.), or DANC 136 (conc.), or DANC 135 or consent of the instructor.

Overall Course Objectives

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

1. actively engage in individual, partner and group movement improvisation;
2. utilize the possibilities the student's body has for making movement statements;
3. appraise and appreciate the movement that the body is capable of performing according to the individual's anatomical structure;
4. express ideas, emotions and objects through movement;
5. differentiate between free and structured improvisation and their applications;
6. respond expressively in movement to a variety of stimuli including, but not limited to music/sound, imagery, environment, relationship, space and quality;
7. describe kinesthetic, emotional, intuitive and intellectual responses to movement experiences;
8. observe and describe the time, space and energy elements of movement;
9. describe the elements and role of non-verbal communication in human relationships;
10. practice self awareness and sensitivity to others when engaging in partner and group activities;
11. describe his or her creative process during improvisation;
12. describe a variety of ways to use improvisation as a tool in movement technique, choreography, therapy, creative pursuits, performance and daily life situations;
13. structure an improvisation experience for the class;

14. write and speak articulately about the process and performance of improvisation.

Major Topics

1. The history of Improvisation
2. Exploring the creative process
3. Improvising with movement
4. The human structure and how it moves: body parts, positions, breath, locomotion, making sounds with the body
5. Movement elements: time, space and energy
6. Creating a continuous flow of movement
7. Responding to structures and stimuli: sound/music, environments, objects, imagery
8. Responding to and with others: non-verbal communication, leading and "picking up," mirroring, body contact
9. Beginnings, middles and endings
10. Improvisation as a creative tool
11. Structuring an improvisation

Course Requirements

Specific assignments and procedures for evaluating student performance in this course will be described in the individual class syllabus, but will include the following:

1. Attendance and active participation in individual/ group activities and discussion
2. Scrapbook/Journal logging descriptions and responses to class and outside activities throughout the semester
3. A minimum of four supplemental reading and response assignments
4. Signature Solo improvisation (self-structured, 1-1.5 minutes, with a written plan and oral description)
5. Structured Improvisation for the class (with a written plan and oral description)
6. Final group improvisation (structured and performed by the class) with a written response

Other Course Information

The Community College of Baltimore County is committed to providing a high-quality learning experience that results in growth in knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to function successfully as a transfer student, in a career and as a citizen. To accomplish this goal, we maintain high academic standards and expect students to accept responsibility for their individual growth by attending classes, completing all homework and other assignments, participating in class activities and preparing for tests.

We take seriously our responsibility to maintain high-quality programs and will periodically ask you to participate in assessment activities to determine whether our students are attaining the knowledge, attitudes and skills appropriate to various courses and programs. The assessment activities may take many different forms such as surveys, standardized or faculty-developed tests, discussion groups or portfolio evaluations. We ask that you take these activities seriously so that we can obtain valid data to use for the continuous improvement of CCBC's courses and programs.