

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
SPRING SEMESTER 2007
EDUC 330-3
**MOVEMENT LANGUAGE ELEMENTS FOR DANCE IN
EDUCATION**
(E02.00)

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Tuesday 4:30-7:20pm in EDB 7540 (mini-gym)

PREREQUISITE 60 credit hours including 6 hours in EDUC classes.

DESCRIPTION

Every form of expression has its own language. Music has notation, writing has grammar and even dance has its own movement vocabulary. In this experiential class, students will develop an understanding of movement concepts involving space, time, force, and relationship. These concepts are the framework for making and teaching dance. This course will explore dance as a nonverbal and artistic language, and students will be introduced to the creative process involved when using and teaching dance as an expressive art form. The aim of this is to find new inroads to our creative selves so that we will have more tools to use in our teaching. Structures will be forwarded, attempted, discarded and sometimes returned to for expansion. Opportunity will be given to utilize the art of improvisation as a way of discovering movement language and its importance for skills for teaching and life.

The key is the sense of journey and discovery. Learning about dance means doing it; therefore, this course emphasizes physical activity by participating in movement explorations and structured improvisations designed for the individual, partners, small and larger groups. These will be followed with open and constructive dialogue through observations, questions, concerns, and articulation of the experience itself. Augmented with reading and journal writing, these discussions will encourage and support a deeper sense of how and why we dance and the value dance holds in relation to choreography, performance, and teaching. The combination of doing, discussing, reading and writing will foster a more sensitive awareness of the self, others, as well as oneself in relation to others. You will also be encouraged to notice habitual patterns and/or learning obstacles and to remain open to change in these areas.

Time will be given to explore movement in a variety of social/ethnic/folk forms as well as observing and making movement for personal expression. Students will explore a variety of ways of creating movement, planning and presenting dance lessons.

This course is designed for people with or without dance training, who want to teach dance in arts, P.E. classroom contexts, or integrate movement education within a wider professional community.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Create and teach group dance 20 points
2. Performance piece 20 points
3. Critique or systemized evaluation of an assigned article 30 points

4. Attendance 10 point bonus includes attending one performance
One absence will be allowed
5. Quality of participation 20 points
6. Creative Movement File Folder 20 points
It is required you keep a Creative Movement File Folder
 - notes on dances you may learn in class
 - creative ideas, poems, drawings
 - lesson plans from other students in class
 - class summaries

RECOMMENDED ATTIRE

Warm clothing, which will allow you to move freely and comfortably, i.e. sweat pants and top. Moving in your bare feet is essential unless you have a legitimate reason for wearing shoes. Note: The latter must be soft soled so as not to damage the surface of the gym floor. No jewelry or gum please. Please notify me of any muscle/bone problems before class begins.

REQUIRED READING

Basic Skills in Creative Dance, Canadian Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance & Calgary Board of Education

Handouts as needed

RECOMMENDED

Gilbert, Anne G., Creative Dance for All Ages. National Dance Association: APHERD
