Subject: DANC 159 Choreography

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Catalog Course Description:
Choreography I is an introduction to the art and craft of dance composition. Through lecture and activity, students will learn how to incorporate the elements of dance: body, space, time, and energy, in order to create meaningful dance works. Basic elements of choreography, including form, design, motivation, phrasing, gesture, rhythm, dynamics, musical accompaniment, and production basics, will be explored through improvisational exercises and experimentation. Additionally, students will learn to analyze dance critically. The class will culminate in the presentation of student choreography.

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. Demonstrate an understanding of the basic elements of dance composition design, form, and choreographic devices.
2. Collaboratively choreograph solos, duets, trios, and small groups.
3. Properly identify and demonstrate movement dynamics including light/strong, quick/sustained, direct/indirect, free/bound as well as understand the aesthetic needs to include dynamics in choreographic work.
4. Analyze dance critically looking at the utilization of the body, effort, shape, and space components.
5. Produce individual dance pieces as a solo project or for a full evening length concert.

By logging into Canvas you affirm that you are the student who enrolled in the course(s) and are the person who will complete the assigned work. Furthermore, you agree to follow the regulations regarding academic integrity, personal identification and the use of student information as described in BP 5500 (Standards of Conduct) and AP 5520 (Student Conduct Procedures) which are the Rio Hondo College student conduct codes that govern student rights and responsibilities. You acknowledge that failure to abide by the regulations set forth in BP 5500 and AP 5520 may result in disciplinary action, including expulsion from the college.

This is NOT a self-paced course. There are firm deadlines in this class. There are assignments due on a regular basis. Please plan your time carefully!

Textbook: Please consult the Bookstore for information at (562) 463-7345 or go to Rio Hondo College Online Bookstore

This course will include regular instructor student contact. Methods of regular instructor student contact include:

1. Asynchronous (24/7): Weekly announcements (typically sent on Sunday evenings) and updates (as necessary). Discussion board, e-mails, quizzes, projects, and class cafe. Comments on student assignments will be included in Grades and/or embedded in student submissions.
2. Synchronous (scheduled by appointment): Phone and/or chat.
3. In-class demonstration and presentation of online work.
IV. Course Content

A. Lecture and Demonstration on Design

2. Positive and negative space - creating shapes with two or more bodies.
3. Air and floor pathways - use of space
4. The stage space – the strong the weak visual parts of the stage, the traditional proscenium stage, the thrust, nontraditional performance spaces, such as hallways, alleys, courtyard, etc.

B. Lecture and Demonstration on the body as an instrument of expression

1. Impulse - kinesthetic, emotional or intellectual motivation behind a movement.
2. Shapes - designing the body.
3. Aesthetic use of gesture in dance.
5. Gesture
   a. Aesthetic use of gesture in dance
   b. Types of gesture

C. Lecture and Demonstration on Effort/Dynamics

1. Compositional and aesthetic need for dynamics
2. Articulation of dynamics through movement
3. Kinesthetic, emotional or intellectual motivation behind a movement.

D. Lecture and Demonstration on Rhythm

1. Motor rhythm
2. Breath rhythm
3. Emotional rhythm
4. Varying tempos - slow, fast, mixed, acceleration, deceleration

E. Lecture and Demonstration on Musical choices in choreography

1. Melodic, rhythmic and dramatic music
2. Live music versus recorded music
3. Collaboration between choreographer and composer
4. Use of non-traditional sounds or silence

F. Lecture and Demonstration on Form

1. Continuity- continuing a theme from beginning to end.
2. ABA- beginning movement section into the second movement section and then back to the first section.
3. Narrative – a story with a beginning, a middle and an end.
4. Non-narrative – an abstraction of a theme, following no particular beginning, middle or end.
5. Creating solos, duets, trios and group material.

G. Lecture and Demonstration on Choreographic Devices

1. Call and Response - antiphonal movement
2. Canon - dance composition, in several voices, starting one after the other.
3. Directional mirroring - reflecting exact movements and/or pathways in space.
4. Interweaving and varying patterns - individual voices moving in time and space.
5. Lecture and Demonstration on Choreographic Devices

*The instructor may drop you for non-participation.*

There will be a one to three business day delay after an add code is used before a student may be able to log on to Canvas.

For students new to online classes, it is highly recommended that you take the Online Orientation through our Online Education website. This will help explain what online classes are like and familiarize you with how the class is laid out. The orientations can be found at: [http://www.riohondo.edu/canvas-orientation/](http://www.riohondo.edu/canvas-orientation/)

Email Responses: Instructors will make every attempt to respond to students in a timely fashion. Responses can take up to 48 hours before a response is received, excluding weekends and holidays.

Disability: A Student with a verified disability may be entitled to appropriate academic accommodations. Please contact your instructor and/or the [Disabled Students & Programs](http://www.riohondo.edu/canvas-orientation/) office at 562-908-3420 for more information.

*Modifications and Disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to modify the content of the course or any course procedure. It is the responsibility of the student to keep apprised of all changes. If the student wishes to drop the class he/she is responsible for initiating the drop. Do not take it for granted that you will be dropped. If you stop working and do not drop the course, you may get an undesirable grade.*