



BROWARD COLLEGE COURSE OUTLINE

LAST REVIEW: 2009-2010
(i.e. 2003-2004)

NEXT REVIEW: 2014-2015
(i.e. 2008-2009)

STATUS: A
(A, I, D)

COURSE TITLE: Movement for the Actor

COMMON COURSE NUMBER: TPP2500C

CREDIT HOURS: 3

CONTACT HOUR BREAKDOWN
(per 16 week term)

CLOCK HOURS: 4
(Voc. Course ONLY)

Lecture: 32 Lab: 32

Clinic: Other:

PREREQUISITE(S): TPP2100

COREQUISITE(S): None

PRE/COREQUISITE(S):

An academic study and practical application of body movement technique for the actor. Students will extend their own range of movement through vocal and physical effort training and free themselves from any personal movement habits. Students will learn techniques of character transformation through the use of masks.

COURSE DESCRIPTION *(750 characters, maximum):*

General Education Requirements – Associate of Arts Degree (AA), meets Area(s):

Area

General Education Requirements – Associate in Science Degree (AS), meets Area(s):

Area

UNIT TITLES

1. Movement as a Communication Process
2. The Laban Dimensional Scale
3. The Laban Diagonal Scale
4. Flow, Time, Space, Weight
5. The Eight Basic Efforts
6. Sound and Gesture
7. Mental Effort Preceding Action
8. The Neutral Mask
9. The Character Mask
10. In Search of Character

EVALUATION:

Please provide a brief description (250 characters maximum) that details how students will be evaluated on the course outcomes.

Upon successful completion of this course, the students should be able to extend his/her own range of movement and free him/herself of any movement habits; attain a thorough knowledge of the Laban System of Movement and its terminology; use mask improvisation to allow character transformation; complete a movement analysis of a dramatic character and portray the character in a scene during class

Common Course Number: TPP2500C

UNITS

Unit 1 Movement as a Communication Process

General Outcome:

- 1.0 The student shall:** understand the psycho-physical communication process by which a body sends and receives messages.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 1.1 Recognize that all movement stems from an inter-dependence of body, mind and spirit.
- 1.2 Recognize the inner attitude which precedes action.
- 1.3 Recognize that human beings have a choice of movement.
- 1.4 Recognize that vocal expression is an extension of movement.
- 1.5 Recognize that body movement and vocal expression are the actor's communication tools.
- 1.6 Recognize that keen observation of human behavior and body language will aid the actor in the pursuit of character.
- 1.7 Recognize that action and reaction lead to conflict, the essence of drama.

Common Course Number: TPP2500C

Unit 2 The Laban Dimensional Scale

General Outcome:

2.0 The student shall: understand and execute the Laban dimensional scale.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 2.1 Identify the six directional signs.
- 2.2 Identify the three levels and their signs.
- 2.3 Perform acting improvisations incorporating knowledge of the Laban dimensional scale.

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Unit 3 The Laban Diagonal Scale

General Outcome:

3.0 The student shall: be able to understand and execute the Laban diagonal scale.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 3.1 Identify the components of the Laban diagonal scale.
- 3.2 Identify the notation of the Laban diagonal scale.
- 3.3 Perform acting improvisations incorporating knowledge of the Laban diagonal scale.

Common Course Number: TPP2500C

Unit 4 The Flow, Space, Time, Weight Continua

General Outcome:

4.0 The student shall: be able to understand and execute movement in relation to the continua of flow, space, time and weight.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 4.1 Execute a continuous and uninterrupted sequence of movement.
- 4.2 Execute movement that is bound or free.
- 4.3 Execute actions in various dimensions in space.
- 4.4 Execute actions involving time duration and improve their sense of metrical rhythm.
- 4.5 Execute actions involving the pull of gravity.
- 4.6 Execute actions involving kinetic or static force.
- 4.7 Execute actions that are direct or flexible.

Common Course Number: TPP2500C

Unit 5 The Eight Basic Efforts

General Outcome:

5.0 The student shall: be able to identify and execute the eight basic efforts.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 5.1 Identify the four continua of flow, space, time and weight and how they combine and interact in order to create the eight basic efforts.
- 5.2 Identify the Laban notation in regard to the eight basic efforts.
- 5.3 Execute the eight basic efforts in various dimensions in space using numerous parts of the body.
- 5.4 Perform acting improvisations based on the eight basic efforts.
- 5.5 Identify and understand the Laban effort graph.

Common Course Number: TPP2500C

Unit 6 Sound and Gesture

General Outcome:

6.0 The student shall: be able to incorporate sound and gesture into body movement.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 6.1 Perform improvisations and exercises which incorporate sound and gesture with the eight basic efforts.
- 6.2 Perform improvisations and exercises which incorporate sound and gesture with transitions between the eight basic efforts.
- 6.3 Identify and physicalize effort action derivatives.
- 6.4 Execute exercises involving sound and gesture involving effort action derivatives.

Common Course Number: TPP2500C

Unit 7 Mental Effort Preceding Action

General Outcome:

7.0 The student shall: be able to determine the motivation behind movement.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 7.1 Identify the four phases of mental effort that precede action: attention, intention, decision and precision.
- 7.2 Recognize the link between the four phases of mental effort that precede action and the four motion factors of space, weight, time and flow.
- 7.3 Perform improvisations that demonstrate an understanding of the mental effort that precedes action.

Common Course Number: TPP2500C

Unit 8 The Neutral Mask

General Outcome:

8.0 **The student shall:** be able to use the neutral mask as a tool for personal movement analysis and development.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 8.1 Understand the concept of neutrality.
- 8.2 Understand the concept of movement centers.
- 8.3 Discover the birth of character through departure from neutrality.
- 8.4 Identify and understand the nature of the four elements of fire, earth, air and water.
- 8.5 Understand the difference between planned and spontaneous movement.
- 8.6 Learn visualization techniques.
- 8.7 Identify the difference between doing and demonstrating.
- 8.8 Create and use a neutral mask as a tool to free the bodymind and allow psycho-physical expression.

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Unit 9 The Character Mask**General Outcome:**

9.0 **The student shall:** be able to learn techniques of transformation through the use of character masks.

Specific learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 9.1 Use beginning character masks as a tool to discover simple characters through physical choices.
- 9.2 Use counter masks to understand the contrast between outer façade (public face) and inner truth (private face).
- 9.3 Create and use totem masks in order to discover the primal aspects of human behavior.
- 9.4 Create and use complex character masks to sensitize the bodymind and free the imagination.
- 9.5 Acknowledge the cast of characters within.
- 9.6 Transfer the knowledge learned from the masks to the performance of a dramatic character.
- 9.7 Learn to be effective without the use of masks.
- 9.8 Discover the unity of body, breath, voice and mind.

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Unit 10 In Search of Character**General Outcome:**

- 10. The student shall:** be able to analyze a dramatic character from the perspective of movement and portray the character in a scene during class.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 10.1 Analyze the manners and costumes of the time period of the play from which the dramatic character is drawn and incorporate the knowledge into the body movement of the character.
- 10.2 Analyze the character according to the given circumstances of the play and incorporate the knowledge into the body movement of the character.
- 10.3 Determine the character's superobjective in the play, as well as, the character's objective in the scene and incorporate the knowledge into the body movement of the character.
- 10.4 Determine tactics for the character to employ in order to achieve his/her objective and incorporate the knowledge into the body movement of the character.
- 10.5 Determine what factors would affect body effort patterns, posture, gestures, vocal effort and inner mood.
- 10.6 Create a complex character based on your research, analysis and imagination.
- 10.7 Rehearse the scene with an assigned partner with and without complex character masks.
- 10.8 Perform the scene before the class in a culminating presentation.