

# Duke Ellington School of the Arts

Movement III/IV  
Class Time: T,R 12:30-1:55

Instructor: Dawn Naser  
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Class Location: Studio A

## Course Description:

In Movement III/IV students will increase their understanding of the physical, emotional, and spontaneous body. Movement III/IV is designed to introduce students to a variety of movement techniques that will increase their tools for approaching character, emotional states and the development of scene work. Students will also study and practice movement theatre- its history, artists, philosophies, and techniques.

## Course Goals:

To articulate character through movement  
To approach emotional states physically  
To explore physical choices in scene work  
To develop an awareness and appreciation for different physical theatre movements  
To free the expressive potential of the body by developing strength, flexibility and sensory awareness

## Suggested Reading:

*And Then, You Act: Making Art in an Unpredictable World* by Anne Bogart  
*On the Technique of Acting* by Michael Chekhov  
*Laban for All* by Jean Newlove and John Daley  
*Jacques Lecoq* by Simon Murray  
*The Moving Body* by Jacques Lecoq  
*Collaborative Theatre: Theatre du Soleil Sourcebook* by David Williams  
*An Acrobat of the Heart* by Stephen Wangh  
*The Way of Acting* by Tadashi Suzuki

## Course Requirements and Rules:

1. All classes are mandatory. Exercises, discussions, and performance work cannot be made up for the simple reason that they happen in class.
2. Don't be late! Tardiness is an unacceptable practice in this business and will severely affect your final grade.
3. All written assignments must be typed. Use a 1 inch margin and 12 point font. Staple papers longer than one page.
4. Students are responsible for making up all work missed during an absence by the next class.
5. Late work will be accepted for half credit the day after an assignment is due.

- Work more than one day late will not be accepted.
6. Students are required to schedule and attend rehearsals when necessary.
  7. Be prepared to move during every class. Students are required to change into their theatre uniform at lunch. For more information about the departmental dress code, see the Theatre Handbook.
  8. Bring water in a closed container to every class. You will need it. Please do not interrupt the class by asking to leave the room to get a drink.
  9. Bring a journal, notebook and pen/pencil to every class.
  10. Any student caught cheating on or plagiarizing will receive a failing grade for that assignment and reported to Father Payne. Plagiarism includes pirating information from the Internet without proper documentation.

### **Physical Environment:**

Due to the nature and content of this course the student must understand that s/he will be required to work in close physical proximity, often requiring contact, with instructor and fellow students. It is assumed that each student is comfortable with such contact unless stated otherwise.

Please inform the instructor if you have any physical problems, which may prevent you from fully participating in class work. If you believe you have a physical disability that may warrant accommodation in this class, speak with the instructor as soon as possible so that a method for addressing your needs can be developed.

### **Grading Scale:**

|              |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|
| 100-90       | A | (Excellent. Far above and beyond my expectations in both artistic and academic accomplishment). |
| 89-80        | B | (Above average. Superior achievement in both academic and artistic achievement).                |
| 79-70        | C | (Average. This will put you on artistic probation).   |
| 69-60        | D | (Below Average).  |
| 59 and Below | F | (Failure).  |

### **Students will receive grades for the following:**

1. Written Assignments (research projects, reflective papers, critical reviews)
2. Performances (scene work, pantomimes, improvisations, juries, group projects)
3. Participation (risk-taking/initiative, preparation, dress, attendance/punctuality, discipline)

**Movement III/IV will address the following DC Theatre Standards:**

HSA.3.3 Document observations and perceptions of production elements of a play, noting mood, pacing, and use of space.

HSA.2.1 Create rehearsal schedules, set deadlines, organize priorities, and identify needs and resources when participating in the production of a play or scene.

HSA.1.4 Make acting choices (e.g., accurate physical mannerisms and dialect) through script analysis and research to create characters from classical, contemporary, realistic, and nonrealistic dramatic texts.

HSA.1.5 Create gestures, movement qualities, and physical attributes based on one's interpretation and analysis of the inner workings characters.

HSA.1.6 Demonstrate concepts of space, time, and energy in group improvisations.