

Duke Ellington School of the Arts

Movement II
Class Location: Performance Hall
Class Time: W, F 2-3:25

Instructor: Dawn Naser
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Course Description:

Movement II has been designed to increase the actor's movement vocabulary and awareness of the physical body as a communicating instrument. In Movement II students will learn how to apply what they learned in Movement I while performing in scenes, monologues and short devised pieces. The second year movement class will include exercises influenced by Tadashi Suzuki, Rudolf Laban, Michael Chekhov, Jerzy Grotowski, and Anne Bogart.

Course Goals:

To improve posture, alignment, and centering
To gain self-knowledge through exploration and play
To develop physical rigor, stamina, and discipline
To free the expressive potential of the body by developing strength, flexibility and sensory awareness
To increase connection to the breath and voice in movement
To find connections between acting and movement

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 work missed during an absence by the next class.
5. It is the student's responsibility to ask the instructor questions about grades.
6. 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.
7. Students are required to schedule and attend rehearsals when necessary.
8. 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.
9. Bring water in a closed container to every class. You will want it, because this class is very physical!
10. Bring a journal, notebook and pen/pencil to every class.
11. Any student caught cheating on or plagiarizing will receive a failing grade for that assignment and reported to Principal Logan and Miss Jones. 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:

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|--------------|---|---|
| 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. Practice and Application 50% (warm-ups, in-class discussion, improvisations, exercises, movement sequences, attendance, focus, work-ethic)
2. Assessments 40% (scene work, reflective papers, exams, juries, group projects, performances, compositions)
3. Participation/Citizenship 10% (leadership within the department: behavior in hallway and class, participation in activities like theatre fund raisers and events, volunteer project, ensemble job responsibility)

Movement II will address the following DC Theatre Standards:

HSP.1.4 Make acting choices using script analysis, character, research, reflection, and revision through the rehearsal process.

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.2.3 Communicate design and directorial choices to ensemble members using leadership skills, aesthetic judgment, and problem-solving skills.

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