Course Outcomes Blueprint for Creative Expression

**Date Submit:** 1/30/2014 4:44:00 PM

**Your Name:** Meghan Brodie Gualtieri

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**Course number and title:** THE 103: Contemporary Dance

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Course type:** Studio-Practicum Hybrid

**Prerequisites:** EYE and College Writing or concurrent

**Course Description:**

THE 103 Contemporary Dance I

This course is designed to teach basic contemporary dance skills and vocabulary. The class is divided into two areas of study. Physical and technical development are learned through strengthening and stretching exercises. Proper body alignment is stressed for the most efficient and injury-free movement. Dance phrases are taught to enhance rhythmic and locomotor skills. Equal time will be devoted to improvisational skills and the study of choreographic techniques. Students will be required to attend contemporary dance performances. Course may be repeated once for credit. Cr. 3.

**Learning Outcomes**

[Note: all CE courses should engage students in outcome 8 and any 4 of the other outcomes.]

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<tr>
<th>Core Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Department/Program Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Student demonstrates learning by</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>After completing a CE course, students will:</td>
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<td>The instructions indicate that a CE course engage students in Outcome 8 and 4 additional outcomes. I have chosen Outcomes 3, 4, 5, 7, &amp; 8.</td>
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<td>1. recognize that the term “art” is various, contingent and evolving, within any art form.</td>
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<td>2. demonstrate an understanding of how an art form expresses the culture that produced it.</td>
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| 3. describe a creative process an artist uses to produce unique views and ideas. | Students will be able to articulate the artistic processes that inform the practice of choreography and dance. | Students view clips from the following and outline the associated artistic process, choreography choices, movement styles, etc. in their journals:  
Free to Dance in America. 2002.  
Falling Down Stairs. 1995.  
Still Here. 1994.  
Movement: A Dance Documentary. 2012  
First Position. 2011. |
| 4. analyze and critique a work of art as experienced at a performance, reading or exhibition, orally and in writing. | Students will view and critique at least one live dance performance each semester, demonstrating a synthesis of theories, history, and practice of dance. | Performance Critique  
You must view and critique one Contemporary Dance performance this semester:  
It must be a professional or semi professional troupe.  
We will discuss the options for the show during the first class. If your choice is not a performance I approved in class, please check with me before you buy tickets. Classical |
Ballet, unless it is a contemporary piece, will not be accepted (“The Nutcracker” is not an acceptable choice).

Please refer to the Portland Ovations, Merrill Auditorium, Bates College, and Bowdoin College, Portland Players and local theater websites for listings on local performances. I will also accept lecture demonstrations hosted by a University with advance approval. Modern Dance is a large umbrella; if you see a performance that features aerial dance, musical theater dance, or other forms of world dance such as African dance, please see me for approval. If you are not sure if the performance falls under the “Contemporary Dance” category, please email me or ask my permission before you buy tickets and write the critique.

When writing your critiques of the productions, you must evaluate the show based on the presentation as a whole; the direction; the lighting, sound, set, and costume designs; choreography; and ability of the dancers. The main focus will be on the overall production.

Please follow the handout “Methods of Interpreting
Art” (will be distributed in class) and your notes from the lecture on Liz Lerman’s Critical Response Process available at unlockingtheclassroom.blogspot.com/.../liz-lermans-critical-response-pro. We will review critique and evaluation in class before you go to the performances.

Minimum Length: 2-3 typed pages (single spaced)

Due: Last day of class.

| 5. use, orally and in writing, the vocabulary, theories, and principles of an art form. | Students will demonstrate an understanding of the vocabulary, theories, and principles of dance. | Journals
You will be asked to keep a journal for weekly reflections and writing assignments. Weekly entries and notes from class will be kept in the journal so please bring your journal to class. Your reflections on lecture material and video/articles shown in class will serve as your weekly entry. Your phrase material should be noted in your journal for you to remember.

NOTE: A dance "phrase" is a part of the terminology students learn and apply to both their own work and the work of others. See Outcome 4 for a list of films to which students will respond in their journals.

6. know how to find and evaluate information and determine the | The instructions indicate that a CE course engage students in | The instructions indicate that a CE course engage
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<td>Outcome 8 and 4 additional outcomes. I have chosen Outcomes 3, 4, 5, 7, &amp; 8.</td>
<td>Students in Outcome 8 and 4 additional outcomes. I have chosen Outcomes 3, 4, 5, 7, &amp; 8.</td>
<td>Final Technique Exam</td>
<td>Your final is two class days and takes place on the last week of class. The first part will consist of technique class. We will warm up together and then go through the combinations learned in class in groups. You will only be asked to perform material we have already reviewed in class. The second part of your final is a showing of your movement phrases created in class. Each person will be asked to make a series of short dance phrases as part of the creative movement section of the course. Your phrases will be shown in small groups the last day of class.</td>
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<td>7. express themselves by creating or performing a work of art using appropriate processes, media, tools, and techniques.</td>
<td>Students will learn the principles and techniques of contemporary dance and demonstrate these principles and techniques in practice.</td>
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<td>8. demonstrate skills of effective communication and analysis</td>
<td>Students will demonstrate a comprehensive application and synthesis of the principles of dance with respect to at least one period, choreographer, or genre.</td>
<td>Final Papers</td>
<td>1. There will be two papers for this class. One is a research paper on a Modern choreographer and the second will be a live Performance critique. If you choose to attend two performances, you may write a 2 page critique on one of the performances in place of the research paper. Minimum Length: 4 typed pages Single Spaced.</td>
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Due: Last day of class.

If you have a particular interest that you would like to choose for your topic, please see me for approval before 10/28/14.
(Examples: 1. A comparison of modern dance and abstract expressionist painters of the 1950’s or a study of Klein, Pollock and Rothko. Feel free to be creative with this assignment. 2. A study of how modern dance has been influenced by World events and Politics throughout the decades. 3. Another example could be taken from some former students who were on the USM baseball team. Their final research papers were based on the book “The Science of Hitting” by Ted Williams. Those students chose to discuss the parallels between the art of choreography and the strategy of baseball plays and the comparisons between learning to hit and learning dance technique.)

Research Paper guidelines

1. Research a choreographer that is of interest to you. Give basic information about their life and career. Focus on what their major contributions to the Modern dance movement was. Describe the choreographer’s work
and write about the influence that person had on dance.

2. The second part of the research paper should include your reflections on the choreography. Watch at least five video clips for that choreographer. Please do not use video clips used in class. Using the “Methods for Interpreting Dance” and Liz Lerman’s Critical Process guidelines, compare and contrast the dances using what you have learned about the art of choreography, history, and aesthetics. Give the historical context of each clip and describe the style influences you see in the current work. What techniques do you think influenced the choreographer? What are the similarities in movement quality? How was the dance designed? What new direction did the choreographer take?

Minimum Length: 4 typed pages (single spaced)

Due: Last Day of Class

**Course Characteristics**

| Creative Expression courses will engage students in a studio or practice component appropriate to the art form that allows active student exploration and use of the | Students will learn about the history, theory, and practice of contemporary dance, creating their own work and observing/evaluating the work | Students complete multiple writing assignments evaluating the work of others and also create original dances themselves. |
creative process, in reflection on both the art form and the creative process that produces it, and in attendance at university or local art events or activities.

of others.

All of these assignments are outlined above.

The CCC encourages departments to align their Core assessment work with their on-going participation in degree program assessment through the Office of Academic Assessment’s ASLP’s (Assessment of Student Learning Plans). “Recycling” is encouraged in the form of avoiding duplication of effort and/or reporting. Departments may import information from their ASLP’s to this blueprint, and vice-versa.