CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS  
DANC 1320.01 Improvisation II  

Semester/Year: Spring 2016

Lecture Hours: 0  Lab Hours: 2  Credit Hours: 1

Class Time: 8-8:50am  Days: TTh  Room: KT159

Instructor’s Name: Anna Corvera

Instructor's Contact  Office Phone: 307-268-2261  Email:  acorvera@caspercollege.edu
Information: Office KT147  Cell Phone: 314-409-3680

Office Hours: T & Th 12-1pm & 2:30-3pm, W 12-1pm, F 11am-1pm

Course Description: This course will investigate improvisation in dance at the intermediate level and really allow the student to explore movement connected to emotional output and with musical enhancement. This course will also help the student/dancer to understand musical meter and tempo varieties within an improvisational exercise. In addition there will be game playing that will open the world of improvisation wider. It will incorporate improvisational exercises that will lead to phrase work.

Statement of Prerequisites: None

Goal: To expose the student to the ideas of dance improvisation through musical, emotional, and movement concepts. To give the student a basic understanding of phrasing improvisational movement while adding other influences; for example, text, music, props, or site. To further the student’s connection between movement, improvisation, and choreography.

Outcomes and Course Objectives: The student who completes this course in good standing will understand dance improvisation in connection with music, emotion, and other influences. The student will be comfortable using improvisation to aid in choreographing phrases for both solo and group work, as well as giving and applying feedback. The student will also read and discuss different aspects of dance improvisation.

Casper College General Education Outcomes:
1. Demonstrate effective oral and written communication
3. Solve problems using critical thinking and creativity
5. Appreciate aesthetic and creative activities
6. Use appropriate technology and information to conduct research
Methodology: This class will use discussion, demonstration, performance, video, reading, and writing. Students will work individually, in partners, in small groups, and in large groups. This is primarily a movement-based class.

*The study of dance often requires physical contact, either teacher-to-student (in terms of physical alignment and muscle use) or student-to-student (in the course of improvisation, partnering, or ensemble work). If you have any concern or reservations about the appropriateness of physical contact, please talk to the instructor immediately.

Evaluation Criteria:
Introduction Letter, 1-2 pages, 25 points
Reflection Letter, 1-2 pages, 25 points
Midterm Conference, 10 minutes, 25 points
Reading Discussion 1 (Chapters 7-8), 25 points
Reading Discussion 2 (Chapters 9-10), 25 points
Reading Discussion 3 (Chapters 11-12), 25 points
Creative Assignment 1, Introduction using Text & Movement, 25 points
Creative Assignment 2, Chance Procedure, 25 points
Creative Assignment 3, Inspiration from Quote/Picture/Item, 25 points
Creative Assignment 4, Prop Usage, 25 points
Creative Assignment 5, Music Visualization and Not, 50 points
Creative Assignment 6, Direction in Partners, 50 points
Final Solo Project, Site-Specific, 50 points
Final Group Project, Collaboration, 50 points
Attendance & Participation, 200 points

Grading Scale:
A = 90-100%, B = 80-89%, C = 70-79%, D = 60-69%, F = 0-59%

Casper College may collect samples of student work demonstrating achievement of the above outcomes. Any personally identifying information will be removed from student work.

Required Text, Readings, and Materials: *The Creative Habit: Learn It and Use It for Life* by Twyla Tharp, a notebook, a water bottle, appropriate dance attire, bare feet, and a warmed-up body. MLA format information can be found on the Casper College Library website ([www.caspercollege.edu/library](http://www.caspercollege.edu/library)) or on the Purdue OWL website ([https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/)).
Class Policies: Any missed or late assignments need to be made-up within one week of the due date. Any revised assignments need to be finished within one week of receiving feedback. If observing class due to sickness or injury, you need to take thorough notes which are due at the end of that class. All formal papers must be in MLA format.

Wear appropriate dance attire meaning clothes your body can move in and clothes your body can be seen in, and bare feet. Wear appropriate supportive undergarments. Hair should be secured away from your face. No jewelry. No gum. No cell phones.

*You are allowed one absence without it affecting your grade. With each absence following the one, you will lose 5% of your attendance grade. Tardies or leaving class early will also affect your grade. Two of these will count as an absence. Please note that there is no such thing as an excused absence at Casper College. Absences for any reason will be recorded.

Last Date to Change to Audit Status or to Withdraw with a W Grade: Apr 14, 2016

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

Chain of Command: If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Academic Dishonesty: (Cheating & Plagiarism) Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

Official Means of Communication: Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly. This is also, where you will find course evaluation links during course evaluation periods.
ADA Accommodations Policy: If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college’s Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

Course Calendar: (Subject to change at the instructor’s discretion.)
Tue Jan 19th - First Day of Class, Syllabus
Tue Jan 26th - Introduction Letter, 1-2 pages, 25 points
Thu Jan 28th - Creative Assignment 1, Introduction using Text & Movement, 25 points
Tue Feb 2nd - Reading Discussion 1 (Chapters 7-8), 25 points
Thu Feb 11th - Creative Assignment 2, Chance Procedure, 25 points
Mon Feb 15th - President’s Day (no classes)
Feb 15-19 - American College Theatre Festival
Tue Feb 23rd - Reading Discussion 2 (Chapters 9-10), 25 points
Thu Mar 3rd - Creative Assignment 3, Inspiration from Quote/Picture/Item, 25 points
Tue Mar 8th - Midterms - Midterm Conference, 10 minutes, 25 points
Mar 9-12 - American College Dance Association
Mar 14-18 - Spring Break (no classes)
Tue Mar 22nd - Reading Discussion 3 (Chapters 11-12), 25 points
Fri Mar 25th - Spring Holiday (no classes)
Thu Mar 31st - Creative Assignment 4, Prop Usage, 25 points
Fri Apr 8th - Advising Day (no classes)
Thu Apr 14th - Creative Assignment 5, Music Visualization and Not, 50 points
Thu Apr 28th - Creative Assignment 6, Direction in Partners, 50 points
Tue May 3rd - Reflection Letter, 1-2 pages, 25 points
Thu May 5th - Final Solo Project, Site-Specific, 50 points
Tue May 10th & Wed May 11th 7:30pm - Seasonal Dance Showcase
Wed May 11th 10:10am-12:10pm - Final Exam - Final Group Project, Collaboration, 50 points
Fri May 13th - Commencement

Performance Calendar:
Dança Nova - Fri Feb 26th 2:30pm
Carmina Burana - Feb 24-27 & Mar 3-5 7:30pm, Feb 28 & Mar 6th 2pm
Mulberry - Apr 21-23 & 27-30 7:30pm, Apr 24 2pm
Artcore Events