

CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS
DANC 1300.01 Dance Improvisation I

Semester/Year: Fall 2015

Lecture Hours: **Lab Hours:** 2 **Credit Hours:** 1

Class Time: 1-1:50pm **Days:** TTh **Room:** KT157

Instructor's Name: Anna Corvera

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

Office Hours: M 11am-12pm, T 12-1pm, W 12-1pm, Th 12-1pm, F 11am-1pm

Course Description: This course will investigate improvisation in dance at the beginning level. It will incorporate improvisational exercises that will lead to short phrase work.

Statement of Prerequisites:

Goal: To expose the student to the basic ideas of dance improvisation. To find a connection between movement, improvisation, and choreography.

Outcomes and Course Objectives: The student who completes this course in good standing will understand dance improvisation within given parameters and free form, as well as see the connection from movement to improvisation to choreography. The student will also be comfortable improvising in different environments.

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

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 1-2), 25 points
Reading Discussion 2 (Chapters 3-4), 25 points
Reading Discussion 3 (Chapters 5-6), 25 points
Creative Assignment 1, 25 points
Creative Assignment 2, 25 points
Creative Assignment 3, 25 points
Creative Assignment 4, 25 points
Creative Assignment 5, 50 points
Creative Assignment 6, 50 points
Final Solo Project, 100 points
Final Group Project, 100 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, and bare feet. MLA format information can be found on the Casper College Library website (www.caspercollege.edu/library) or on the Purdue OWL website (<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 the 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: Nov 12, 2015

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.

Calendar or schedule indicating course content:

Tue Aug 25th - First Day of Class, Syllabus
Thu Aug 27th - Introduction Letter, 1-2 pages, 25 points
Thu Sept 3rd - Creative Assignment 1, 25 points
Thu Sept 10th - Reading Discussion 1 (Chapters 1-2), 25 points
Thu Sept 17th - Creative Assignment 2, 25 points
Tue Sept 29th - Creative Assignment 3, 25 points
Tue Oct 6th - Reading Discussion 2 (Chapters 3-4), 25 points
Tue Oct 13th - Midterms - Midterm Conference, 10 minutes, 25 points
Thu Oct 15th - Midterms - Midterm Conference, 10 minutes, 25 points
Tue Oct 20th - Fall Break (no classes)
Thu Oct 22nd - Creative Assignment 4, 25 points
Thu Oct 29th - Reading Discussion 3 (Chapters 5-6), 25 points
Thu Nov 5th - Creative Assignment 5, 50 points
Tue Nov 17th - Creative Assignment 6, 50 points
Thu Nov 26th - Thanksgiving (no classes)
Tue Dec 1st - Final Solo Project, 100 points
Tue Dec 8th - Reflection Letter, 1-2 pages, 25 points
Mon Dec 14th - Final Exam 3:10-5:10pm - Final Group Project, 100 points
Tue Dec 15th & Wed Dec 16th 7:30pm Seasonal Dance Showcase

Theatre & Dance Department Performance Calendar:

CATS - Oct 14-16 & 21-24 7:30pm, Oct 25 2pm
Parsifal Worthy - Dec 8-11 7:30pm, Dec 12 2pm
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