



Theatre 3831: Movement and Voice SYLLABUS

TERM:	Spring 2019	OFFICE:	
CREDITS:	3	OFFICE EMAIL:	Weiss.312@osu.edu
LEVEL:	U	OFFICE PHONE:	
CLASS TIME:	TR 11:10 am – 12:30 pm	OFFICE HOURS:	Tu/Th 12:30 – 1:30 pm
LOCATION:	Drake 107		By Appointment
INSTRUCTOR:	Colton Weiss		

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course introduces students to Laban movement analysis and the fundamentals of movement and voice training for dance and theatre. Students gain skills to improve their physical awareness, body alignment, and movement and vocal range. By participating in studio explorations and solo performances, students are introduced to principles of physical performance, character transformation, and ensemble kinetic relationships.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the completion of the course the student will be able to demonstrate:

- An effective physical warm-up to use pre-rehearsal and pre-performance, as well as a post-performance physical cool-down.
- A shared, basic vocabulary for movement, voice, and performance concepts.
- The ability to describe, notate, and perform basic movement and voice qualities.
- An increased physical awareness of anatomy, movement and vocal affinities, as well as an increased ability to utilize body alignment, strength, flexibility and coordination to carry out movement tasks.
- Increased physical concentration in performance.
- An understanding of how movement and vocal qualities are utilized to develop character.
- The ability to intertwine movement and voice with text.
- Basic ensemble kinetic awareness.

TEACHING METHOD: Lecture, discussion, movement and voice exploration.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Books are available through OSU Barnes & Noble.
 Linklater, Christine. *Freeing the Natural Voice*.
 Olsen, Andrea. *BodyStories: A Guide to Experiential Anatomy*.

Additional readings will be available on CARMEN.

GRADING: Grading statement followed by breakdown:

Attendance & participation	10 %
Weekly mini-assignments	20 %
Journal and Performance responses	20 %
Midterm.....	25 %
<u>Final</u>	<u>25 %</u>
Total	100%

Grading Scale:	
93 - 100.0	A
90 - 92.9	A-
87 - 89.9	B+
83 - 86.9	B
80 - 82.9	B-
77 - 79.9	C+
73 - 76.9	C
70 - 72.9	C-
67 - 69.9	D+
60 - 66.9	D
0 - 59.9	E

REQUIRED PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE

Attendance at two of the following performances is required for this course. A link to the performances will be posted on CARMEN. Please check the link for performance times, mark the dates in your calendar, and make advance arrangements for tickets. Tickets may be bought on the Wexner Center website or in the Wexner Center for the Arts lobby. Some tickets will also be available through the Theatre Dept. ticket office.

Date	Performance/Event	Location
March 28-31	<i>Hannah</i>	Wexner Center, Black Box on Mershon
April 18-21	<i>The Symphonic Body/Food</i>	Wexner Center, Mershon Auditorium
February 27 – March 7	<i>Her Naked Skin</i>	Thurber Theatre
April 19 – 20	<i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night</i>	Thurber Theatre

ATTENDANCE AND CLASS PARTICIPATION:

This is a studio class, dependent on your attendance and participation. You are allowed two (2) excused absences per semester. After those two (2) absences, each subsequent absence will drop your final grade by one point (A to A-).

Food, beverages, and gum are not allowed in the studio. Bring water bottles only. No street shoes are allowed in the studio. Cell phones must be silenced or turned off and kept in your bag or backpack. Students must come to each class prepared to work in clothes that allow full range of movement (i.e., sweats, dance/yoga pants, fitted dance/yoga shirt). Bring layers to keep your body warm during warm-up. Long hair needs to be pulled back. Students are expected to work barefoot.

Class Expectations

In class, I expect you to:

- Be on time, warmed up, and ready to move when class begins.
- Attend to movement explorations in class, as well as to explanations and analyses of specific concepts;
- Listen carefully and utilize recommendations for improvement to enhance your performance skills;
- Create, rehearse and polish movement material as quickly as you can through dedicated rehearsal sessions;
- Perform movement material and studies as accurately as possible during class showings;
- Complete all readings and assignments before the class in which they are due;
- Reflect in writing on your progress toward achieving the learning goals;
- Apply your knowledge of concepts from class through written critiques of live performances;
- Provide constructive, sensitive feedback to your peers following showings.

REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS:

Unless stated otherwise, all written assignments must be typed (double-spaced, 12 point, Times New Roman, 1 inch margins). The papers will follow MLA style guidelines. Assignments will be collected at the beginning of the class in which they are due (**due dates are noted in the weekly schedule in bold**) and marked down one letter grade for each day they are late. If you do need to submit something late, notify me in writing before the due date. **Guidelines and grading rubrics for assignments will be provided on CARMEN.**

Participation/Mini-Assignments: Weekly performance assignments will be given in class. Students will be required to create movement or acting studies that demonstrate their understanding and explorations of the concepts and techniques covered in class. Students will be asked to use supportive and constructive criticism to

respond to other students' performances in the class as well as analyze their own work. Occasionally these assignments may have a written component.

Process Journal: You are required to keep an ongoing process journal including reflections on your work in class; drawings and reflections on the exploratory exercises in the reading; responses to work in class, and self-assessments. You will need a 1-inch binder for your journal, so that you can add to it throughout the semester. Date all entries and organize the journal so that it is visually interesting and easy to read.

Performance analysis papers: You will write a 2-page response paper for each performance we see this semester. Your response paper will be included in the journal submission that follows the performance.

Final: You will present a 3-5 minute monologue pulled from an existing text, utilizing the concepts and techniques of movement and voice learned in this class. A copy of the monologue should be turned in to me for approval (see the class schedule for due date). You will have one preliminary showing before the final exam showing. Further guidelines will be provided in class.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct (<http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resources/>).

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Ave.; telephone 292-3307; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.

FOR YOUR SAFETY, the OSU Safe-Ride service is available by dialing 292-3322.

SCHEDULE	DAYS	IN CLASS	Readings/Assignments
Week 1	T, Jan 8	Introduction	
	R, Jan 10	Basic Concepts/Body Awareness	Read: Olsen, 5-10.
Week 2	T, Jan 15	Attitudes About the Body/Your Body Story	Read: Olsen 11-14
	R, Jan 17	Proprioception/Ensemble Awareness	Read: Olsen 15 - 18
Week 3	T, Jan 22	The Cell/Ensemble Awareness	Read: Olsen 19-22
	R, Jan 24	Evolutionary Story/Basic Laban concepts	Read: Olsen 23-26
Week 4	T, Jan 29	Evolution to Standing/Spine/Flow	Read: Olsen 27-30; Linklater Ch. 1
	R, Jan 31	Bodymeasuring/Breath/Time	Read: Olsen 31-34; Linklater Ch. 2 Submit Journal in class.
Week 5	T, Feb 5	Body Weights and Alignment/Touch of Sound/Weight	Read: Olsen 35-38; Linklater Ch. 3
	R, Feb 7	Bones/Vibrations/Space	Read Olsen 39-42;

			Linklater Ch. 4
Week 6	T, Feb 12	The Head/Jaw/Space	Read Olsen 43-48; Linklater Ch. 5
	R, Feb 14	Axial Skeleton/Tongue/Stage Space	Read: Olsen 49-54; Linklater Ch. 6
Week 7	T, Feb 19	Thorax/Soft Palate/Focus	Read: Olsen 55-60; Linklater Ch. 7
	R, Feb 21	Midterm Exam performance	Present Midterm in class Submit Journal in class.
Week 8	T, Feb 26	Midterm Exam performance	Present Midterm in class. Submit Journal in class.
	R, Feb 28	Breathing/Sound/Spine/Pathways	Read: Olsen 61-64, 151-156; Linklater Ch. 8
Week 9	T, Mar 5	Throat/Imaginary Space	Linklater Ch. 9
	R, Mar 7	Arm/Resonance/Glide and Press	Linklater Ch. 10
Week 10	T, Mar 12	<i>SPRING BREAK</i>	No Class
	R, Mar 14	<i>SPRING BREAK</i>	No Class
Week 11	T, Mar 19	Hand/Releasing the Voice/ Flick and Dab	Linklater Ch. 11
	R, Mar 21	Touch/Breathing Power/Float and Wring	Linklater Ch. 12
Week 12	T, Mar 26	Pelvis/Breathing Power/Punch and Slash	Linklater Ch. 13
	R, Mar 28	Iliopsoas/Sinus Resonators	Linklater Ch. 14 Submit Journal in class. Performance Response.
Week 13	T, Apr 2	Femur/Nasal Resonators	Linklater Ch. 15
	R, Apr 4	Knee/Vocal Range	Linklater Ch. 16
Week 14	T, Apr 9	Tibia and Fibula/Skull Resonator	Linklater Ch. 17
	R, Apr 11	Feet/Vocal Range/Joints	Linklater Ch. 18 and 19
Week 15	T, Apr 16	Final Showing and feedback	Submit Journal in class. Performance Response.
	R, Apr 18	Final Showing and feedback	Submit Journal in class. Performance Response.
Final Exam	Monday, April 29, 10:00am-11:45am	Final Exam performance	Present Final in class.

**Please refer to the syllabus when you have questions about the schedule. Bring the syllabus to each class, since I may make changes to the schedule based on our progress during the semester.