

Updated 07/18/2023



WACO, TEXAS

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**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**AND**

**INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**STAGE MOVEMENT**

**DRAM 1322 - 01**

**JOSEPH TAYLOR**

**NOTE: This is a 16-week course.**

**NOTE: This is a Face-to-Face course.**

## STAGE MOVEMENT

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### **Course Description:**

Principles, practices, and exercises in body techniques and stage movement; emphasis on character movement and body control.

### **Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:**

None

### **Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the student enhance muscle development and overall well-being by combining this class with participation in aerobic exercises and/or other physical development such as weight-training, in order to help prevent injuries.

**Dress Code: Ladies** – Leggings or yoga pants with an appropriate T-shirt. If shorts are worn you are asked to wear tights under your shorts that extend past the knee.

**Men** – sweat pants or athletic shorts with an appropriate T-shirt. If shorts are worn you are asked to wear compression shorts underneath for additional support.

**All** – No clothes that are not dance/athletic related. Just because they are stretchy doesn't mean it is appropriate for class.

### **NO GUM EVER IN CLASS!!!**

Failure to adhere to this code will justify the instructor's decision for you to leave class for the day AND an absence will be recorded for that day's attendance.

### **Instructor Information:**

Instructor Name: Joseph Taylor

MCC E-mail: jataylor@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: 254-299-8173

Office Location: MTA 150-B

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: Monday and Wednesday 12:30pm – 2:30pm

Other Instruction Information: Conference hours needed outside of office hours can be pre-arranged with Mr. Joe and will take place via Zoom.

### **Required Text & Materials:**

No required text for this class

**MCC Bookstore Website:** <http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>

**Methods of Teaching and Learning:**

All classes meet in the MCC Dance Studio (Room 020) in the Physical Education Building and can be physically demanding. Each class is broken down into three separate phases: Stretching and conditioning; Lecture and demonstration; Work and critique.

**Course Objectives and/or Competencies:**

1. To develop and understanding of rhythm structures as they pertain to body movement.
2. To develop and execute choreography given in class.
3. To demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and appreciation for the aesthetic principles that guide or govern them.
4. To respond critically to works in the arts through informal practice

**Course Attendance/Participation Guidelines:**

If a student is not in attendance in accordance with the policies/guidelines of the class as outlined in the course syllabus as of the course census date, faculty are required to drop students from their class roster prior to certifying the respective class roster. A student's financial aid will be re-evaluated accordingly and the student will only receive funding for those courses attended as of the course census date. (Jan 25, 2024)

As this is a Face to Face class, attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class meeting. By departmental policy, students will be withdrawn by the instructor for exceeding the 10% absence limit, that translates to missing 3 classes. On the 4<sup>th</sup> absence, you will be withdrawn.

**Course Outline or Schedule:**

**Unit One:** (Approximately 4 weeks) **Laban Technique**

We will return to a modern style warm up that will allow the introduction of the Laban Technique. The class will concentrate on the 4 basic ideas in the Laban Technique; Body, Effort, Shape and Space. We will use each of these 4 weeks to focus on the 4 ideas. At the end of this unit a test will be given over the material to gauge understanding and retention.

**Unit Two:** (Approximately 4 weeks) **Character Development Through Movement**

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This unit will focus on teaching the student how to develop character work through movement discovery work. This will consist of work with breath, tension, and physicalization. We will work in class and individually on developing two contrasting characters. This unit will finish with a performance from each student demonstrating their two characters.

### **Unit Three:** (Approximately 4 weeks) **Monologue and Movement**

During this unit, we will explore how to bring emotions and expressional movement into a monologue. We will spend these weeks creating, adapting, and fulfilling a fully realized piece of movement theatre.

### **Unit Four:** (Approximately 4 weeks) **Final Projects**

Class warm up will be decided on by the class as a majority. During this unit each student is expected to pick an idea from any of the 3 units previously covered in the course (with approval from instructor) and compose a choreographic piece demonstrating that idea to the best of their ability. The students will be divided appropriately into groups. These groups will then work together teaching each other their material. Students will be given class time to do so. At the end of the unit, each student group will perform their material in front of the class. The instructor will grade performance based on; performance strength, clear understanding and demonstration of their chosen idea and originality.

### **Course Grading Information:**

Each student will be graded on the following: Attendance/Class participation: 50%; Unit #1 paper: 10%; Character Practicum: 15%; Group project: 25%

A	100 – 90
B	89 – 80
C	79 – 70
D	69 – 60
F	59 – below

### **Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:**

All dance/movement courses rely on repetitiveness and redundancy in developing the appropriate skills inherent in gaining the mental and physical requirements associated with proper alignment, flexibility, strength, and repertoire. Therefore, attendance is obligatory so the student will not be behind in the analysis and performance of technique. According to official

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campus policy, “students whether present or absent, are responsible for all material presented or assigned for a course and will be held accountable for such materials in the determination of course grades. Late work will not be received as each due assignment will take place in class. Only emergent situations will be considered for late work. Please refer to the Highlander Guide for the complete policy.

### **Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:**

Each student will be required to exercise focus, discipline, and strict adherence to the normally accepted protocols from professional dance classes: There will be no talking when the instructor is demonstrating via lecture and/or demonstration; students shall never interrupt the instructor or speak to any other student during lecture and/or demonstrations; students will be obliged to hold all questions pertaining to performance skills and/or technique until the instructor has opened the floor for inquiries; students will respect the physical aspects of the physical space and theatre equipment: no chewing of gum, no liquids besides water, no shoes other than required dance/foot wear; students will observe the utmost in decorum by keeping within safe distances from other students during combinations; students will not illustrate frustrations via swearing; students shall develop a professional attitude during all exercises.

### **[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)**

**(<https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html>)**

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have additional guidelines specific to this course.

10/09/2023



## **ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES**

### **Accommodations/ADA Statement:**

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit [www.mclennan.edu/disability](http://www.mclennan.edu/disability)

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

[disabilities@mclennan.edu](mailto:disabilities@mclennan.edu) (254)299-8122  
Room 319, Student Services Center

### **Title IX:**

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at [titleix@mclennan.edu](mailto:titleix@mclennan.edu) or by calling, Dr. Claudette Jackson, (Accommodations/Title IX) at (254) 299-8465. MCC employees are mandatory reporters and must report incidents immediately to the Title IX Coordinator. Individuals may also contact the MCC Police Department at (254) 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>

Additionally, Title IX provides rights and protections for pregnant and newly parenting students. Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at [www.mclennan.edu/titleix/](http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/). It contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence.

**Student Support/Resources:**

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at <http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>

Academic Support and Tutoring is here to help students with all their course-related needs. Specializing in one-on-one tutoring, developing study skills, and effectively writing essays. Academic Support and Tutoring can be found in the Library and main floor of the Learning Commons. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom. You can contact the Academic Support and Tutoring team via Zoom or email ([ast@mclennan.edu](mailto:ast@mclennan.edu)) by going to our website (<https://www.mclennan.edu/academic-support-and-tutoring/>)

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact either MCC CREW – Campus Resources Education Web by calling (254) 299-8561 or by emailing [crew@mclennan.edu](mailto:crew@mclennan.edu) or a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing [success@mclennan.edu](mailto:success@mclennan.edu).

Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, go to <https://calendly.com/paulannespantry-mcc/15min>.

The CREW, Success Coaches, and Paulanne's Pantry are all located on the second floor of the Student Services building in Success Coaching Services.

**MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:**

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an

emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html> to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at [https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency\\_Grant\\_Application.pdf](https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf)

**MCC Academic Integrity Statement:**

Please view our [Academic integrity statement](#) for more information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating. The unauthorized use of artificial intelligence (AI) for classwork can be a violation of the College's General Conduct Policy. Whether AI is authorized in a course and the parameters in which AI can be used in a course will be outlined by each instructor.

**Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:**

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-Staff-Commons/requirements.html> for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

**Minimum Technical Skills:**

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

**Backup Plan for Technology:**

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

**Email Policy:**

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (<http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails. For more information about your student email account, go to [www.mclennan.edu/studentemail](http://www.mclennan.edu/studentemail).



**Instructional Uses of Email:**

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

**Email on Mobile Devices:**

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email [Helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto:Helpdesk@mclennan.edu) for help.

You can find help on the McLennan website about connecting your McLennan email account to your mobile device:

- [Email Setup for iPhones and iPads](#)
- [Email Setup for Androids](#)

**Forwarding Emails:**

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

For more helpful information about technology at MCC, go to [MCC's Tech Support](#) or email [helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto:helpdesk@mclennan.edu).

**Disclaimer:**

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.