

UMBC UGC Change in Existing Course: DANC 230 Improvisation

Date Submitted: 3/4/20

Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2020

	Name	Email	Phone	Dept
Dept Chair or UPD	Carol Hess	hessvait@umbc.edu	X52951	DANC
Other Contact				

COURSE INFORMATION: (please provide all information in the “current” column, and only the information changing in the “proposed” column)

change		current	proposed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Course Number(s)	DANC 230	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Formal Title	Improvisation	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transcript Title (≤30c)	Improvisation	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recommended Course Preparation		
X	Prerequisite NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a “D” or better.	none	DANC 220 or the equivalent
X	# of Credits Must adhere to the UMBC Credit Hour Policy	3	2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeatable?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	X Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
X	Max. Total Credits	3	4 Max. Total Credits: This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a third time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grading Method(s)	X Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail	X Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail

CURRENT CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

DANC 230 - Improvisation

(3.00)

A preliminary course in composition, designed to help the student generate a vocabulary of movement to explore dance’s relationship to space, time, energy, patterns and form.

Course ID: 53155

Consent: No Special Consent Required

Components: Lecture

Prerequisite/Corequisite: You must be enrolled concurrently in one of the following courses: [DANC 110](#) or [DANC 116](#) or [DANC 216](#) or [DANC 220](#) or [DANC 310](#) or [DANC 316](#) or [DANC 410](#) or [DANC 416](#) or [DANC 420](#) with a grade of C or better.

PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION (Approximately 75 words in length. Please use full sentences): leave blank if no changes are being proposed to the catalog description. NOTE: information about prerequisites should NOT appear in the catalog description.)

DANC 230 - Improvisation

(2.00)

This course develops the student's ability to generate movement through creative exploration of dance's relationship to space, time, weight, energy, patterns, form, and non-traditional performance spaces. Through an increased awareness of the physicality of the body and its potential for movement expression, students expand their ability to invent and structure movement.

Course ID: 53155

Consent: No Special Consent Required

Components: Lecture

Prerequisite: DANC 220 or the equivalent with a grade of C or better

Corequisite: You must be enrolled concurrently in one of the following courses: [DANC 216](#), [DANC 220](#) or [DANC 310](#) or [DANC 316](#) or [DANC 410](#) or [DANC 416](#) or [DANC 420](#).

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE:

Prerequisites and Corequisites: DANC 230 Improvisation will require students to have some dance training/experience in order to succeed. Because students are asked to explore and experiment with the elements of dance (space, time, energy, patterns, form) students entering the class with no dance experience are at an extreme disadvantage. In fact, brand new beginning dancers have not enrolled in this course, for good reason. Students who have completed DANC 220 Beginning Contemporary Dance Technique II will have begun to develop higher levels of movement facility and movement experience, making them better prepared to take this course.

This course requires a corequisite. Current co-requisites require students to be enrolled in any dance technique course; however, a student just entering a beginning dance course would not be prepared to take on the tasks demanded in this course. For this reason, this proposal eliminates those beginning level courses (DANC 110 Beginning Contemporary Dance Technique I, and DANC 116 Ballet I) as corequisites.

Change in number of credits: The current 3-credit course traditionally included a performance on UMBC's Proscenium Stage as part of the course curriculum. Students were required to attend two technical rehearsals, one dress rehearsal and perform in three performances for the Department's end of semester Showcase, for a total of approximately 12 evening hours during production week. The Department is shifting the focus of the course away from the traditional proscenium stage environment to site-specific projects in which students prepare and perform improvisational scores designed for environments other than studios or theatres. This class meets for 3 contact hours per week, but does not require a 3-credit level of student workload outside of class. Performances and showings are presented during class meeting time, rather than in addition to it.

Repeatability: This course should be repeatable because students who are truly interested in improvisational methods and processes would benefit from increased work and exploration, particularly at higher levels of movement facility and creative risk-taking. A repeat of this course would result in deeper, more scaffolded skills, and challenges for such students.