

TRE 3054-1 MOVEMENT I  
Department of Communication Studies  
Point Loma Nazarene University  
Fall 2019

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**Office location:** Behind Salomon Theatre  
**Office hours:** By appointment

**PLNU MISSION**  
**To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send**

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

At the end of the course, you should be able to do the following:

1. Describe the eight elements of Laban efforts.
2. Create stories through movement.
3. Interact in a collaborative style with performers.
4. Have spatial awareness on stage and be able to move as a group.
5. Utilize movement techniques to enhance an acting performance.

**COURSE TEXT**

There is no textbook for this class. You're welcome. I will occasionally have handouts or require you to read the entire play of a piece you may be performing in class.

**CLASS EXPECTATIONS**

1. Please arrive on time. Turn off your cell phones before class starts and place them where they will not be a distraction to you or others. Personal computers, tablets, smartphones can be used only for taking notes or completing in-class assignments. You will be asked to leave the classroom if you are found texting or doing other homework, playing games or are on social networking sites on laptops during class time. Food must be consumed outside of the classroom, but drinks are fine.
2. **ATTENDANCE:** Regular attendance is required. You need to be present to learn and this is a participation course. Roll will be taken at the beginning of each class meeting. As this is a small class, the other students will be counting on you to be there. Excused absences (University-sponsored sports, forensics or other activities) need to be brought to my attention in email before the day(s) you will be absent. See "Academic Policies" in the undergraduate academic catalog.

3. **COMMUNICATION:** Please check your Point Loma email regularly. This is the primary way that I will be contacting you. You are responsible for any changes to assignments that are sent through the pointloma.edu address. Allow up to 24 hours for a response from me. If you have not received a response within 24 hours, please follow up.
4. **ATTIRE:** This class requires you to wear your “blacks.” In the theatre world this refers to all black attire with no logos or stripes. I am very strict on this. They should be comfortable clothes you can move in (exercise clothes, yoga pants, NO JEANS, etc) and you should be ready to move. I think bare feet is the best option, but you’re also able to wear jazz slippers or just socks. No sneakers. You will also be required to obtain a yoga mat and bring it to every class.
5. **MOVEMENT PIECES:** Laban style pieces, as well as physical theatre pieces, will have varied times and requirements and will be detailed at a later date. You will be required not just to move, but to apply this to acting performance involving some text.
6. **ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:** At PLNU, we want you to exhibit integrity in your work. If you reference another person, give them credit. If credit isn’t given, it demonstrates academic irresponsibility and reflects disrespect for your community and yourself. As stated in the university catalogue: “Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one’s own when in reality they are the results of another person’s creativity and effort. Such acts include plagiarism, copying of class assignments, and copying or other fraudulent behavior on examinations. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for a) that particular assignment or examination, and/or b) the course.”
7. **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS:** Students requiring special accommodations on the basis of physical, learning or psychological disability for this class are required to file documentation with the Disability Resource Center (in the Bond Academic Center). The DRC will write me with recommendations as to how to meet the individual needs of the student. Please contact Pat Curley within the first two weeks of the term so as to give accommodations as early as possible.
8. **FERPA POLICY:** In compliance with federal law, neither PLNU student ID nor social security number should be used in publicly posted grades or returned sets of assignments without written permission from the student. This class will meet the federal requirements by distributing all grades and papers individually. Also in compliance with FERPA, you will be the only person given information about your progress in this class unless you have designated others to receive it in the “Information Release” section of the student portal. See ‘Policy Statements’ in the undergrad student catalog.

## ASSIGNMENTS

### **PLAY CRITIQUES** (50 points each, 100 total)

You will be required to attend two plays this semester. The PLNU Fall play *The Shakers of Mt Lebanon Will Hold a Peace Conference This Month* (which goes up in November), as well as one outside play. San Diego is one of the best regional theatre cities in the country. If you need help finding a production, I am happy to assist. Using your knowledge from the class and our exploration of movement as it applies to performance, you will write a critique of the shows you attend. Proof of your attendance (i.e. ticket stub, program) will be required as well.

### **SHAKESPEARE / LABAN MONOLOGUE** (50 points)

We will be using the eight Laban efforts in movement but also as it applies to acting performance. In this piece we will apply it to a Shakespeare monologue, which we will work on in class, and will culminate with a final performance for a grade.

### **PARTNERED MONOLOGUE** (50 points)

Similarly to the Shakespeare monologue we will be working on contemporary monologues, utilizing Laban movement to enhance the performance. In this piece we will work with a prop to help motivate the movement. Again, this is a piece that will be developed in class time and culminate in a final performance of the same piece for a grade.

### **MIDTERM PERFORMANCE: Creating a Character** (200 points)

Creating a Character will be an ongoing project you will work on throughout the semester. The purpose of this course is to apply movement techniques to enhance your acting performance. In this midterm performance you will showcase your work in progress for the character you are creating.

### **FINAL PERFORMANCE: Creating a Character** (200 points)

As a culmination of your Creating a Character project, the final performance will be an interview, held by myself and your classmates of your character. You will have worked on and rehearsed the movement of your character and have a full understanding of who they are as a person, enough to do an improvisation as your character, answering any questions that I or your classmates should have.

### **LABAN EXAM** (100 points)

A multiple choice exam will be given, testing your knowledge on the aspects of Laban movement.

### **CLASS PARTICIPATION** (200 points)

Attendance and participation is a significant portion of your grade due to the physical nature of the course. Especially as this is a small class, attendance is vitally important to be here for your classmates. Arrive on time and ready to move in the proper attire.

Please keep in mind that we will be moving every day in class. Movement exercises and pieces will be instructed and performed either as a group or solo continually throughout the class. It is important to remember that self-consciousness will not serve you. There are no mistakes, no

wrong way to move your body. There is no judgment and we treat every with respect, no matter what shape, size or ability when moving. Movement can be abstract, realistic, emotion-driven, to music, in silence, to assist in a monologue or just to move for the sake of moving. I aim to guide you through in a safe manner.

The class is out of 1000 points.

<b>Points</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>
925-1000	93-100	A
895-924	90-92	A-
885-894	88-89	B+
825-884	83-87	B
795-824	80-82	B-
775-794	78-79	C+
725-774	73-77	C
695-724	70-72	C-
675-694	68-69	D+
625-674	63-67	D
595-624	60-62	D-
0-594	0-59	F

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- September 12** Ready to move with black attire and yoga mat
- October 10** Shakespeare / Laban Monologue Performance
- October 24** MIDTERM PERFORMANCE: Creating a Character
- November 5** Partnered Monologue
- November 26** PLNU Play Critique Due
- November 28** **No class**  
Thanksgiving! Enjoy your time off! Remember that we live on stolen land.
- December 17** **No Class**  
Outside Play Critique Due (can be turned in any time during the semester)
- December 19** FINAL PERFORMANCE: Creating a Character Interview 7:30-10:00am