

PHED 237 - Creative Movement for Elementary School Children
Barbara Pearson, Instructor
Fall 2007, Fridays 12:30 – 2:00 P.M.

Class will be held in Johnston Hall **Fridays: October 19, 26, Nov. 2, 9, 16, Dec. 30, Dec. 7.** (Off Nov. 23) from 12:30 – 2:00. The **required book** for the class is Mary Joyce's First Steps in Teaching Creative Dance to Children. Please arrive on time ready to move. Please wear clothes suitable for dance, (be ready to take off your shoes and dance in your socks) and bring a notebook, your course folder, and the required book to class. Your grade will be based on attendance, class attitude and participation, and your final project. **IN ORDER TO PASS, ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY AT ALL CLASSES. For an absence to be excused you must get approval in advance from Dept. Chair (Mrs. Dawn Benner)**

Course Objective: Students will understand the importance of movement education for the development of learning skills and for the complete education of the whole child. Participants will be able to guide fellow students through a creative movement class; and will learn to integrate movement into academic disciplines to further learning in dance and in other subject areas, and to fulfill the academic and arts standards.

Friday, October 19: “Moving for the Brain – What Science Says about Dance” A rationale based on the science of brain research which explains the importance of movement for learning in early childhood, elementary school and throughout life. Overview of course. Introductions and expectations. **Assignment:** Read article “Moving with the Brain in Mind” and complete Reading Summary to hand in. Read pages 1-72 in Joyce's book.

Friday, October 26: “The Right Stuff: Exploring the Elements of Dance” Discussion of reading assignment. Demonstration of ground rules and class management issues for creative dance class. Movement – defining and exploring the elements using Joyce technique. **Assignment:** Read pages 77 – 110, Joyce, and read 3 lessons in depth. Prepare one assigned lesson for presentation next week.

Friday, November 2: “It's Your Turn - Leading a Creative Dance Class” Lead other students in your assigned lesson. Critique and discuss. **Assignment:** Read pages 185 – 208, Joyce.

Friday, November 9: “Dance to Learn – Integrating Movement into the School Curriculum” Discussion of reading, lesson plans, and last week's movement experience. Workshop on how to plan a movement class with goals and topics from the curriculum in mind. Movement experience. **Assignment:** Read hand-outs. Visit www.barbarapearson.com and familiarize yourself with various dance integrated projects.

Friday, November 16: “Your Bag of Tricks - Using Movement to Reach School Goals” Discussion on how to overcome obstacles in today's schools. Videos of projects, discussion of techniques used to address multi-cultural issues, inclusion, student creativity, student observation, classroom management, individualizing instruction. Planning in groups for final projects. **Assignment:** Prepare final projects.

Friday, November 30: Present and discuss final projects.

Friday, December 7: Present and discuss final projects.