



**DRAM 1322.140C3**  
**STAGE MOVEMENT**  
**Fall 2025 9:30am – 10:50pm Tuesday / Thursday – Studio Theatre**

**Instructor Information:** Michael McIntosh, mmcintosh2@com.edu, 409-933-8626

**Student hours and location:** Tuesday and Thursday 8:00am-9:30am; Wednesday 9:00am-11:00am; Friday 12:00-2:00, and by appointment

**Required Textbook/Materials:** No text required.

Dress as for a professional rehearsal situation. You will be moving a lot, rolling on the ground and getting dirty! Dress comfortably in simple clothes meant for extreme movement. Clothing should not be restrictive or baggy. No jewelry. No earrings. No watches. No jeans. Nothing you don't want to roll around on the ground in.

**Course Description:** Principles, practices, and exercises in awareness, relaxation, freedom, flexibility, and expressiveness in the actor's physical instrument.

**Course requirements:**

1. Full participation and regular attendance in class
2. Satisfactory completion of all graded assignments on the date due
3. Attendance at COM Theatre productions of  
*The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*  
September 4-21, 2025

*The Thanksgiving Play*  
Oct. 25-26

*Chemical Imbalance: A Jekyll and Hyde Play*  
Oct. 30-Nov. 16, 2025

**Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:** Your grade is based on participation, attitude, effort, attendance, growth and completion of assignments. It not based on your "talent" as an actor.

ASSIGNMENT	WEIGHT
DAILY POINTS	70%
EXPLORATION 1	10%
EXPLORATION 2	10%
ALL PERFORMANCE REVIEWS	10%

### Rubric

	5-Outstanding: Highest caliber for Movement I student 4-Strong: Work of high caliber; continue to work on ways to improve 3-proficient: Work is acceptable for but not strong 2-Needs Significant improvement 1-Not Acceptable: Requires rethinking and reworking	5	4	3	2	1
Character Choices (grounded & creative)						
Objectives & Obstacles (strong & committed)						
Honest Emotions (truthful, not indicated)						
Focus (listening to partner, working from partner)						
Physicality (appropriate for character)						

*Any lack of preparation – forgetting lines, not reading the script, no objective/given circumstances and others will result in a two letter-grade drop for that assignment.*

**Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy:** Assignments must be completed on the date due. Make-up or late work is only accepted if arranged with the instructor before the original due date, except in documented emergencies. Approved late work may receive a grade reduction at the instructor's discretion. Unapproved late work will receive a zero.

**Attendance Policy:** This is a performance-based class designed to prepare you for the professional world, where your presence matters. Unlike lecture classes, we cannot recreate group exercises or scene work without you in the room.

- You are allowed up to three absences over the semester without penalty, regardless of reason, except for documented emergencies approved by the instructor.
- Missing a performance day or major presentation counts as two absences.
- Each additional absence lowers your final grade by one letter.
- Arriving more than 10 minutes late or leaving early without approval will count as an absence.
- Every three tardies equals one absence.

Attendance is tied to daily points. Missed classes mean missed points.

Active participation is a key part of your grade. In addition to performing your own work, you'll be expected to offer constructive, respectful feedback to your classmates. Repeated absences, behavioral disruptions, or anything that interferes with your work, or the work of your peers, may result in withdrawal from the course at the instructor's discretion.

**Tardies:**

Three tardies equal one absence.

Tardiness is defined as "failure to be sitting down, paying attention, and materials out and ready at the moment class starts". Please treat this class like a rehearsal. You should be ready to work at the start of class. Emphasis is laid upon: rushing into the room AS CLASS STARTS – that counts as tardy, leaving the room immediately after class starts to fill your water bottle, use the restroom, get coffee – that will count as tardy.

**EARLY is "On Time", On Time is LATE, and Late is FIRED**

**Atmosphere:**

1. No food, gum permitted in class. All drinks must be in capped, plastic bottles.
2. Please be respectful of your classmates by refraining from engaging in private conversation when we are having a class/group discussion, or when a performance is in progress.
3. Cell phones must be off for the duration of the class period.

**A Note About Boundaries:**

At COM Theatre, we want our classroom to feel safe, welcoming, and respectful so everyone can take creative risks and grow together. In this movement class, you will often work closely with your classmates, which will include physical contact. This might happen during partner exercises, group work, or when the instructor offers physical adjustments to help with alignment or technique. These moments are always meant to support your learning and will be handled with care and professionalism.

Your comfort and boundaries matter. If something doesn't feel right, whether it's physical, emotional, or just a gut reaction, please let your instructor and/or classmate know. We'll listen, adjust, and support you without judgment or penalty or an alternate exercise will be provided so you can continue meeting course goals.

Open communication and mutual respect help us build the kind of ensemble where everyone can thrive.

**How to Succeed in This Class (and in your professional theatre career):**

Show up ready to play, move, and explore. This class is about using your body, voice, and imagination, so give yourself permission to be curious and take risks.

Try things out, mess up, and try again. Trying out new ideas, especially the weird ones, is how we grow.

Stay focused and be YOU. Your creativity is what makes your work special.

Most of all, trust that you belong here. Even if it feels scary at first, you have so much more inside you than you might know, and this is a safe place to discover it.

**Communicating with your instructor:**

All electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means. (Faculty may add additional statement requiring monitoring and communication expectations via D2L or other LMS).

**State Objectives for Core Courses:**

<b>Student Learner Outcome</b>	<b>Maps to Core Objective</b>	<b>Assessed via this Assignment</b>
1. Develop, Strengthen, and Center the body through exploration and experimentation.	Communication, Critical Thinking	Daily work, Exploration 1, Exploration 2
2. Identify and apply principles of posture, relaxation, energy, sensation, rhythm, and structure.	Communication, Critical Thinking, Teamwork	Daily work, performance reviews
3. Establish a vocabulary of movement potential through physical experimentation.	Communication, Critical Thinking, Teamwork	Daily work, performance reviews
4. Integrate Body and Mind in performance.	Communication, Critical Thinking, Teamwork	Daily work, Exploration 1, Exploration 2
5. Demonstrate proficiency and safe practices in Stage Movement.	Communication, Critical Thinking, Teamwork, Social Responsibility, Personal Responsibility	Daily work, Exploration 1, Exploration 2

**Academic Dishonesty:** Disciplinary actions will be taken for students who exhibit disorderly conduct, cheat on exams, submit plagiarized work (see below), or are involved in collusion (helping others cheat or plagiarize) as defined in the Student Handbook under the heading, “Discipline and Penalties.” The maximum penalty imposed for violations will be an F in the course. The student will also be referred to the Dean of Students for further disciplinary action. Please read through the

“Standards of Student Conduct” in the Student Handbook for a more complete discussion of these issues and your rights and responsibilities.

**Student Concerns:** If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Dr. Kristina Jantz, Fine Arts Department Chair, at 409-933-8255 or [kjantz@com.edu](mailto:kjantz@com.edu).

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### Course outline:

**Daily Points:** We will work on a daily point system. There are 29 class sessions. A student may earn up to six points per class for work done in class. Daily work counts for 70% of your grade. To earn full daily points, you must:

- Arrive on time and stay for the full class
- Be dressed appropriately for movement
- Participate fully in exercises and group work
- Offer constructive feedback to classmates
- Maintain focus and respect during others’ performances

Improper attire, tardiness, or disengagement will lower your daily points. If you set a boundary and opt out of physical work, you must complete an alternate activity to demonstrate learning.

**Performance Reviews:** You will write a one-to-two-page performance study on the movement of one character from each of this semester’s COM productions. Expectations for this assignment will be outlined in class. All three performance reviews combined are worth 10% of your grade.

**Exploration 1:** You will present a movement scene in groups of 2 or 3. Worth 10% of your grade.

**Exploration 2:** You will present a movement scene in groups of 2 or 3. Worth 10% of your grade.

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### Institutional Policies and Guidelines

**Grade Appeal Process:** Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook <https://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook.html> *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor’s professional judgment of the quality of the student’s work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.*

**Academic Success & Support Services:** College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered

through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

**ADA Statement:** Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodation(s) is requested to contact:

Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator

Phone: 409-933-8919

Email: [AccessibilityServices@com.edu](mailto:AccessibilityServices@com.edu)

Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, Student Success Center

**Textbook Purchasing Statement:** A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

**Withdrawal Policy:** Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a “W” grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week session is October 1. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 14. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is November 25.

**FN Grading:** The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN grade.

FN grade may be issued if a student has missed more than 25% of classes or has failed to complete major assignments without withdrawal.

**Early Alert Program:** The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

**Resources to Help with Stress:** If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at [deanofstudents@com.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@com.edu) or [communityresources@com.edu](mailto:communityresources@com.edu).

**Nondiscrimination Statement:** The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), or any other basis prohibited by law. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of College District policy.