Curriculum

Institution: Kern Valley State Prison  
Workshop Title: Modern Dance  
Workshop Arts Provider(s): Ahmed Doe  
Art Form(s): Dance

Workshop Description
What topics will be covered? What experience level is required to participate?
This workshop is an introduction to the fundamentals of modern dance technique, improvisation, and composition. It is designed for students with little or no previous experience in modern dance who wish to develop an understanding of modern dance techniques, individual movement styles, and dance as a creative art form and aesthetic practice.

Workshop Objectives
What should participants expect to learn over the course of the workshop?
Each student will:
• Demonstrate their understanding of dance through the practice of various movement techniques, improvisations, and compositions.
• Recognize their own unique movement potential.
• Demonstrate an ability to create their own dances.
• Be introduced to major figures in twentieth century modern dance.
• Learn to communicate about the meaning of dance.

Teaching / Learning Strategies
What strategies and techniques will the instructor(s) use to teach the workshop material?
In class Participants will incorporate structured exercises, combinations of movement, improvisation, composition and discussion to explore the functional, expressive and creative possibilities of moving.

We will use lectures, class discussions, group demonstration, observation, movement experiences, written exercises, and reflective activities to synthesize material. Each class will rely on an atmosphere of trust where personal risk and differences, including differences of opinion are treated with mutual respect.

Response / Evaluation
How will student progress be measured or assessed?
Student progress will be evaluated by their ability to communicate modern dance techniques and practices into their final presentation.
Workshop Outline

What will happen during each class session of the workshop?

**Class Session 1: Introduction to Modern Dance**
Introductions. Warm-up exercises that begin introducing core movement concepts regarding modern dance. Short in class composition assignment based on the Participant’s name.

Write – Introduction Letter: write a 1 – 2 page letter describing the Participants’ current interests and pursuits in regards to movement and dance. At the bottom of the letter the student will spontaneously define “modern dance” for themselves.

**Class Session 2: Introduction to Modern Dance**
Introduction to modern dancers. Continue being introduced to core movement ideas regarding modern dance. Discuss and explore symmetry, asymmetry and planes.

**Class Session 3: Composition**

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