

**University of Texas at El Paso
Department of Theatre & Dance
Dance 2341, Ballet Foundations I**

**Fall Semester, Hybrid Course
Instructor: Kasey Church Brown, Lecturer
Office Hours: Wednesdays from 2:00pm-3:00pm
Appointments Available via Zoom:
Please e-mail: kcbrown2@utep.edu**



**Ballerina: Ashley Boudier, NYCB
Photo Credit: Paul Kolnik**

“Dance is the hidden language of the soul.”

~Martha Graham

Ballet Foundations I Course Syllabus

Fall 2020

Monday, August 24- Thursday, December 3, 2020

This class will be delivered in a **Hybrid Format**. Social distancing will be observed. We will begin the semester meeting in an online format. It is possible that UTEP will require that our course meet in a fully online format due to COVID-19. If so, we will make the necessary adjustments to our course as outlined below.

Credit Hours: 3.0 Units

Prerequisites: DANC 1342 or Department approval

Required Attendance In-Person:

All students are required to attend class synchronously online using Zoom Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 12:00-1:20pm MT. A link will be sent to each student via email providing a password to access the class in real time. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class.

Thursdays' class will consist of attending an online class with a professional company such as the English National Ballet Company. A link will be provided on Blackboard each week for students to use to attend the class online. See the course calendar provided below for more information.

Possible Switch to In-Person-Required Attendance In Person:

If we are permitted to begin attending class in-person we will be required to follow the social distancing guidelines and room capacity restrictions the university has set forth. We will adopt the following schedule:

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday from 12:00-1:20pm

Location: Fox Fine Arts Center - Music M201

Thursday from 12:00-1:20pm

Location: Online synchronously using Zoom. A link will be sent to each student via email providing a password to access the class in real time.

*Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class.

Important Dates:

- Critical Analysis Paper: Due Monday, November 30, 2020 (11:59 pm MT)
- Final Exam: Due Monday, December 7, 2020 by 6:00pm
- School Holidays: Monday, September 7, 2020 (Labor Day) and Thursday, November 26-Friday, November 27, 2020 (Thanksgiving Holiday)
- Last Day to Add: September 9, 2020
- Last Day to Drop: October 30, 2020

Note: Student-initiated drops are permitted after this date, but the student is not guaranteed a grade of W. The faculty member of record will issue a grade of either "W" or an "F".

Contact Method:

Please email me at kcbrown2@utep.edu with any questions or concerns. For messages sent Monday-Friday, you can expect a reply within 24 hours. Due to family responsibilities (I have two young children at home who are also being required to attend school online), I will not be able to reply in a timely manner to messages sent on Saturday or Sunday. You are also welcome to email me to schedule a Zoom conference with me during my office hours on Mondays from 2:00-3:00pm.

Required Course Materials:

1. Most course material will be available through Blackboard, with the exception of the course textbook. The course textbook listed below is available for purchase through the UTEP Bookstore:

Technical Manual and Dictionary of Classical Ballet by Gail Grant, Third Revised Addition (ISBN# 0-486-21843-0). This text is available in the UTEP Bookstore.

2. Proper attire is required to participate in the DANC 1341 course. Please dress appropriately for the Ballet technique class.
 - You are required to wear the proper ballet shoes. This requirement exists for safety reasons. Ballet shoes (“flats” or “slippers”) can be purchased online through Discount Dance: www.discountdance.com
 - leotard, tights, and ballet shoes for women. No bare legs or shorts. No denim.
 - T-shirt or tank top, tights or athletic shorts, and ballet shoes for men. No denim.

Course Calendars:

[UTEP DANC 2341 August.docx](#)

[UTEP DANC 2341 September.docx](#)

[UTEP DANC 2341 October.docx](#)

[UTEP DANC 2341 November.docx](#)

[UTEP DANC 2341 December.docx](#)

Netiquette:

My hope is that you will find our Ballet Foundations I practice helpful not only physically and mentally, but also for the generosity and appreciation it helps cultivate for each other. I welcome you to share with me your experience throughout the semester. Diversity and inclusivity are not only welcomed, but encouraged. Derogatory language or online bullying will not be tolerated. I expect we will treat each other with appreciation for our uniqueness and respect for our differences.

Zoom meetings will be held synchronously in person. It is expected that we will be kind and respectful of everyone in our class.

Grading Policy:

Participation (80 Points): UTEP Dance Absence Policy

In a course that meets twice a week, a student is allowed a maximum of **6** absences in an entire semester, (**4** of which require no justification and result in no penalty). A student

may use these absences based on personal necessity. The 5th and 6th absences will result in a drop of ½ letter each in the student's overall grade. At the 7th absence, regardless of the student's current course standing or grade, the student automatically fails the course.

For courses that meet three times a week, the allowance is **8** absences. The course grade is reduced by ½ letter each for the 7th, 8th, **and the student automatically fails at the 9th absence.**

[UTEP DANCE Absence Policy Covid update Aug2020 FINAL.pdf](#)

Please also keep in mind the following criteria used to determine exemplary participation:

- Remaining engaged throughout the entire class.
- Applying corrections and responding with a positive attitude.
- Practicing course material.
- Asking questions.
- Making every effort to improve one's technique.
- Wearing the proper attire and required shoes (unless the space you are dancing in requires that you wear other shoes, (i.e., in your backyard, at a park, at the beach).
- Demonstrating responsibility for your technique, assignments, and attitude.

Critical Analysis & Critique (10 Points):

The critical analysis will consist of viewing an approved professional dance concert and writing a detailed critical analysis and critique. Please see the list below of "Approved Dance Concerts for Critical Analysis and Critique" provided below. Please remember that viewing one of the dances listed below, as well as writing a critical analysis and critique is a required part of this course. Papers can be submitted anytime during the semester. The last day to submit the Critical Analysis being Monday, November 30, 2020 (11:59pm MT).

As part of our dance technique class, you are required to view a dance concert and compose a typed, double-spaced paper detailing your opinion of the dances and experience observing a virtual dance performance. The paper will be composed outside of class time and submitted through the Blackboard site no more than one week after the date of viewing the performance. All papers must be submitted through Blackboard in PDF format. A more detailed description of the expectations for the Critical Analysis and Critique are available in Blackboard (See Dance Concert Critical Analysis and Critique Instructions). Please remember to review the observation and review guidelines prior to viewing the concert.

Final Exam (10 Points):

The Choreography Project will be held at the end of the quarter. This is the culmination of your Ballet experience for the quarter. The project will consist of choreographing a phrase of 8, 8 counts of ballet technique using the movement we have worked on in class during the semester. The Choreography Project will be then be recorded by the student and uploaded to each student's YouTube Channel for me to watch. Please see "Final Exam Information" in our course page in Blackboard for detailed information.

Exam Date: ALL Choreographic Projects are due on Monday, December 7, 2020 by 6:00pm MT. Late Final Exam Choreographic Projects will not be accepted after Monday, December 7, 2020, 6:00pm MT.

Please see directions for creating your personal YouTube Channel below:

1. Create a YouTube channel, specifically for sharing the course work in DANC 2341. This will be the platform you use to upload your course submissions. Your Channel Name should include the following: your first initial, last name, DANC 2341 (example: kbrown DANC2341) Need help: <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/1646861?hl=en>
2. Upload video submissions of yourself performing your final exam, The Choreography Project, in our DANC 2341 course.

DANC 2341 Course Grading Breakdown:

100 Points Possible

90-100 Points = A- to A+

80-89 Points = B- to B+

70-79 Points = C- to C+

60-69 Points = D- to D+

Below 60 Points = F

Extra Credit:

Sat, October 10: Online TDIF (Texas Dance Improvisation Festival) (2 classes in the AM and 2 in the PM, participation by donation—\$5 suffice) <https://www.tdif.dance/> More updates in the upcoming weeks

Performance Opportunities:

Desert Dance, is the dance student organization at UTEP. Please contact Interim President Kaelin Walker if you are interested in joining. For info: desertdanceutep@gmail.com

Intellectual Property Rules:

*Please note that all course materials, provided by the instructor and/or other sources, are covered by copyright protections. Students are **not** authorized to record, share, repost, and/or redistribute these materials in any form(s) (such as, but not limited to, hard copy and electronic forms) in any venue(s) (such as, but not limited to, social media platforms and online study material sites). In some cases, sharing, reposting, recording, and/or redistributing course materials constitutes a violation of University of Texas at El Paso academic integrity policies, while in other cases such actions constitute a violation of copyright protections. In all cases, such actions shall have serious consequences. All the materials—written, audio, and visual—shared within this course is required to remain within this course. You can only share on your social media your own materials if the only person that appears, or the only author, is you. If you want to share content that includes or is co-authored with other classmates then you are required to write to them AND the instructor to discuss the authorization.*

Approved Dance Concerts to Attend for the Critical Analysis & Critique:

Dance Capstones

UTEP Department of Theatre & Dance

Streaming Online: Friday, November 6 and Saturday, November 7.

DANCE CAPSTONES will be online, Melissa Melpignano has been working with students to adapt/re-conceptualize these important milestone projects for our dance students.

[UTEP Theatre & Dance](#)

Don Quixote

Choreographed by Marius Petipa
"Kitri Variation" Act III
<https://youtu.be/9lpR7yQ66mc>

Le Bayadere

Choreographed by Marius Petipa
"Death of Nikiya"
<https://youtu.be/2fEG6qAem3A>

Remanso

Choreographed by Nacho Duato
Performed by American Ballet Theatre
https://youtu.be/gq_qJGkysas

Romeo and Juliet

Choreographed by Kenneth MacMillan
"The Balcony Pas de Deux"
<https://youtu.be/7zXfYygXX0I>

Sleeping Beauty

Choreographed by Marius Petipa
"The Rose Solo"
https://youtu.be/qqeiv_BQ7Zg

Swan Lake

Choreographed by Julius Reisinger
"The Black Swan Pas de Deux"
<https://youtu.be/XfmSv0z205s>
"The Dying Swan"
<https://youtu.be/IW3GAjAKges>
"The Corps de Ballet"
<https://youtu.be/TkCijrMgeM8>

The Nutcracker

Choreographed by Marius Petipa
"The Sugar Plum Pas de Deux"
<https://youtu.be/qy6dlGpC3Ns>

*Please remember that viewing one of the above concerts, as well as writing a dance critique is a required part of this course.

LATE or Missing Course Work/Assignments:

Late assignments are not accepted. It is your responsibility to turn in your assignments via Blackboard in PDF format. This is a college course and you are responsible for assignments and required participation.

Helpful Websites:

UTEP Theatre & Dance Website: <https://www.utep.edu/liberalarts/theatre-dance/>

UTEP Dance Degree Requirements: <https://www.utep.edu/liberalarts/theatre-dance/academic-programs/bachelor-program.html>

American Ballet Theatre Ballet Dictionary:

<http://www.abt.org/education/dictionary/index.html>

Discount Dance Supply (for ballet shoes as well as other dance attire):

<https://www.discountdance.com/>

Dear Ballet Students,

For the first time in the history of the Dance Program at UTEP, all dance technique classes will meet in a hybrid format for the fall semester. Being that this is an unprecedented experience, we will work together to support, encourage, learn and create with an eye for kindness and understanding. Just as you are learning, so am I. I believe with the right attitude we will accomplish all of our goals. To begin I have taken this opportunity to set forward the course objectives, which you will find listed below. If you have additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to schedule a time to speak with me during my office hours or during another time that is convenient. Finally, please be respectful of the Intellectual Property Rules set forth above. Thank you for your time, effort, and interest in the wonderful art form of dance.

Sincerely,

Kasey C. Brown

M.A. Dance Education

1.Course Description:

Ballet Foundations I (5-0) Continuation of 1342 at the first intermediate level. Prerequisite: DANC 1342 or department approval.

2. Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Students will learn beginning-intermediate ballet technique and principles.
- Students will illustrate proper alignment for ballet positions one through five.
- Students will identify, define and correctly spell basic ballet terminology.
- Students will develop physical strength, flexibility, coordination, agility, timing, rhythm, grace and body control.

- Students will codify steps and link movements together to produce a phrase/dance.
- Students will analyze elements of a dance performance and develop awareness of style in the technique of ballet.

3. Classroom Expectations:

Please be advised that the Ballet Foundations I class is an academic course and not a recreational course. The following classroom expectations are designed to create a supportive, creative and respectful learning environment.

- 1 You must check your UTEP email account regularly. If you do not use your UTEP email account then you must link it to your primary email account. I will use Blackboard to communicate important information such as directions for the critical analysis paper, information about the final exam, and any class changes.
- 2 Per UTEP COVID-19 Policies, students are required to wear a mask that covers their mouth and nose while participating in the DANC 2341 class in the dance studio.
- 3 Proper attire is required to participate in class. Please dress appropriately for the Ballet technique class.
 - leotard, tights, and ballet shoes for women. No bare legs or shorts. No denim.
 - T-shirt or tank top, tights or athletic shorts, and ballet shoes for men. No denim.
 - You are required to wear the proper ballet shoes. Ballet shoes (“flats” or “slippers”) can be purchased online through: www.discountdance.com
- 4 Hair must be secured off the neck and away from the face. You will be asked to put your hair up if you come to class without it properly secured.
- 5 No hats. Minimal jewelry is expected.
- 6 You may wear warm-up clothes if they are approved, but they should be removed by mid-barre. This enables me to see your placement and offer valuable corrections. What I cannot see, I cannot correct.
- 7 No gum! No gum! No gum! If you are chewing gum during class you will be required to spit it out in the trash can outside. This rule exists for safety reasons.
- 8 It is expected that each student will work hard, challenge their personal best, and remain attentive throughout the class.
- 9 Participate physically and mentally in a safe manner. It is important to listen to your body! We will discuss this throughout the quarter.
- 10 Exhibit the ability to spontaneously respond to auditory and visual cues.
- 11 This is a physically active course. I will use visual and auditory cues to teach the technique. I also use physical adjustments to correct anatomical mistakes in order to help prevent injury. If you are uncomfortable having me correct you in a physical manner please let me know with a simple, “No thank you” via email.
- 12 I hope that any student who does not understand the material presented will ask for a further explanation at an appropriate time.
- 13 Please be responsible. This is an academic class. Please feel free to schedule a Zoom conference with me during my office hours should you need additional support.

- 14 Conduct yourself in a manner that is respectful and supportive of yourself, your instructor, and your fellow students.
- 15 It is **YOUR** responsibility to drop the class if you are no longer attending.
- 16 It is expected that students follow the Intellectual Property Rules as they apply to this course.
- 17 Finally, last but not least, enjoy your ballet practice. This is your time to learn, enjoy and cultivate your appreciation and understanding of the art of ballet.

UTEP DANCE Policies:

Absence Policy:

-COVID update, August 2020

To succeed in any course, but especially a dance course where students can often only learn by experiential participation, a student must first and above all be present.

Therefore, the Absence Policy of the UTEP Dance Program prioritizes class attendance and participation at the top of the grading process.

However, due to the unforeseen circumstances dictated by the COVID-19 pandemic, we, as faculty, want to recognize and honor the challenges of online learning (both synchronous and asynchronous), and the difficulties in accessing an appropriate space to move, dance, rehearse, and create dance work.

Because every student's circumstance is unique, we encourage students to be as open and honest as possible when encountering unexpected challenges, as well as to communicate in advance potential issues that could affect their commitment to a class (child care, elder care, shifting work schedule...).

E-mail your instructors (and TAs if any) as soon as an issue comes up: this is the only way you can get help and possible accommodations while minimizing the impact on your academic progress. While every situation will be assessed by the instructor of record, the more a student is responsible to communicate in a clear and effective way, the easier it will be to find a positive solution. Make up classes might be an option to discuss with your instructor of record.

The following guideline is intended for ONLINE SYNCHRONOUS OR HYBRID CLASSES

Technique/Theory/Creative Classes that meet twice or three times a week

In a course that meets twice a week, a student is allowed a maximum of **6** (absences in an entire semester, **4** of which require no justification and result in no penalty. A student may use these absences based on personal necessity. The 5th and 6th absences will result in a drop of ½ letter each in the student's overall grade. At the 7th absence, regardless of the student's current course standing or grade, the student automatically fails the course.

For courses that meet three times a week, the allowance is **8** absences. The course grade is reduced by ½ letter each for the 7th, 8th, and the student automatically fails at the 9th absence.

Subject Matter:

The performing arts have a power to stir strong emotions, or possibly touch on subjects you might not feel comfortable seeing on stage. If you have concerns about viewing or discussing specific subjects, please see the person in charge of your section as soon as possible to discuss possible accommodations. As we will respect your individual's rights to choose what shows you want to see, we expect all our discussions—including any that may occur outside of class—to be conducted in a respectful and professional matter.

UTEP COVID-19 Information:

Student Responsibilities:

- Complete self-screening (screening.utep.edu) prior to every campus visit.
- Complete COVID-19 student training at [this site](#).
- Contact instructor if temporary accommodations due to COVID-19 are needed (i.e., due to positive COVID-19 test, symptoms, or exposure).
- If unable to wear a face covering (e.g., medical reasons), the best course of action is to enroll in courses that are entirely online or to work with academic advisors, if necessary, to identify alternative courses. If this is not possible, request an accommodation from [Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#) (CASS) prior to coming to campus for in-person activities. Students who receive an accommodation to not wear a face covering must share this with the professor and work to minimize contact with others in the class.
- Wear a face covering at all times.
- Maintain 6 feet of separation at all times, including when talking with other students.
- Follow signage indicating specific entry and exit doors and pathways.
- Do not cluster in groups and keep hallways open.
- Wash hands and/or apply hand sanitizer prior to entering classroom and after leaving a classroom. Do not touch face until after hands are washed/sanitized.
- Use an alcohol wipe, provided outside of classrooms, to sanitize the desk, chair, or table.
- Follow faculty protocols for leaving and re-entering the classroom.

COVID-19 Precautions:

- (**all classes**) You must STAY AT HOME and REPORT if you (1) have been diagnosed with COVID-19, (2) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (3) have had recent contact with a person who has received a positive coronavirus test. Reports should be made at screening.utep.edu. If you know anyone who should report any of these three criteria, encourage them to report. If the individual cannot report, you can report on their behalf by sending an email to COVIDaction@utep.edu.

- **(all classes)** For each day that you attend campus—for any reason—you must complete the questions on the UTEP screening website (screening.utep.edu) prior to arriving on campus. The website will verify if you are permitted to come to campus. Under no circumstances should anyone come to class when feeling ill or exhibiting any of the known COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, and alternative instruction will be provided. Students are advised to minimize the number of encounters with others to avoid infection.
- **(all classes)** Wear face coverings when in common areas of campus or when others are present. You must wear a face covering over your nose and mouth at all times in this class. If you choose not to wear a face covering, you may not enter the classroom. If you remove your face covering, you will be asked to put it on or leave the classroom. Students who refuse to wear a face covering and follow preventive COVID-19 guidelines will be dismissed from the class and will be subject to disciplinary action according to Section 1.2.3 *Health and Safety* and Section
 - 1.2.2.5 *Disruptions* in the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures.
- **(classes with on-campus meetings)** Please note that if COVID-19 conditions deteriorate in the City of El Paso, all course and lab activities may be transitioned to remote delivery.

COVID-19 Accommodations:

(all classes) Students are not permitted on campus when they have a positive COVID-19 test, exposure or symptoms. If you are not permitted on campus, you should contact me as soon as possible so we can arrange necessary and appropriate accommodations.

(classes with on-campus meetings) Students who are considered high risk according to CDC guidelines and/or those who live with individuals who are considered high risk may contact [Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#) (CASS) to discuss temporary accommodations for on campus courses and activities.

UTEP Policies:

UTEP Academic Integrity and Scholastic Dishonesty Policy

This course will adhere to UTEP's Academic Integrity and Scholastic Dishonesty Policy. A link is provided below.

From: <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/osccr/student-conduct/academic-integrity.html>

Disability Statement:

From: <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/cass/>

- If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible.
- If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services at Union East Building, Room 106 , by email at cass@utep.edu or by phone at (915) 747-5148.
- Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the instructor during office hours to discuss their disability related needs. Use of the Center for Accommodations and Support Services, including testing accommodations, requires prior authorization by the CASS office and compliance with approved procedures.
- It is University policy to provide, on a flexible and individualized basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact their instructor to discuss their individual needs for accommodations.
- Should CASS determine a student needs accommodation, the CASS office will notify me via e-mail.

UTEP Campus Support Information for Students:
[Campus Support Information for Students](#)

UTEP Counseling Center Information:
[Counseling Center Information](#)

UTEP Tech Support:
[Technical Support](#)

***Please note:** This syllabus and schedule are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances. If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to check for announcements made while you were absent. Thank you.