SYLLABUS ADVANCED BALLET SPRING 2015

Ballet IV for non-majors DANC 2342 27166 MWF 1:30 – 2:50 and
Ballet VI DANC 3342 21280 M – F 1:30 – 2:50–Cross listed with
Ballet VIII DANC 4342 22037 M – F 1:30 – 2:50

FOX FINE ARTS 452

INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD: LISA SMITH

This course is taught by both Lisa Smith (MWF) and Myron Nadel (TR). All class business and grading is handled by the instructor of record (Smith).

LISAS@UTEP.EDU

OFFICE HOURS: TR 10:30 – 11:50 and by appointment

USE BLACKBOARD IF AVAILABLE; CONTACT PROFESSOR THROUGH BLACKBOARD ABOUT CLASS MATTERS ONLY.

Course Goals:

To become technically and artistically proficient in advanced-level ballet technique, combinations, theory, and vocabulary.

To perform advanced level ballet combinations alone or in small groups with a high degree of precision, dynamics, efficiency, strength, endurance, musicality, and personal artistry.

To analyze, critique, and generally assess personal performance in class.

Course description:

Advanced ballet is a continuation of lessons in classical ballet technique. More variety and complexity are found in barre and center work combinations. Added emphasis on fluent phrasing, rhythmic articulation, and efficient alignment is stressed. Regular pointe, partnering, men’s work, and variations are part of the lessons.

Requirements:

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes; however, a maximum of 5 classes may be missed without penalty to your grade. Just so you know, this policy is based on the general No Fault Absence Policy followed by the faculty of the Dance Program, HOWEVER, five classes in an absurd amount of classes for and advanced dancer to miss. Daily class is part of a dancer’s life, and as a training professional, you need to make that daily class a part of your life now. While missing 5 classes will not LOWER your grade, it is difficult to imagine a dancer missing five classes earning an A in technique class. That many absences will surely affect your overall effort and commitment assessment. If your work and
attendance are excellent, you may earn an A. Latecomers will be penalized ½ absence for each tardiness. If you are too ill or injured to participate but are not contagious, you may attend and observe for credit a maximum of two times. No make-up classes are offered. See the Dance Program’s No Fault Attendance Policy posted on Blackboard for more detail.

**Dress:** Ballet class is not the place to try out your fashion self-expression. Come dressed for business with respect for the work you are going to do.

- **Women:** ballet slippers, pointe shoes, black or pink tights, solid colored leotard.
- **Men:** ballet shoes, black tights, tight fitting shirt, dance belt.
- Tight fitting leg warmers and sweaters are permissible, if necessary. Hair must be close to the head and held in place.

**Examinations:** (practicals) 20% of final grade:

You will take three faculty-generated practicals (in-class performance) examinations. The faculty test material may be presented by the professor, either before or at the examination.

- **Practical 1:** Friday, February, 27
- **Practical 2:** Friday April 10
- **Practical 3:** Wednesday, May 6

For each combination performed, you may earn: 18 - 20 Excellent, 16 – 17.5 Good, 14 – 16.5 Satisfactory, 12 – 13.5 Below Level, 10 – 11.5 Unsatisfactory, or 0 (unacceptable or not performed). See the Practical Grading Criteria file on the blackboard homepage. All 3 practical grades will be averaged for one final semester score. No makeups are given for practical exams.

**Semester Project:** **Research and Role Interpretation.** Project information is located on your Blackboard site. This project counts as 20% of your total grade.

**Daily Grade:** Attendance, Participation, Effort, Improvement 60% of final grade:

Regular and committed class attendance is a given among professional dancers. As an advanced level dancer, you are either getting close to graduating or have attained an advanced level of technical ability. In either case, in this class, a high level of commitment, leadership, and professionalism is expected of you. Your daily grade reflects your understanding and demonstration of these qualities. Do not miss class. Dress appropriately. Leave your personal problems at the door. Dance to the best of your ability every day. Be the dancer you can be. Nothing less is worth your time or mine.

**Final Percentage Points and Grade:**

90=A, 80=B, 70=C, 60=D. Perfect attendance adds 10 points; one missed class adds 5 points.
"I am always doing things I can’t do, that’s how I get to do them." – Picasso

**Academic Dishonesty:** Any form of academic dishonesty: cheating, plagiarizing, or taking a test for another student is considered a very serious matter at UTEP. Our library webpage provides good information on what UTEP considers Academic Dishonesty and what steps the university takes in such cases. Please review this information at: [http://libraryweb.utep.edu/research/plagiarism.php](http://libraryweb.utep.edu/research/plagiarism.php)

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**ADA:** The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that reasonable accommodations be provided for students with physical, sensory, cognitive, systemic, learning, and psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass.

**Technology Problems:** Technology problems are NOT an excuse for work that is late or missing. Students need to get into the habit of completing assignments for this course well before the due date to allow time for dealing with technology problems. Expect that at some time, the network will be down, computers will go on the fritz, or some other small catastrophes will occur. Contact IT for technological problems and remember the Atlas lab in the UGLC or LACIT in the Liberal Arts building provide assistance with using Blackboard.

**University Writing Center:** Located in the Library room 227, UTEP’s University Writing Center (UWC) offers free tutoring assistance in writing for all UTEP students. The tutors are undergraduate and graduate students who can help with all parts of a writing assignment, including prewriting, organizing, revising, and editing. They can also help you understand any writing assignment and will work with you to aid you in comprehending difficult material.