SYLLABUS ADVANCED BALLET SPRING 2014

Ballet VI DANC 3342 25244–Cross listed with Ballet VIII DANC 4342 22183

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: T, R 11:30 – 1:00

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.
TOTAL absences, late entrances, early exits, and non-participation. NONE adds 10 points; ONE adds 7 points; TWO adds 5 points; THREE adds 3 points; FOUR = zero.

TOTAL absences, late entrances, early exits, and less-than full participation. SIX entries debit 10 points; SEVEN debit 20 points; EIGHT debit 30 points, NINE debit 40 points.

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: Thursday, February 27

Practical 2: Thursday, April 10

Practical 3: Thursday, May 8

For each combination performed, you may earn a 9 – 10 Excellent, 8 – 9 Good, 7 -8 Satisfactory, 6-7 Below Level, 5-6 Unsatisfactory, or 0 (unacceptable or not performed). See the Practical Grading Rubric icon on the blackboard homepage. No makeups are given for practical exams

Ballet Self-Assessment Project: Three Big Concepts: I. Back to Basics, review of terminology, II. Back to Basics, review of style and genre, III Researching the future. 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

“I am always doing things I can't do, that's how I get to do them.” – Picasso

Emergency contact: If you are injured in class and need assistance, the UTEP police will be called. An accident report will be filed. Beyond that you need a plan. Do you want a family member to be called? If so, who? Do you need assistance to a hospital? UTEP does NOT cover the cost of Emergency Medical Service. If you do not wish to be transported by them to the hospital at your own cost, you can refuse the service. Provide your instructor with your preferences and a file will be kept with that information.