

Course Syllabus

Course Information

DANC 2334 001
M/W 10-11:15am

Beginning Ballet
JO 1.216

Spring 2026

Professor Contact Information

Professor Micki Saba
Office Phone 972 883 2083
Email Address monica.saba@utdallas.edu
Office Location JO 5.304
Office Hours Tuesday 11:45am-12:45pm or by appointment. Office hours are held both in person or online through MS Teams. Appointments are encouraged especially for online meetings although drop ins are excepted on a first come first serve basis. Please contact the Professor through their university email. Do not use MS Teams or eLearning

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

None

Course Description

In this class, students will study ballet technique at a beginning level. Ballet will be taught through the practice of technique, supplemented with attendance at performances and viewing of videos.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

Students will be able to both execute physically and describe orally the basic movement vocabulary of beginning Ballet.

Students will be able to analyze live performances from specific criteria given to them in class.

Students will compare and recognize variables within the art form after exposure to various styles and techniques of Ballet through classroom participation, video viewing, and live performance attendance.

Students should value the art form, discipline, and dedication needed to excel in dance by participating in the structure of the technique, recognizing its demands of the physical body, and the experience of the execution of a complete movement phrase.

Required Textbooks and Materials

Required Texts

none

Required Materials

none

Suggested Course Materials

Suggested Readings/Texts

Technical Manual and Dictionary of Classical Ballet by Gail Grant

Assignments & Academic Calendar

1/21 Review syllabus
2/18 Stretch Class
2/25 Video
3/2 Ballet Quiz Review/
3/4 Ballet Quiz
3/29 1st Performance Analysis or program/summary due
4/13 Stretch class
4/15 Video
4/29 Final Ballet Quiz Part 1 / Extra Credit due/make up assignments due
5/1 Showcase performance Call 6pm Performance 7:30 (there will be additional spacing/tech rehearsals earlier in the day beginning at 1pm but a specific time is TBD)
5/4 Final Ballet Quiz Part 2 review/2nd Performance Analysis or program/summary due
5/6 Final Ballet Quiz Part 2
Unless otherwise indicated above all classes will be Ballet Technique

Most all classes will be recorded on Teams for review, practice, and special circumstances approved by the instructor. Students may not attend class online.

Grading Policy

Grade Value

60% Class participation and Attendance
20% Performance attendance and written analysis
20% Skills and vocabulary

Grading for Analysis

Papers on average will be a maximum two pages that must be submitted online through eLearning. Late papers may be accepted. Two points will be deducted for each day it is late, beginning with the due date. All assignments and participation grades begin with a grade of 95%. Points are either deducted or added depending on the quality of the work.

Grade Scale

A+ 98-100	B+ 88-89	C+ 78-79	D+ 68-69	F 59 & below
A 93-97	B 83-87	C 73-77	D 63-67	
A- 90-92	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	

A+ will only be awarded for regular class requirements. Extra credit assignments do not count towards an A+.

To calculate your grade use the above percentages. **DO NOT** use the calculations in eLearning,

Course Policies

Attendance and Participation

Attendance/Participation is mandatory. Two absences are allowed; any thereafter result in a 3 point deduction starting at 100 for each class missed. Please be on time, arriving after the role has been called is considered late. A ½ point will be deducted in fifteen minutes increments from the scheduled class start time until the student arrives. It is the student's responsibility to remind the instructor of their attendance if they arrive after the roll has been called. Failure to do so could result in an absence recorded and applied for that day. Students may not physically participate if they arrive more than 15 minutes late which may affect their participation grade. Excused absences may be made up, please speak to the instructor for various options. A student will be allowed to make up 4 **excused** absences. Absences considered excused are those due to illness (student may be required to have a doctor's note), religious holidays, immediate family death, and official school organized activities. Written documentation must be provided for the absence to be excused. For absences caused by a death in the family approval must be granted through the Dean of Students Office (Not the Instructor) and then submitted to the instructor. <https://deanofstudents.utdallas.edu/contact/>

Student must provide written documentation that includes their name, the day and time of the makeup class, and the makeup instructor's signature to receive proper credit. All classes must be made up before the last two weeks of the semester.

Participation is graded on a student's participation in the class, learning material given, effort, preparedness for class (including proper attire), and individual personal growth. Each class has a value of 3 points awarded daily by attending class and fulfilling the preceding requirements. Points may be deducted if any of these requirements are unfulfilled. If for any reason the student must observe rather than physically participate, they will receive partial credit for this portion of the grade. To receive full credit for observation, a one page paper is required documenting what was observed.

Students will be required to attend 1 dance performance off campus and the UTDance Ensemble performance (April 16, 17, 18.) The off-campus performance must be a professional or semi-professional ballet performance. In addition, a written detailed analysis from one of the shows and a brief summary for the other are required. A program of the performance must accompany each submission. Required concert attendance will be a concert of student's choice from the instructor's approved performance list posted in eLearning. A separate hand out will be posted with analysis requirements. Analysis and program will be turned in through eLearning. Scan or submit a photo on eLearning that includes the cover of the program and the page or

pages giving information of dances performed, choreographer, composer or musical artist, any program notes about the dance. Write your name on all required scanned pages. The analysis must include a detailed description of 1 dance piece from the program attended. If the first or last piece of the program are not chosen for analysis, a brief summary of those pieces should also be included. Both the opening and closing works must be included as either a summary or complete analysis. If the performance is a musical or full length ballet the opening and closing may not be a dance. In this case include a summary of what happened in the opening or closing, describe the scene. 3 points will be deducted for the omission of each. Written analysis must be submitted through eLearning. A program from the performance must be submitted on eLearning. Scan or upload a photo of the front cover of the program and the inside portion that list the program for that evening which would include the title of each piece, choreographer, music, dancers and any program notes. Make sure the entire show is submitted. **Do not scan bios, advertisements, and donors list.**

Write your name on all inside pages of the program that list the program information as described above. More detailed requirements for the assignment can be found in the Performance assignment in eLearning.

Skill and Vocabulary

You will be expected to know the definition and how to execute specific movements that will come from your vocabulary list and daily class practice. You may be tested verbally, physically, and on paper. This grade includes your daily application of movement and quizzes.

Extra Credit

Extra credit may be received by attending other dance performances. 3 points will be awarded to any graded category of student's choice and the student may attend as many as three performances for extra credit. A short summary and program from the concert must be submitted for each performance attended. The extra credit deadline for submission is April 29, 2026.

Late Work

Late work must be completed two weeks prior to the last class day

General Class Etiquette and Attire

Minimum jewelry

Hair up and away from face. Hair may not hang longer than the neck.

No chewing gum

Closed liquid containers (water only)

No sitting down during class

No talking while dancing or during demonstrations of exercises

You are required to wear specific dance attire for ballet

Women: Solid dark color leotards, black or pink tights, and ballet shoes. Solid color sweat pants, dance warm ups, ballet skirts, dance sweaters, and solid color sweat shirts (when it is cold) are allowed.

Men: Solid color sweat pants, solid color t shirts or sweat shirts, and ballet shoes. You may wear men's leotards and tights with a dance belt if you choose.

Points may be deducted from your daily participation grade for inappropriate attire or etiquette.

Field Trip Policies

There are no scheduled group field trips for this class. All dance concerts attended by the student are attended on their own time. Concerts attended are chosen by the student.

Class Materials

The instructor may provide class materials that will be made available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. These materials may be downloaded during the course, however, these materials are for registered students' use only. Classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Class Attendance

The University's attendance policy requirement is that individual faculty set their course attendance requirements. Regular and punctual class attendance is expected. Students who fail to attend class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. In some courses, instructors may have special attendance requirements; these should be made known to students during the first week of classes.

Class Participation

Regular class participation is expected regardless of course modality. Students who fail to participate in class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. A portion of the grade for this course is directly tied to your participation in this class. It also includes engaging in group or other activities during class that solicit your feedback on homework assignments, readings, or materials covered in the lectures (and/or labs). Class participation is documented by faculty. Successful participation is defined as consistently adhering to University requirements, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Class Recordings

Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply

with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

The instructor may record meetings of this course. These recordings will be made available to all students registered for this class if the intent is to supplement the classroom experience. If the instructor or a UTD school/department/office plans any other uses for the recordings, consent of the students identifiable in the recordings is required prior to such use unless an exception is allowed by law.

All classes will be recorded for this course except for video viewing days.

- (a) Texas Senate Bill 17, the recent law that prohibits diversity, equity, and inclusion programs and activities at public universities in Texas, does not in any way apply to academic course instruction. Students should not feel the need to self-censor or limit their participation in academic courses pertaining to topics of race and racism, structural inequality, LGBTQ+ issues, or diversity, equity, and inclusion, and related topics.
- (b) Texas Senate Bill 17, the recent law that prohibits diversity, equity, and inclusion programs and activities at public universities in Texas, does not in any way apply to academic course instruction.

Classroom Citizenship

Comet Creed

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

Academic Support Resources

The information contained in the following link lists the University’s academic support resources for all students.

Please see <http://go.utdallas.edu/academic-support-resources>.

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University’s policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please review the catalog sections regarding the [credit/no credit](#) or [pass/fail](#) grading option and withdrawal from class.

Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.