

DANC 183A: BALLET DANCE

Spring—Tuesday & Thursday—12:30pm – 1:50pm

Location: AHF B20

Instructor: Angeliki Papadakis

Office: STO 324

Office Hours: To be scheduled by email

Contact Info: angelikp@usc.edu

Course Description

Beginning techniques of classical ballet consisting of basic barre and center work; basic body and arm positions, port de bras, allegro and elementary adagio

Full Course Description

This course is designed to instruct ballet technique fundamentals at a beginning level. This class is appropriate for all students interested in learning ballet technique. The course consists of barre and center exercises, as well as an introduction to adagio, petit and grand allegro, and pirouettes.

Learning Objectives

The overall objective of this course is to give the students an understanding of the basics of ballet dance technique. In this course students will:

- Acquire an understanding of the basics of ballet dance technique
- Develop an understanding of the basic tenets of performance and etiquette in a ballet class
- Execute a written journal recording commentary on ballet technique, achievements, challenges, and inspirations
- Execute a written review of the one of the USC Kaufman BFA Students' performance

Course Notes

Course announcements, assignments, readings, and requirements will be posted to Blackboard. Students are expected to review the course's Blackboard page weekly.

Proper Attire for Technique Class

Soft ballet shoes are required. Ballet shoes can be purchased online or at any local dance store. Be sure to check size conversions as some ballet shoes are sized differently than normal shoes. Students are also expected to have their hair neat and out of their face at the beginning of class. Women: Solid color leotard, pink or black full-length tights, ballet slippers with elastic. Men: Leotard or close fitting T-shirt, full-length tights, dance belt, ballet slippers with elastic. Yoga and/or close-fitting work-out attire is also allowed.

Required Text

Warren, Gretchen Ward., and Susan Cook. *Classical Ballet Technique*. Gainesville (Fla.): U of South Florida, 1989.

Suggested Readings

Anderson, Jack. *Ballet & Modern Dance: A Concise History*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton Book, 1992.

Au, Susan, and Jim Rutter. *Ballet and Modern Dance: 149 Illustrations, 29 in Colour*. London: Thames & Hudson, 2012. Print.

Grieg, Valerie. *Inside Ballet Technique: Separating Anatomical Fact from Fiction in the Ballet Class*. Pennington, NJ: Princeton Book, 1994.

Description and Assessment of Assignments

Students will be responsible for completing a midterm exam, a final exam, a journal, and a dance concert reflection paper. The exams will consist of ballet terminology and a practical exam executing ballet exercises. There will also be an optional in-studio performance for this class of a series of exercises the week of April 25th to April 29th (exact date and time TBD - a sign-up sheet will be circulated).

Assignment Description and Grading

I. Active Participation	Description and Grading	Points	% of Grade
Active Participation	For purposes of this course, active participation is diligently engaging in physical ballet technique curriculum including exerting effort to effectuate muscle memory to the best of your ability without disruptive behavior, unexcused tardiness, or absence as required during scheduled class time. Note that among other undesirable behavior, excessive sitting out, tardiness, absences, unwillingness to exert full efforts, distracting classmates, failing to adhere to the dress code, and marking of movement as opposed to full-out effort will negatively affect active participation points. Students should be respectful of the instructor, fellow classmates, and themselves during class activities, demonstration of combinations, and collaborations. Preparation, review and in-class work as observed by the instructor are key in achieving full active participation points.	150	15%
	Total	150	15%

II. Journals	Description and Grading	Points	% of Grade
Journals	Students are expected to execute a weekly journal entry including commentary on the readings and the in-class experience. Journals will be due the beginning of the class period on the Tuesdays of Week 6, Week 11, and Week 14. Hard copies only. No late Journals will be accepted.	100	10%
	Total	100	10%

III. Midterm Exam	Description and Grading	Points	% of Grade
Thurs., 3/3 during class time			
Terminology Examination	Midterm will consist of a written exam on ballet terminology and definitions including an understanding of the correct execution of fundamental ballet technique steps.	250	25%
	Total	250	25%

IV. Paper	Description and Grading	Points	% of Grade
Dance Review Paper	<p>Students are required to attend a performance of the USC Kaufman BFA students this semester. Students will write a personal reflection paper (3-5 pages, typed, double-spaced and proofread) offering original comments on the content and form of a live dance performance given by USC Kaufman BFA Students.</p> <p>Your choice of attending: - Mid-Term informal studio showing in PED 207: tentatively Feb. 25 and the 26th (time TBD) - Performance of <i>Graham</i> in Bovard Auditorium: April 27 (time TBD) - End of Semester Performance in the Bing Theatre: April 28-29 (time TBD)</p> <p><i>Students must email the papers to angelikp@usc.edu by May 4^h at 12pm. The papers must be in Microsoft Word format (.doc or .docx).</i></p> <p>Late papers will not be accepted. The paper will be evaluated on its quality, thoroughness, and thoughtfulness. Other Requirements: typed, MLA format, double-spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman font, 1 inch margins, 8 ½” by 11” standard paper.</p>	150	15%
	Total	150	15%

V. Final Exam Wed. 5/11, 2-4pm	Description and Grading	Points	% of Grade
Practical Examination	<p>Each student must perform ballet technique exercises. Students will be evaluated on their success in the criteria listed below. Each category will equate 25% of the total final examination grade.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Precision in the execution of the combination 2. Musicality 3. Amount of perceived effort in executing the steps 4. Overall performance quality 	350	35%
	Total	350	35%

Grading Breakdown

Final Exam	350 points	35%
Midterm Exam	250 points	25%
Active Participation	150 points	15%
Journals	100 points	10%
Reflection Paper	150 points	15%
Total	1,000 points	100%

A+ = 100 points
A = 96-99 points
A- = 91-95 points
B+ = 88-90 points
B = 85-87 points
B- = 81-84 points
C+ = 78-80 points
C = 75-77 points
C- = 71-74 points
D+ = 67-70 points
D- = 61-63 points
F = 60 or below

Exam Policy

The Midterm Exam will be conducted the eighth week of the semester during class time. For the date and time of the Final Exam for this class, consult the USC *Schedule of Classes* at www.usc.edu/soc. No make-up midterm or final exams will be permitted. Any student tardy to an exam will not be permitted additional time outside of the scheduled exam period to complete the exam.

Course Expectations

The student is expected to do the following:

- Be on time and prepared for class having completed reading and other class assignments
- Engage in ballet technique
- Develop an understanding of the basics concerning ballet technique

Attendance, Tardiness and Absences:

Attendance is mandatory. There will be 3 excused absences allowed. No doctors' notes are necessary or accepted. No make-up classes are allowed. Tardiness is not tolerated. The full course time is necessary to complete course training, and tardiness creates a significant disruption to the course work of the other students. Tardiness of 20 minutes or more will constitute an absence. Further, 3 tardy attendances of less than 20 minutes will also constitute an absence. Because attendance is important to this course, each unexcused absence will count for a 10 point deduction of the final accumulated Active Participation (as defined herein) points.

Course Schedule: A Weekly Breakdown	Topics/Daily Activities	Readings and Homework	Deliverables/ Due Dates
WEEK 1 1/12 1/14	Tues. 1/12 Intro. discussion to ballet technique and review of syllabus Thurs. 1/14 Beginning-level ballet and barre and center exercises	Warren, Foreword xi, Introduction pp. 1-2, 5-12 Warren, pp. 13-20, 366-369	
WEEK 2 1/19 1/21	Beginning-level ballet and barre and center exercises	Warren, pp. 25-33, 39, 52-57, 60-63, 230-231	
WEEK 3 1/26 1/28	Beginning-level ballet and barre and center exercises	Warren, pp. 70, 84-105	
WEEK 4 2/2 2/4	Beginning-level ballet and barre and center exercises	Warren, pp. 106-115	
WEEK 5 2/9 2/11	Beginning-level ballet and barre and center exercises	Warren, pp. 40-51, 116-121 & 220-227	
WEEK 6 2/16 2/18	Beginning-level ballet and barre and center exercises	Warren, pp. 122-132	Journals due 2/18 at the beginning of the class at least 3 entries
WEEK 7 2/23 2/25	Beginning-level ballet and barre and center exercises	Warren, pp. 133-140	<i>BFA Performance in PED 207 2/25 & 2/26</i>
WEEK 8 MIDTERM EXAM 3/1 3/3	Tues., 3/1: Beginning-level ballet and barre and center exercises + review Midterm Examination conducted during class time. Thursday March 3rd		Midterm Examination conducted during class time Thursday March 3rd
WEEK 9 3/8 3/10	Beginning-level ballet and barre and center exercises	Warren, pp. 141-153, 242-257, 260-263	
WEEK 10 3/15 3/17 SPRING BREAK NO CLASSES	SPRING BREAK NO CLASSES	SPRING BREAK NO CLASSES	
WEEK 11 3/22 3/24	Beginning-level ballet and barre and center exercises	Warren, pp. 159-169, 170-176, 180-189, 270-271	Journals due Thurs. 3/24 at the beginning of the class at least 7 entries
WEEK 12 3/29 3/31	Beginning-level ballet and barre and center exercises	Warren, pp. 190-201, 219-233, 284-287, 290-291	

WEEK 13 4/5 4/7	Beginning-level ballet and barre and center exercises	Warren, pp. 219-233 (review), 242-257 (review), 284-287, 290-291 (review)	
WEEK 14 4/12 4/14	Beginning-level ballet and barre and center exercises	Warren, pp. 260-263 (review), 270-271 (review), 276-279	Journals due 4/14 at the beginning of the class at least 10 entries
WEEK 15 4/19 4/21	Beginning-level ballet and barre and center exercises	Warren, pp. 284-287, 290-291 (review)	
WEEK 16 4/26 4/28	Beginning-level ballet and barre and center exercises Optional performance exact date and time TBD		<i>BFA Performance in Bovard 4/27 & Bing 4/28, 4/29</i> Optional exact performance date and time TBD
FINAL EXAM & DANCE REVIEW PAPER	Dance Review Paper Due via email to angelikp@usc.edu by Wed. May 4th at 12pm. Final Exam Wed. May 11th, 2pm – 4pm , confirm with the USC Schedule of Classes at www.usc.edu/soc .		Dance Review Paper Due via email to angelikp@usc.edu by Wed. May 4th at 12pm. Final Exam Wed. May 11th, 2pm – 4pm , confirm with the USC Schedule of Classes at www.usc.edu/soc .

Statement for Students with Disabilities

Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Website and contact information for DSP: http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html, (213) 740-0776 (Phone), (213) 740-6948 (TDD only), (213) 740-8216 (FAX) ability@usc.edu.

Emergency Preparedness/Course Continuity in a Crisis

In case of a declared emergency if travel to campus is not feasible, USC executive leadership will announce an electronic way for instructors to teach students in their residence halls or homes using a combination of Blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technologies.

Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

Academic Conduct

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Section 11, Behavior Violating University Standards <https://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/>.

Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the Office of Equity and Diversity <http://equity.usc.edu/> or to the Department of Public Safety <http://capsnet.usc.edu/department/department-public-safety/online-forms/contact-us>. This is important for the safety whole USC community. Another member of the university community – such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member – can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. The Center for Women and Men <http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/> provides 24/7 confidential support, and the sexual assault resource center webpage sarc@usc.edu describes reporting options and other resources.

Support Systems

A number of USC's schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the American Language Institute <http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali>, which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students. The Office of Disability Services and Programs http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, USC Emergency Information <http://emergency.usc.edu/> will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.