

## **DANC 183B: BALLET**

**Code 22395R**

**Spring 2016**

**2 Units**

**Day: Monday/Wednesday**

**Time: 11:00am - 12:20pm**

**Location: AHF B20**

**Instructor: Jackie Kopcsak**

**Office: STO 334**

**Office Hours: To be scheduled by email**

**Contact Info: jkopcsak@usc.edu**

### **Catalog Description**

Intermediate techniques of classical ballet with intermediate barre, adagio, allegro combinations and pirouettes; development of a working knowledge of ballet terminology

### **Full Course Description**

Fundamental technique studies in a studio setting. Study includes the foundational technical elements, vocabulary, musical connection, culture and history of ballet and its development.

### **Learning Objectives**

Students are expected to demonstrate in class work and in the final exam:

- Intermediate-level proficiency of classical ballet technique, including physical strength, (flexibility, coordination, extension, placement, precision, clarity, and stamina); mental focus, and ease of movement.
- A strong sense of discipline and work ethic.
- Intermediate-level awareness of musicality and dynamics.
- Intermediate-level awareness of individual artistry.

### **Participation**

Active participation in all exercises, discussion, and studio course work is necessary for the student to be successful in the class. Students are required to be prompt and prepared for class instruction.

### **Proper Attire for Technique Class**

Students are expected to be dressed appropriately with hair neat and out of the face at the beginning of class. Studio clothing attire should be clean and show the body modestly and allow for full range of motion. 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**

Grant, Gail. *Technical Manual and Dictionary of Classical Ballet*. New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1982.

## Description and Assessment of Assignments

### YouTube Viewing

Approximately once a week, students will be assigned a short YouTube viewing.

### Journal

Students will keep a written journal of technical terminology; achievements, challenges, and inspirations; and commentary regarding assigned YouTube clips. Journals will be due Week 5 and Week 13.

### DANCE REVIEW #1: USC KAUFMAN (due on day of Final Exam):

Students will write a personal reflection paper (3-5-pages, typed, double-spaced and proof-read) offering original comments on the content and form of a live dance performance given by USC Kaufman BFA Students. Ticket stub and/or program must be stapled to your paper.

- End of semester showcase in Bing Theatre: **April 28 & 29, 2016**

### DANCE REVIEW #2: Professional Dance Performance (due on day of Final Exam):

Students will write a personal reflection paper (3-5-pages, typed, double-spaced and proof-read) offering original comments on the content and form of a live dance performance in the greater Los Angeles area. Ticket stub and/or program must be stapled to your paper.

Recommended performances:

- Visions & Voices -
  - Bill T. Jones (3/8)
  - Hubbard Street Dance Chicago - Second Company (3/23)
- Gloria Kaufman Presents Dance at the Music Center -
  - Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan (1/29-1/31)
  - Complexions Contemporary Ballet (4/15-4/17)
- Los Angeles Ballet - *Don Quixote* (2/20, 2/27, 3/26)

### Mid-Term and Final Exam

The Mid-Term Exam will be a written exam on ballet vocabulary and class discussion topics.

The Final Exam will be a practical exam of traditional class exercises.

**Mid-Term Exam: Wednesday, February 24**

**Final Exam: TBD**

### **Grading Breakdown**

40% Lesson progress, preparation and achievement as evidenced by active participation and accomplishment of in-class work observed by teacher

15% Journal

15% Dance Concert Reflection Papers

15% Mid-Term Exam

15% Final Exam

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

## Additional Policies

Attendance is mandatory as most of our work is done in the studio each session. There will be four excused absences allowed. No doctors' notes are necessary or accepted. No make-up classes are allowed. Tardiness is not tolerated as early warm-ups are critical to preventing injury; the full class 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, three tardy attendances of less than 20 minutes will also constitute an absence. Because active participation as defined herein is so utterly important to this course, each unexcused absence will count for a 3-point deduction of active participation points.

## Schedule (Subject to Change):

	Topics/Daily Activities	Readings and Homework	Deliverable/ Due Dates
<b>Week 1</b> Jan 11 Jan 13	Intermediate-level ballet barre and center exercises	YouTube Viewing #1	
<b>Week 2</b> Jan 20	Intermediate-level ballet barre and center exercises	YouTube Viewing #2	<b>NO CLASS Monday January 18 - MLK Holiday</b>
<b>Week 3</b> Jan 25 Jan 27	Intermediate-level ballet barre and center exercises	YouTube Viewing #3	
<b>Week 4</b> Feb 1 Feb 3	Intermediate-level ballet barre and center exercises	YouTube Viewing #4	
<b>Week 5</b> Feb 8 Feb 10	Intermediate-level ballet barre and center exercises	YouTube Viewing #5	<b>Journal due #1 (at least 5 entries), February 10th</b>
<b>Week 6</b> Feb 17	Intermediate-level ballet barre and center exercises	YouTube Viewing #6	<b>NO CLASS Monday February 15 - President's Day Holiday</b>
<b>Week 7</b> Feb 22 Feb 24	Intermediate-level ballet barre and center exercises	YouTube Viewing #7	<b>Mid-Term Exam WED, February 24</b>
<b>Week 8</b> Feb 29 Mar 2	Intermediate-level ballet barre and center exercises	YouTube Viewing #8	
<b>Week 9</b> Mar 7 Mar 9	Intermediate-level ballet barre and center exercises	YouTube Viewing #9	
	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	<b>March 14-20</b>	
<b>Week 10</b> Mar 21 Mar 23	Intermediate-level ballet barre and center exercises	YouTube Viewing #10	
<b>Week 11</b> Mar 28 Mar 30	Intermediate-level ballet barre and center exercises	YouTube Viewing #11	
<b>Week 12</b> Apr 4 Apr 6	Intermediate-level ballet barre and center exercises	YouTube Viewing #12	

<b>Week 13</b> Apr 11 Apr 13	Intermediate-level ballet barre and center exercises	YouTube Viewing #13	<b>Journal due #2 (at least 5 entries), April 13th</b>
<b>Week 14</b> Apr 18 Apr 20	Intermediate-level ballet barre and center exercises	YouTube Viewing #14	
<b>Week 15</b> Apr 25 Apr 27	Intermediate-level ballet barre and center exercises	YouTube Viewing #15	
<b>FINAL</b> Date	<b>TBD</b>		<b>Finals Week: May 4-11</b>

### 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 (or to TA) 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](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](mailto:ability@usc.edu).

### Statement on Academic Integrity

USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one's own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another's work as one's own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles. *SCampus*, the Student Guidebook, ([www.usc.edu/scampus](http://www.usc.edu/scampus) or <http://scampus.usc.edu>) contains the University Student Conduct Code (see University Governance, Section 11.00), while the recommend

### 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.