Course Description: This course is designed for students with no formal dance experience or background. Movement skills are developed as students acquire an understanding of basic body and movement technique through practice and analysis. Familiarity with ballet, modern, theatre dance, character and social styles of dance along with associated terminology will be the focus of the course. Learning will include understanding of the components of rhythm and rhythm patterns combined with movement combinations, as well as understanding how a basic dance class runs.

Course Content
1. Fundamental body placement and awareness
2. Basic locomotor movements and application
3. Dance terminology
4. Music and rhythms used in dance

Course Objectives
1. Develop awareness of body placement, control and strength
2. Develop and apply basic movement skills
3. Learn and practise ballet, modern and theatre dance techniques, basic social dance rhythms, character dance steps
4. Develop awareness of dance rhythms by studying musicality
5. Recognize and demonstrate movement from dance terminology

Course Format: Half course. 6 hours lecture/lab. Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays – 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
This course will follow the format of a dance class augmented by lectures where technique and theory are developed simultaneously.

Attendance: This course involves the development of dance technique which makes attendance in class essential for success; attendance is mandatory. If unable to attend a class, students are “expected to contact the instructor by email in advance or within 24 hours following an absence in order to set up a time to discuss next steps for completing work”. Unexplained absences will result in a reduction in your participation grade. Where physical participation might be limited due to an extended illness or injury, students are expected to observe the class when possible and complete supplemental assignments. An extended situation could also result in the student having to withdraw from the course. Punctuality is important for proper warm up and injury prevention. Active participation is required.

Dress for Class (Women and Men)
-tight-fitting clothing for observation of body and leg lines, ballet or closed-toe non-marking jazz dance shoes
-hair tied back and out of the way of the face and neck; loose or distracting jewellery is not appropriate
-warm-up wear may be worn over regular dance clothes but will need to be removed when required.
Evaluation
45% - Daily Classroom Work and Technical Improvement
   Evaluation will be based on the ability to apply material presented in class, understand and apply corrections, show improvement over the term and retain warm-up patterns and combinations. Missed classes could affect classroom mark.

15% - Written unit tests

**20% - Group movement assignments

**20% - In-class Written Exam – covers materials presented and developed in class as well as from handouts

Late Assignments - Assignments, both written and practical, are due at the beginning of class on the day specified. Late assignments will be accepted but will lose one mark per day, including weekends.

**Required for successful completion of the course.

Course Timetable: Note – dates below are subject to change according to class progress

Weeks 1-2 (September 6th – 20th): Study of basic body posture, placement, locomotor movements
   Friday, September 20th: written test – unit 1

Weeks 3-4 (September 23rd – October 4th): Social/Rhythms unit
   Friday, October 4th: written test – unit 2

Weeks 5-7 (October 7th – 23rd): Character Dance unit & **presentations
   Monday, October 14th: Thanksgiving Day – no class
   Friday, October 18th: Written test – unit 3

Week 8 (October 25th – November 1st): Ballet unit
   Reading Week (November 3rd – November 10th)

Week 9 (Wednesday, November 13th): **In-class written exam
   November 11th & November 15th - Ballet unit continued

Week 10 (November 18th – 22nd): Modern/Theatre Dance Elements unit

Weeks 11 & 12 (November 25th – December 4th): **Group work & presentations

SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES - “Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offense, as found at: “http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR MEDICAL ILLNESS - The university has a new policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness stating that “in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student’s overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet his/her academic responsibilities. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the appropriate Dean’s office.”(Associate Dean, Undergraduate) The Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness may be found at “http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/index.html”

MENTAL HEALTH - “Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western: https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.”

ELECTRONIC DEVICES - No electronic devices are allowed in class during quizzes, tests and examinations unless accommodation has been arranged. All cell phones are to be turned off during class.