

**Don Wright Faculty of Music  
Western University  
Dance 2375B 001 - Ballet Fundamentals  
Term 1219, Winter 2022-Blended**

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Alumni Hall, Room 17

Office hours: Contact instructor to make a specific appointment.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

An understanding of classical ballet technique will be developed through an in-depth study of body line, posture and weight placement, the coordinated use of arms and eyeline, and the relationship between musicality and dynamics of movement. Sessions will be rigorous ballet classes where the foundations of techniques and movement combinations are discussed as part of the class. Active physical participation is required. Prerequisite: Dance 2275A/B or Permission of the Faculty (obtained by instructor's evaluation of provided dance background).

*Note: "Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites."*

The OWL platform will be used for posting of all recorded sessions, course information, lecture notes and announcements. OWL will also be used for tests and submission of assignments, **if required by restrictions**.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. Develop awareness of body line by examining the relationship between body alignment, weight placement and eye focus.
2. Study musicality by examining the integration of music and the dynamics of movement.
3. Consider and understand factors that limit or allow skill progression.
4. Study and acquire ballet and musical terminology.
5. Develop teaching techniques by using clear explanations as well as appropriate dance and musical terminology.

### **COURSE FORMAT**

Half course. 6 hours lecture/lab. Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

This course will follow the format of a traditional ballet class augmented by lectures where technique and theory are developed simultaneously. The rate of progression will, to some extent, be dictated by the abilities of the class members.

As this course is being delivered in a blended format, when delivery is in-studio, students will be divided into smaller groups for reduced in-class components each session, subject to change according to university and health policies due to COVID-19.

### **ATTENDANCE**

This course involves the development of personal technique which makes attendance on assigned days in class essential for success; attendance is mandatory. Viewing and reviewing recorded classes is also mandatory in lieu of shortened class times, when applicable. If unable to attend a scheduled in-class session, students are **“expected to contact the instructor by email in advance when possible or within 24 hours following an absence in order to set up a time to discuss next steps for attending or completing work”**. Unexplained absences could 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 as required. Punctuality is important for proper warm-up and injury prevention. **Active physical participation is required.**

## EVALUATION

**60% Daily Classroom Work** - Evaluation will be based on the ability to understand and apply corrections presented in class, demonstrate improvement in technique and memorization of exercises and enchaînements. Therefore, missed classes could affect classroom work mark. Active, self-motivated participation will be observed.

30% - Technique: Understanding/Response in Daily Class

Assimilation/Progress

Improvement

30% - Commitment: Attendance, preparation and memorization of classes and enchaînements

**40% \* Unit Tests/Pop Quizzes or Practical Evaluation**

\* All tests/quizzes are required for successful completion of the course.

**Grading scale:** A+=90-100%, A=80-89%, B=70-79%, C=60-69%, D=50-59%, F=0-49%

**COURSE TIMETABLE** (subject to change according to COVID restrictions)

**Weeks 1 - 5** (January 10th - February 7th) – Unit #1

\*\*\*Mon. Feb. 7th: Unit #1 Written Test

**Weeks 5 – 8** (February 9th – March 4th) – Unit #2

\*\*\*Fri. March 4th: Unit #2 Written Test

**February 20<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> : February Break – no classes**

**Weeks 9 - 11** (March 7th – 21st) – Unit #3

\*\*\*Fri. March 18th: Unit #3 Written Test

**Weeks 11 - 13** (March 23rd - April 8th) - Unit #4

\*\*\*Pop Quiz/Practical Evaluation

\*\*\*In the event of classes transitioning to fully on-line, tests will be administered on-line, dates subject to change.

**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.

**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.**

## REQUIRED DRESS

Form-fitting dancewear/clothing and soft leather or canvas ballet shoes are required. No midriffs.

Long hair must be tied back out of the way of face and neck: preference is up in a bun.

Warm-up clothing may be worn over required dance clothes at beginning of class but should be removed when necessary. No jewellery to be worn that poses a danger to you or your fellow dancers (anything that hangs, is loose, or has sharp edges).

**Academic Consideration for Student Absence:** Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. **Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus.** Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are not met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. **Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.**

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office. For the Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/Academic\\_Consideration\\_for\\_absences.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf)

and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf)

**Academic Considerations for Missing Work:** In cases where students are unable to submit work due to medical illness or compassionate grounds, if an online self-reported absence is submitted, or if appropriate supporting documentation is submitted to the Associate Dean's office, and the accommodation is granted, then the missed assessments may be rescheduled or discounted in the calculation of the final grade for the course, at the discretion of the instructor. If neither a self-reported absence nor an appropriate supporting document is submitted to the appropriate office, then the missed assignments will receive a grade of zero.

**Academic Offences:** Submission of work with which you have received help from someone else (other than the course instructor or TA) is an example of plagiarism, which is considered a major academic offence. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, as found at: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

**Mental Health & Wellness:** Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to the Health and Wellness at Western page (<https://www.uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help or to go to the Wellness Education Centre located in UCC room 76. **Students in crisis in need of immediate care are directed to go directly to Student Health Services in UC11 or to click on the green "I Need Help Now" button on the Health and Wellness page above.**

**Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:** Students work with Accessible Education Western (AEW, formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation\\_disabilities.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf)

**Religious Accommodation:** Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar.

<http://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo>

Ballet Fundamentals 2375B – 2022  
**Notes Specifically to Address Covid-19-related Issues for 2021-22 Only**

As a guideline, if a student has been contacted by the Middlesex-London Health Unit (MLHU) to self-quarantine due to a Covid-19-related situation, then the Self-Reported Absence system is not to be used to report this absence or to request an academic accommodation. The student should contact the Academic Counselling office as soon as they are notified.

In general, students are advised to not self-determine when to self-isolate. Unless directed by the MLHU students should go about their business as usual. But if a student chooses to self-isolate due to a suspected Covid-19-related situation while waiting to receive direction from the MLHU then the student is directed to contact the Academic Counselling office as soon as possible for further direction on receiving accommodation consideration.

**Contingency Plan:** In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor.

**Recording of Online Activities:** Some of the remote learning sessions for this course may be recorded. The data captured during these recordings may include your image, voice recordings, chat logs and personal identifiers (name displayed on the screen). The recordings will be used for educational purposes related to this course, including evaluations. The recordings may be disclosed to other individuals participating in the course for their private or group study purposes. Please contact the instructor if you have any concerns related to session recordings.

**\*\*\*Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation, or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor.**

iii) **Online Etiquette:** Some components of this course may involve synchronous online interactions. To ensure the best experience for both you and your classmates, please honour the following rules of etiquette:

- Use your computer and/or laptop if possible (as opposed to a cell phone or tablet)
- “Arrive” to class on time
- Ensure that you are in a private location to protect the confidentiality of discussions in the event that a class discussion deals with sensitive or personal material
- To minimize background noise, kindly mute your microphone for the entire class until you are invited to speak, unless directed otherwise
- Unless invited by your instructor, do not share your screen in the meeting
- Be prepared to turn your video camera off at the instructor’s request if the internet connection becomes unstable

The course instructor will act as moderator for the class and will deal with any questions from participants. To participate please consider the following:

- If you wish to speak, select the blue “raise hand” function and wait for the instructor to acknowledge you before beginning your comment or question.
- Kindly remember to unmute your microphone and turn on your video camera before speaking.
- Self-identify when speaking.
- Kindly remember to select the “raise hand” function again to lower your hand, mute your mic and turn off your video camera after speaking (unless directed otherwise).

General considerations of “netiquette”:

- Keep in mind the different cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students in the course.
- Be courteous toward the instructor, your colleagues, and authors whose work you are discussing.
- Be respectful of the diversity of viewpoints that you will encounter in the class and in your readings. The exchange of diverse ideas and opinions is part of the scholarly environment.

Note that disruptive behaviour of any type during online classes, including inappropriate use of the chat function, is unacceptable. Students found guilty of “Zoom-bombing” a class, or of other serious online offences, may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.