

**Dixie State College**  
Department of Dance

# **Classical Ballet I**

Dance 1100 | 2 credits | MW 1:00-2:20  
Fall Semester 2006

Instructor: Kristen Thompson  
Office hours: By appointment  
Email: kthompson@dixie.edu  
Phone: 627-1493, Cell: 215-3627

## **Course Description**

Beginning ballet is a technique course for students with an emphasis in dance; and for all students interested in developing an understanding of ballet. This course is designed to give students an introduction to the fundamentals of classical ballet through movement, including body alignment, technical skills (barre and center) and ballet terminology. Fundamentals are taught in a structured ballet studio setting.

## **Course Objectives**

1. To learn beginning ballet exercises to develop the placement and coordination of the body, legs, arms and head.
2. To develop correct technique and alignment necessary for all dance forms.
3. To learn beginning combinations and phrases as performance experience.
4. To appreciate the complexity, joy, and beauty of movement as expressed through ballet.

## **Requirements**

1. **Attire:** clean leotards, pink tights, soft pink ballet shoes, hair in bun (or in pony tail, if short hair). No shirts, shorts, pants, skirts, or warm-ups during class (if there is an injury, leg warmers may be approved by instructor). No loose jewelry.
2. No food, water, or gum.
3. **Participation:** Absences or tardiness are not permitted. The prior notification of school excused absences and medical emergency release forms will be accepted for make-ups. Four absences will result in a failing grade. For every two times you are tardy, you will be marked for one absence.
4. **Text Books:**  
Grant, Gail. Technical Manual and Dictionary of Classical Ballet, Third Edition.  
New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1982. (Required)

## **Assignments**

1. **Dance Concert Critique:**  
Choose to view one live ballet concert or one full-length ballet video to write a two-page critique. Turn in critique no longer than two weeks after viewing performance or time of watching video. If attending a live ballet concert attach a copy of the dance program to critique. Please approve concert viewing with instructor.
2. **Dance Company Concert:** In addition to the full length ballet critique students are also required to attend the Dance Company Concert on December 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> and write a two page critique focusing on technique and on the ballet pieces.

**3. Midterm Movement Review:** critic and technique evaluation.

At mid-semester we will have a movement exam where students will demonstrate at the barre and center technique learned up to that point. Students will be graded on improvement, technique and work ethic. There will also be a portion of the grade based on individual critique. This review will be videotaped for students to view on the following class day; when individual critiques will be made. Dance attire for review follows the same as for every day. Date for review will be announced.

**4. Ballet Terminology Quiz:**

This will be a test on basic ballet terms learned throughout the semester. All terms and positions will be found in the Technical Manual and Dictionary of Classical Ballet. The quiz will be matching, multiple choice, true/false, and will have a fill in the blank section for arm and arabesque positions and body directions. (pg. 126-137) Only selected terms fit for this course will be used.

**5. Final End of Class Showing:**

This is the end of semester workshop and final critic. Students from each department in dance will present a 10-15 minute demonstration from things learned throughout the semester. The workshop will take place on Thursday, November 16. Students will be graded similar to midterm review but with much emphasis on overall improvement. Students are required to be there 30 minutes prior for a warm-up. Black leotards and skirts are to be worn with pink tights (leotards can be any style as long as they are clean and don't have long sleeves.)

**Grading**

The course grade will be determined by participation in class, progress, and completion of all assignments by due date or the last day of class. No incomplete will be accepted without signed permission of program administrator.

<b>Attendance, class participation, work ethic</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Concert Critique</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Midterm Movement Review</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Terminology Quiz</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Final Class Showing</b>	<b>20%</b>

**Grading Scale**

A	94-100	C+	74-78
A-	90-94	C	70-74
B+	86-90	C-	66-70
B	82-86	D+	62-66
B-	78-82	D	58-62

**Disability Resource Center**

"If you are a student with a physical or mental impairment and would like to request accommodations, please contact the Disability Resource Center (652-7516) in Room 201 of the Student Services Center. The Disability Resource Center will determine your eligibility for services based upon complete professional documentation. If you are deemed eligible, the Disability Resource Center will further evaluate the effectiveness of your accommodation requests and will authorize reasonable accommodations that are appropriate for your disability."

Sherri