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Fall 9-1-2022

### DANC 110A.01: Introduction to Ballet

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# UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

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DANC 110A.01 | Introduction to Ballet  
Mondays & Wednesdays | 12:30-2:00pm | PARTv 035  
Fall 2022 | School of Theatre and Dance  
Credits: 3 | Course # 70024

Instructor: Tara McFarland | Office Hours by Appointment Only | Contact: [tara.mcfarland@umontana.edu](mailto:tara.mcfarland@umontana.edu)

## SUGGESTED TEXTS & MATERIALS:

There are no required texts for this course.

Optional recommended reading: Grant, Gail. (1967). *Technical Manual and Dictionary of Classical Ballet*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Offered autumn and spring. Introduction to basic ballet positions and steps.

Gen Ed Attributes: Expressive Arts Course (A)

This is an introductory ballet technique class. Students will be introduced to and practice concepts of ballet alignment, line, placement, vocabulary, musicality, and style. Students will learn elementary concepts of barre, centre, adagio, tours, petite, medium, and grande allegros. Some ballet repertory may be included.

## COURSE OBJECTIVE:

Our objectives are to compose a beginner's understanding of basic ballet steps and class structure, to embody kinesthetic knowledge of the art form of ballet by applying proper physicality in line and progress, and increase our ballet vocabulary to enable us to talk and write analytically about dance and ballet as performative art forms.

## METHODOLOGY/FORMAT:

Students will participate in ballet technique class two days per week. Class will follow a classical ballet order, starting with barre and centre, and progressing through allegros. Students will be required to attend UM dance performances (see below) and write **one** two-to-four-page critique, attend one-two in-class, post-performance discussions, submit in-class ballet vocab worksheet.

## DRESS CODE:

Active wear that is appropriate for full range of motion and allows freedom from distraction and movement. Socks or ballet flats for the feet. No jewelry (except studs and small piercings), no jeans, dresses/skirts must have shorts worn underneath, no gum, all hair needs to be pulled away from face when longer than eye-length. Classical ballet attire (leotard, tights, skirts, etc.) is encouraged but not required. Layering is recommended. There are not many options for dance attire in Missoula. Empire Dance Shop in Spokane is the best and closest option, otherwise, Discount Dance Supply is a great online retailer.

Recommended Ballet Flats: (Use my Teacher ID Code for 8% off your first purchase with DDS: 130026)

Women's Leather Split Soles:

[https://www.discountdance.com/dancewear/style\\_2027.html](https://www.discountdance.com/dancewear/style_2027.html)

Men's or Women's Canvas Split Soles (*Men traditionally in black or white flats, women in pink, but nude is also available. Color preference is entirely up to you*)

[https://www.discountdance.com/dancewear/style\\_3AC.html](https://www.discountdance.com/dancewear/style_3AC.html)

## UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA DANCE PROGRAM

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### TECHNIQUE CLASS REQUIREMENTS – Fall Semester 2022

Many Dance Technique courses satisfy the General Education Expressive Arts Credit. To receive an Expressive Arts Credit, the student must enroll in the course for a traditional grade and receive a C- or higher.

NO street shoes are allowed in the dance studio at any time, even carried in-hand. Anyone entering the studio must remove their street shoes **BEFORE** entering and leave them outside the studio. The only shoes permitted in studios are those that have been purchased for the exclusive use of dance in dance studios (with the exclusion of tap shoes, hard-shoe clogs, and flamenco shoes. These should never be worn on Marley floors). Individuals concerned about theft should check out a locker for their shoes and other belongings. NO food or drinks (except water in closed bottles) are permitted in the dance studios or theatres.

NOTE: Lockers are available for any student. The School of Theatre & Dance recommends that students do not leave personal belongings unattended in the dressing rooms, hallways, dance studios, or theatres as thefts frequently occur. Lockers may be checked out through the School: schedule TBA.

STUDENTS ENROLLED IN DANCE CLASSES ARE **REQUIRED TO ATTEND/VIEW THREE OF THE FOLLOWING DANCE CONCERTS:**

***Bare Bait Dance presents RoadShow* | Fri-Sun September 9-10 (free!)**

***Dance on Location* | Sat October 8 @ Mansfield Library Mall (\$10 donation requested)**

***Cabaret* | Thu-Sun October 13-16, 20-23 @ Montana Theater ParTV (griz tix)**

***Bare Bait Dance presents RED* | Fri-Sun October 28-30 @ Westside Theatre**

***The Call of the Wild* | Thu-Sun, November 10, 12, 13, 17-20**

***Dance Underground* | Fri-Sat, December 2-3 @ Open Space ParTV (\$10 donation requested)**

***Bare Bait Dance presents Hello Winter!* Fri-Sun November 26-December 4 @ Westside Theatre**

Thu-Sun, 10/13-16, 20-23 School of Theatre and Dance and School of Music present Cabaret, book by Joe Masteroff, based on the play by John Van Druten and stories by Christopher Isherwood, music by John Kander, lyrics by Fred Ebb, 7:30 p.m., 2 p.m. matinees only, Sun, 10/16 and 10/23, Montana Theatre, PARTV Center\*

Thu-Sun, 11/10, 12, 13, 17-19 School of Theatre and Dance presents The Call of the Wild by Ian Frank, adapted from the novel by Jack London, 7:30 p.m., 2 p.m. matinees only, Sun, 11/13 and 11/19, Masquer Theatre, PARTV Center\* (no performance on Veterans Day, Thursday, 11/11)

\*Tickets are required—please visit [umt.edu/events](http://umt.edu/events) and search using a show title for instructions on getting tickets or order your tickets at [umt.edu/griztix](http://umt.edu/griztix). DATES AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE CHECK GRIZHUB FOR CORRECT DETAILS ABOUT SHOWS. For BBD productions, visit [www.barebaitdance.org](http://www.barebaitdance.org)

Your instructor may require attendance to additional concerts, presentations, master classes or online events or they may choose to offer students a chance to use concert attendance as bonus karma points. This is not a comprehensive list and is at the discretion of each instructor.

Your instructor will require a written critique, quiz, or something else of their own choosing. You will need to give specific examples to support your opinions, so take notes either during or after the concerts. Regardless of your assignment, as you watch, it will be helpful to think about the following:

1. To which pieces did you experience a strong reaction?
2. Regarding the choreography of each piece: What is the content, subject, meaning or movement idea?

How did the movement/style of the movement support (or detract from) the choreographic message?

What is it about the movement/choreography/performance that inspired your reaction?

Your reaction to the performances of the dancers: expression and technique. Your opinion on the theatrical elements: costumes, lighting, sets and sound score. Did they work with the choreography? Provide details to support your opinions.

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## ATTENDANCE AND GRADE POLICY - DANCE TECHNIQUE

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Attendance is important in any field, but vital in the field of dance. Learning to dance requires that your body do it. You won't gain in flexibility, strength, or in your ability to pick up movement or generate your own movement by hearing about what happened from a classmate, watching a film of the dance or reading about it in a book. In other words, there is no way to make up the material you miss.

The Dance Faculty **EXPECTS STUDENTS TO BE IN EVERY CLASS**. However, knowing that unpredictable circumstances can arise, students are permitted **2 weeks of absences (total of four classes)**. Given the content of a dance class, no makeup work can be done when a student is absent.

### **AFTER YOU HAVE USED YOUR PERMITTABLE ABSENCES, YOU WILL BE DOCKED ONE-THIRD OF A GRADE FOR EVERY ADDITIONAL ABSENCE.**

Observations: Students are allowed **two** observations per semester. Each observation after the allotted two will be counted as an absence. Please refer to the Observation Policy for what is expected when you observe a class.

Students who arrive late or have to leave early, may be asked to observe the entire class time.

**GRADING:** Dance is different from many other fields in that a student's work is not as quantifiable as it is in some other subjects, such as history or math. For this reason, we do not have a point breakdown, but rather general guidelines.

To receive an "A" you must:

- 1) show signs of aptitude for dance technique
- 2) have an energetic, attentive attitude
- 3) progress over the semester
- 4) be at the top level of the class
- 5) fulfill the attendance, critique, and exam requirements

\*Please refer to the Dance Program Technique Criteria Guidelines.

You will receive an "F" if your absences and lack of critiques add up (or subtract) to an "F." Your grade will be lowered by one-third of a point for each critique you do not hand in (e.g., if you start with a B, your grade will drop to a B-, then C+ and you will receive a "C+"). Students may receive an "incomplete" (I) only if there are exceptional circumstances, that have been discussed at length with the instructor.

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## POLICIES & REQUIREMENTS

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### **IMPORTANT POLICIES FOR ALL STUDENTS OF SCHOOL OF THEATRE AND DANCE:**

All Theatre & Dance students must have an in-depth knowledge of the practices and procedures outlined in the School of Theatre & Dance Student Handbook. The Handbook is available online at <https://www.umt.edu/umarts/theatredance/documents/20-21-handbook.pdf>

There is inherent risk involved in many Theatre & Dance classes as they are very physical in nature. Please proceed through class, shop time, or rehearsal with caution. Always be mindful of your personal safety and the safety of others. Students participating in class/shop/rehearsal/performance do so at their own risk.

Due to safety considerations, at no point during a student's time spent in class or serving on a production (in any capacity) should non-enrolled persons be guests of that student **without my consent**. Presence of such unauthorized persons in a class, shop, or any backstage/off-stage area will negatively affect a student's grade.

**STATEMENT OF EMPOWERMENT:** The School of Theatre and Dance recognizes that art can provoke; therefore, during the course of this class or class-related activities, participants are empowered to remove themselves should they feel a threat to their well-being.

**WELLNESS STATEMENT:** Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, and cross-cultural challenges can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive in the university setting. For helpful resources, please contact the Curry Health Center Counseling department at 406-243-4711 or schedule an online appointment through the CHC Health Portal: [www.umt.edu/hportal](http://www.umt.edu/hportal). For a crisis or for after-hours care, you can contact the emergency rooms at St. Patrick Hospital or Community Medical Center; the National Suicide Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255; or the Crisis Text Line: text MT to 741-741.

**FROM THE EO/AA OFFICE:** Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting me. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and the Office for Disability Equality (ODE). "Reasonable" means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications. For more information, please consult <https://www.umt.edu/disability/default.php>

**ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT AND THE STUDENT CONDUCT CODE:** All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at [www.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/default.php](http://www.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/default.php).

**FROM UM PRESIDENT SETH BODNAR:** The wide availability of safe, effective vaccines to combat COVID-19 means that we are able to return to full in-person learning this semester. The Office of the President urges every member of the UM Family to get vaccinated (and receive a booster shot) if you haven't done so already. Vaccination provides the best means of protecting yourself - and others in our UM Family - from the risk of COVID-19.

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- The University encourages COVID-19 vaccines and boosters, which are offered for both students and employees at the Health Services Pharmacy inside Curry Health Center.
  - Masks are only required inside Curry Health Center and in some medical/research laboratories on campus. This requirement will be clearly posted. Required or not, we respect those choosing to wear a mask to reduce spread of respiratory viruses.
  - COVID-19 testing for students is available at Curry Health Center. For employees, contact your primary care provider or visit a walk-in clinic. [Free at-home tests can be ordered online](#), or there may be tests available through the Health Services Pharmacy by calling 243-5171.

Guidance for students:

- UM Housing is no longer operating separate quarantine/isolation spaces for students in the residence halls. UM Housing will provide guidance for students isolating in place in the residence halls.
- Students who [test positive for COVID-19 need to isolate](#) for at least five days, which includes not attending in-person classes. During isolation, students should stay home or follow UM Housing guidance for isolation in place, and, if they must leave for food, medicines or other essentials, wear a high-quality mask.
- After five days students can leave isolation if they are symptom-free. If symptoms persist, isolation should continue until students are symptom-free for 24 hours (without use of medications to alleviate the symptoms).
- Please visit <https://www.umt.edu/curry-health-center/corona-virus.php> for the latest health/safety information, as well as campus communications and plans about the global health pandemic

We acknowledge that we live, work, and recreate in the aboriginal territories of the Salish and Kalispel people. We honor the path they have always shown in caring for this place for the generations to come.

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