

Course ID:	Course Title:	Winter 2021
DA 103-1	Dance Fundamentals	Prerequisite: None
		Credits: 3

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
Days:	Tuesday	Instructor:	Chantal Gandar, M.F.A.	First day of classes:	Mon, Jan 11
Time:	6:30-9:30 p.m.	Email:	chantal.gandar@ambrose.edu	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	Sun, Jan 24
Room:	RELL 216/Online	Phone:	(403) 389-2831	Last day to request revised exam:	Mon, Mar 8
Lab/ Tutorial:	N/A	Office:	N/A	Last day to withdraw from course:	Fri, Mar 19
	N/A	Office Hours:	By Appointment only	Last day to apply for coursework extension:	Mon, Mar 29
Final Exam:	Tue April 6, 6:30pm			Last day of classes:	Fri, Apr 16

Course Description

A praxis-based introductory dance class open to all students. This course will focus on classical and contemporary dance technique. The training explores barre work, centre-practice and contemporary dance styles. Students will also be introduced to basic skeletal and muscle anatomy and health. Emphasis will be placed on exploring the rudiments of classical technique in addition to understanding rhythm, theme, and musical interpretation as it applies to choreography.

Expected Learning Outcomes

Students in DA 103 will be expected to demonstrate:

1. Understanding of physical anatomy, alignment, and freed breath as it pertains to dance.
2. The ability to execute and articulate classical ballet positions of the ISTD style.
3. A diverse range of contemporary movement configurations set to rhythm patterns found in music.
4. The inclusion of personal expression within prescribed choreography.
5. Basic proficiency and application of technical skills to an aesthetic in public performance.
6. Basic understanding of dance history and genres.

Textbooks

Learning About Dance, 7th or 8th Edition, by Nora Ambrosio

Course Schedule

Class Content and Location	Readings, Assignments & Exams	Class Dates
ONLINE - Intro to the Course, Basic skeletal Alignment, Early Dance History, and Freed Breath	<i>Textbook Readings: Chapters 1 and 5</i>	January 12
ONLINE - Ballet Through the Ages, ISTD Positions of the Feet and Arms, Dancer Alignment and Anatomy	<i>Textbook Reading: Chapter 2</i>	January 19
IN STUDIO - Ballet in the Centre and Across the Floor	<i>Textbook Readings: Chapters 3 and 4</i>	January 26
ONLINE - Modern Dance, Post-Modern Dance And Contemporary Dance, Review of Ballet	Dance Performance Review Paper Due	February 2
IN STUDIO - Modern Dance Movement, Centre Swings, Curves and Travelling Steps, review ballet movement	<i>Textbook Reading: Chapter 6</i>	February 9
Reading Week, No Class		February 18
ONLINE - Folk, Religious and Cultural Dance, Exam Review, review of ballet and modern movement	<i>Textbook Reading: Chapter 8</i>	February 23
IN STUDIO - Midterm Movement and Written Exam	Midterm Movement Exam and Online Written Exam	March 2
ONLINE - Jazz, Musical Theatre and Tap Dance History, begin learning Jazz exercises	<i>Textbook Reading: Chapter 9</i>	March 9
IN STUDIO - Jazz and Tap Movement and Rhythms	Article Review Paper Due	March 16
ONLINE – Urban, Ballroom and Popular Dance in North America, Dance Choreography and Improvisation	<i>Textbook Readings: Chapters 7 and 11</i>	March 23
IN STUDIO - Dance Improvisation and Composition, Online Careers in Dance pre-recorded lecture	<i>Textbook Reading: Chapter 12</i>	March 30
ONLINE - Final Written Exam , Instructor available via zoom for student support in preparation for movement final	Final Online Written Exam	April 6
IN STUDIO - Final Movement Exam	Final Movement Exam	April 13

Covid-19 Accommodations

It is essential that all students comply with the most recent AHS orders and Ambrose mandates regarding Covid 19. Students who are required to isolate or quarantine at some point in the semester can access the live zoom link for classes both in person and online. It is important that students attend classes when possible since those classes act as a preparation for the Midterm and Final exams. There will be alternative assignments posted online for students unable to attend classes on zoom or in person. These will count as one attendance credit. Please inform the instructor if you will be engaging in an alternative assignment for a particular date.

In person classes will be held in the RELL 216 Dance Studio, and cleaned prior to our use. Please wash hands before coming to class and bring a mask to wear and a mask to spare, since sometimes a mask change may be desired mid-class. The studio classes will be divided into two time slots in order to accommodate room capacity:

Group A In Studio – 6:15pm – 7:45pm

15 minute break

Group B In Studio – 8:00pm – 9:30pm

The first group will meet from 6:15-7:45pm in the dance studio. The following group will meet from 8:00-9:30pm in the dance studio, allowing for a 15 minute exchange of air and a wipe down of the space's high touch surfaces. Following the first week of classes, you will be given your group time for meeting in person. Masks are to be worn for the duration of class, with students remaining in their own outlined square which has been taped out on the studio floor, or moving across the room maintaining physical distance. In the event of the instructor needing to isolate, any classes scheduled in person will shift to a zoom instruction for that time.

*Depending on the most up to date Alberta Health Services restrictions and/or Ambrose mandates, DA 103 may move to an entirely online format or require additional changes to in person classes and/or exams

Equipment/Attire

For Movement Classes:

Please wear dance or athletic tops, pants that can stretch and allow free movement (no jeans). No chewing gum or phones allowed in the studio. Hair should be tied back, so it is off of the face. Please bring a mask and hand sanitizer and enter/exit through doors as directed by signage. Bring a water bottle and socks or dance shoes corresponding with each style, if you have them.

For Online Classes:

Internet access, a computer with camera option or camera attached, a small space to move in and yoga mat if desired. Dance or athletic tops and pants that can stretch and allow free movement. Try to avoid dancing on a concrete floor if possible.

Grade Summary

Attendance: 20%

Performance Review Paper: 15%

Article Review Paper: 15%

Midterm Exam: 20%

Final Exam: 30%

Assignment and Exam Outlines:

Dance Performance Review Paper – 15% of Final Grade

1. Watch the FULL online performance selection, using the link posted on Moodle
2. Take notes throughout the performance based on these observations:
 - a. Quality of movement, musicality and use of space by the dancers
 - b. Relationship of dancers to each other and the soundscape or music
 - c. Theatrical elements that impacted the piece including lighting design, costuming, props and set design
 - d. Interpretations, emotions evoked, or personal opinions about the work
 - e. Two or more questions you have for one of the artists involved such as the choreographer, dancers or artistic director, and why you have those questions
3. Based on the performance you watched and notes that you took, write a 3-5 page paper in MLA format, including citations. Your paper should include all of the above points in step two and be free of spelling and grammatical errors.
4. Submit your paper in our class Moodle site by midnight of the due date

Article Review Paper -15% of Final Grade

1. Select two articles from any issue of The Dance Current, posted in the Ambrose Library Online Catalogue, and read them thoroughly.
2. Take notes throughout your reading based on these observations:
 - a. Journal Name, Issue Date, Article Title and Author
 - b. Key Points of the article
 - c. Thoughts and Opinions about the key points of the article
 - d. Questions you have about the article content, author, or periodical
 - e. Repeat above observations for second article
 - f. Compare and contrast the two articles, in what ways does the authors viewpoint or content intersect or overlap with, relate to, or contradict the second article.
3. Based on the articles you read and notes that you took, write a 4-5 page paper in MLA format, including citations. Your paper should include all of the above points in step two and be free of spelling and grammatical errors.
4. Submit your paper online on our class Moodle site by midnight of the due date

Midterm Exam – 20% of Final Grade

This exam is divided into two sections, a written exam and movement exam.

The Movement exam will include a demonstration of set exercises learned in the course, as well as the ISTD Ballet arm and feet positions. The exam will be recorded in person, or online for those who cannot meet in person. The rubric for this exam will be posted on Moodle. The written exam will be a long answer, essay response, about the students experience in the movement classes and the basic elements of ballet, modern dance and early dance history. The written exam will be done online and the student will have 48 hours to complete and submit their essay using the Moodle link.

Final Exam – 30% of Final Grade

Students will take a multiple choice, long and short answer exam based on their cumulative knowledge gained throughout the semester. Three hours will be given for the completion of the exam, and if there are any concerns of student accessibility or additional resources needed, be sure to convey those to the instructor as soon as possible.

Students will also complete a movement exam, demonstrating multiple exercises in Jazz and Social Dance as well as the performance of instructor set choreography. Select arts faculty and instructors will be given a link to view the performance/exam live or pre-recorded.

Attendance – 20% of Final Grade

Attendance credit will be given for meeting all of the following requirements:

1. Arriving to online and in person classes on time
2. Participating in movement exercises
3. Having their camera on for the whole duration of class
4. Engaging in online discussions
5. Remaining for the full duration of class

Those who miss a class due to illness or emergency are expected to email the instructor prior to their absence. Students should review the Zoom link and any additional resources for the class missed as well as follow up with the instructor about alternative assignments in order to receive attendance credit.

Letter Grade Description

A+ (98-100%) Mastery – superior performance showing comprehensive understanding and application of the subject matter that exceeds course expectations.

A (92-97%) Excellent – superior performance showing comprehensive understanding and application of the subject matter.

A- (89-91%) Excellent – superior performance showing comprehensive understanding and application of the subject matter with minor areas of exception.

B+ (87-88%) Good – sustained above average performance with by and large complete knowledge of the subject matter.

B (81-86%) Good – generally above average performance with by and large complete knowledge of the subject matter.

B- (78-80%) Good – above average performance in multiple areas with by and large complete knowledge of the subject matter.

C+ (76-77%) Satisfactory – average understanding and application of the subject matter

C (70-75%) Satisfactory – basic understanding of the subject matter with some inconsistent or mediocre application.

C-(67-69%) Satisfactory – moderately inconsistent performance and mediocre comprehension of subject matter

D+ (64-66) Minimal Satisfaction –inconsistent comprehension and application of subject matter

D (50-63%) Minimal Pass – Very inconsistent performance and understanding of the subject matter

F (>50%) Failure – Inability to meet basic level of understanding and application of the subject matter

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform University-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

*Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

Additional Reading

The Dance Current (Ambrose University Library)

Library Online Catalogue – Theatre section, search dance articles and film

Moving History / Dancing Cultures: A Dance History Reader. Dils, A., & Albright, A. C. (2001)

Conditioning for Dance. Franklin, E. N. (2004)

Ambrose University Academic Policies:

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Exam Scheduling

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule, must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a

laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Note: Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.