

Bergen Community College  
Division of Arts, Humanities & Wellness  
Department of the Performing Arts

Course Syllabus

**BALLET DANCE DAN 102**

Date of Most Recent Syllabus Revision: September 1, 2014  
Course Typically Offered: Fall \_\_\_ Spring \_\_\_ Every Semester X Other \_\_\_  
Syllabus last reviewed by: BCC General Education Committee \_\_\_\_\_  
Curriculum Committee \_\_\_\_\_

**Basic Information About Course and Instructor**

Semester and Year:  
Course and Section Number:  
Meeting Times and Locations:

Instructor:  
Off-Campus Office Location:  
Phone:  
Email:

Department Campus Location: West Hall 225  
Department Campus Phone: (201) 447-7143  
Departmental Secretary: Barbara Bliss  
Department Email: bbliss@bergen.edu  
Office Hours: by appointment

**Course Description**

**Ballet Dance** is a study of the language of ballet as an art form with emphasis on traditional, academic, and technical steps and vocabulary. 2 labs, 1 credit

No prerequisites and/or co-requisites.

**Student Learning Objectives:** As a result of meeting the requirements of this course, students will

1. Be able to define the basic concepts and vocabulary of Classical Ballet.
2. Demonstrate the ability to perform the fundamental movements and positions of Classical Ballet whereby increasing flexibility, strength, and artistry in the discipline of ballet dance.
3. Acquire the ability then consistently demonstrate proper body alignment and its application to the development of ballet movements and technique.
4. Learn and demonstrate consistent adherence to proper ballet class attire, etiquette, and structure (beginning with barre work, moving across the floor, and closing with reverence).
5. Demonstrate acquired knowledge of the history of Classical Dance and its most influential dancers, choreographers, and pieces of choreography.
6. Present a biographical research paper on a famous classical ballet dancer.
7. Submit a performance review paper in response to their attendance of one or more of the following BCC produced concerts: Ars Electronica, Ars Nova and/or Distinguished Artist concert held in the Ciccone Theater (date TBA), or another approved off-campus performance.

**Student Learning Outcome Assessments:** In support of the above-mentioned goals, each student will be assessed as follows

1. Through active participation in class exercises, in-class discussions, and written assignments/examinations, students will demonstrate their understanding of ballet terminology.
2. Through consistent attendance, active participation in class, and performing the final dance demonstration at the end of the semester, students will demonstrate their understanding of and ability to perform fundamental Classical Ballet movements and positions (demonstrating individual progress in strength, flexibility, and artistry).
3. Through consistent attendance and active participation, students will

demonstrate their ability, understanding, and application of proper body alignment to ballet dance.

4. Through consistent and punctual attendance, appearance in proper attire, full and active participation, and following of the rules and directives given, students will demonstrate their respect for and adherence to ballet class etiquette and structure.

5. Through reading, researching, in-class discussions, video viewing, and written assignments, students will demonstrate their acquired knowledge and understanding of the history of Classical Ballet as well as the famous dancers, choreographers, and choreographed ballets.

6. Through a written biographical paper, students will demonstrate their research and knowledge of a famous ballet dancer.

7. Through verbal discussion and/or written submission, students will discuss their attendance experience and personal review of the Ars Nova/Electronica and/or Distinguished Artist concert(s).

## Course Content

**Ballet Dance** – This course is designed to efficiently train students in the art of dance, with an emphasis on using correct terminology and technique in the discipline of classical ballet. It will introduce students to the theatrical dance side of ballet, while facilitating the progress of beginner dancers to an intermediate level. Classical ballet combines the beauty of music with dance.

## Technological Literacy

Technological literacy and/or information literacy is a key component to this course. Students will be required to view video clips online as well as through the BCC Library's Dance Data Base.

## Course Texts and/or Other Study Materials

**Required:** No text is required for this course.

**Supplemental:** *The New York Times*, *Dance Magazine*, *The Art of Ballet*, etc.. (Articles to be handed out in class)

**Technological:** YouTube.com, various DVDs of dance performances and documentaries

## Grading Policy

The final grade in this course will be determined by a student's overall mastery of the subject matter as evidenced by attendance/punctuality, active participation in class, written and oral exams, and biographical research paper.

Attendance/Punctuality	70%
Written and Oral Exams	10%
Biography Paper	10%
Class Participation (including final dance demo)	10%

### **Criteria for Evaluation:**

#### ***Attendance/Punctuality:***

Attendance is mandatory. Student will be expected to arrive prepared (in proper attire and footwear) and ready to begin at the scheduled start time of class. Students are required to wear proper dance attire (i.e., tights, leotards, jazz/yoga pants or shorts, other comfortable clothing that is suited for exercise that is form-fitting so that body alignment can be easily seen for technical corrections; ballet slippers are required; point shoes by permission of the instructor).

Student should allow time to change for class and be at the barre or discussion table with cell phone off and all other items away, ready to begin. Chronic lateness and/or missed classes will negatively impact this portion of the student's grade and may affect overall grading. Missed classes may be made up in other BCC Dance Courses (Modern, Dance Improvisation, Jazz, Ballroom) with the permission of those instructors.

#### ***Written and Oral Exams:***

Written and oral exams will be given at various points throughout the semester. Student is responsible for being prepared and completing exams at the time they are given. If there is a conflict or missed exam, it is up to the instructor whether a makeup will be given or a lowering of the grade will result. A vocabulary sheet must also be handed in on time to receive full credit.

#### ***Biography Paper:***

Student will write a 2 page biographical paper about a famous dancer. Details and guidelines will be discussed in class.

*\*Academic Dishonesty:* For written assignments, students must cite 3 different sources in a MLA formatted bibliography. Acts of plagiarism in homework assignments, exams, or full length papers will not be tolerated. Presenting choreography that is not your own without providing proper credit may be considered a form of nonliterary plagiarism. If plagiarism in any form is detected, a failing grade will result.

***Class Participation:***

Students will receive an overall grade on the quality of in-class participation and etiquette in class. Daily attendance is mandatory and student participation is a key component to the learning and evaluation process. Missed and makeup classes must be discussed with the instructor. Students are required to demonstrate the culmination of their learning in the final open class dance demonstration (held the last day of class of the semester).

**90-100 = A   86-89 = B+   80-85 = B   76-79 = C+   70 - 75 = C   65-69 = D  
E =Unofficial Withdrawal   W =Official Withdrawal   INC=Incomplete   0-64 = F**

***Zero Tolerance:***

This course should be a fun and safe learning environment for all (including students, faculty, staff, guests, and visitors). Therefore, verbal and/or nonverbal intimidation, mocking, and/or negative commentary will not be tolerated. Any student found to be conducting him/herself in this manner will be asked to remove him/herself from class. As well, falsifying performance attendance/review and submitting work from another source or student is unacceptable and will receive a zero grade for the assignment. Plagiarism will not be tolerated (nonliterary plagiarism includes presenting choreography that is has been created, performed, etc... by someone else that is not your own). Students are expected to use as many sources as possible and as thoroughly as possible for learning and presenting work. As well, inattentiveness, inactive participation, inappropriate interactions/conduct, cell phone use, and lateness will not be tolerated and will be negatively reflected in the student's grade.

**Attendance Policy****BCC Attendance Policy:**

All students are expected to attend punctually every scheduled meeting of each course in which they are registered. Attendance and lateness policies and sanctions are to be determined by the instructor for each section of each course. These will be established in writing on the individual course outline. Attendance will be kept by the instructor for administrative and counseling purposes.

Students will be evaluated on attendance and participation in class using the following criteria: consistent attendance; evidence of out-of-class practice; completed assignments; quality classroom participation and responses.

**Bergen Community College Academic Policies****Student and Faculty Support Services**

Bergen Community College is committed to academic integrity – the honest, fair, and continuing pursuit of knowledge, free from fraud or deception. Please review the college catalogue or student handbook for further information on this topic.

Bergen Community College has adopted an internal grievance procedure to provide for prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging any action prohibited by federal regulation implementing Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA).

Please review the college catalogue for further information on this topic.

Bergen Community College is committed to providing its students and employees with an academic and work environment free from sexual harassment or discrimination. Please review the policy prohibiting sexual harassment in the college catalogue.

Please review the statement on acceptable use of BCC technology in the college catalogue.

Faculty are available to meet with students as requested and/or by appointment. Students are encouraged to seek out their faculty member for academic needs.

All students are encouraged to visit and use the BCC Library. There are electronic references in the area of dance available to our students.

Students are encouraged to use the student support services of the college including the Writing Center, the Tutorial Center, the Office of Specialized Services, and ELRC.

The Distance Learning Office – for any problems you may have accessing your online courses	Room C-334	201-612-5581 <a href="mailto:psimms@bergen.edu">psimms@bergen.edu</a>
Smarthinking Tutorial Service	On Line at:	<a href="http://www.bergen.edu/library/learning/tutor/smart/index.asp">www.bergen.edu/library/learning/tutor/smart/index.asp</a>
The Tutoring Center	Room L-125	201-447-7908
The Writing Center	Room L-125	201-447-7908
The Online Writing Lab (OWL)	On Line at:	<a href="http://www.bergen.edu/owl">www.bergen.edu/owl</a>
The Office of Specialized Services (for Students with Disabilities)	Room S-131	201-612-5270
The Sidney Silverman Library – Reference Desk	Room L-226	201-447-7436
OFF-CAMPUS: (contact instructor for more information or further support)		

## Course Outline:

**Note to Students:** This Course Outline and Calendar is tentative and subject to change, depending upon the progress of the class and at the discretion of the instructor

## Ballet Dance Course Outline

Week	Topic/Activity	Learning Objectives	Assignments/Events
1 Class 1 & 2	Introduction to Course and Class Structure	1,2,3,4	
2 Class 3 & 4	Ballet Technique & Vocabulary	1,2,3,4	
3 Class 5 & 6	Ballet Technique & Vocabulary	1,2,3,4	
4 Class 7 & 8	Ballet Technique & Vocabulary	1,2,3,4	
5 Class 9 & 10	Ballet Tech, Vocab & Choreography	1,2	Present original choreography and/or video clips of ballet choreography
6 Class 11 & 12	Ballet Tech, Vocab & Choreography	5,6	<b>*PAPERS DUE*</b> <b>Biographies</b>
7 Class 13 & 14	Ballet Tech, Vocab & Choreography	1,2,3,4	
8 Class 15 & 16	Ballet Tech, Vocab & Choreography	1,2,3,4,5	<b>*VERBAL TEST*</b> <b>on Class 15</b>
9 Class 17 & 18	Ballet Tech, Vocab & Choreography	1,2,3,4	
10 Class 19 & 20	Ballet Tech, Vocab & Choreography	1,2,3,4	<b>*WRITTEN TEST*</b> <b>on Class 20</b>
11 Class 21 & 22	Ballet Tech, Vocab & Choreography	1,2,3,4	
12 Class 23 & 24	Ballet Tech, Vocab & Choreography	1,2,3,4	
13 Class 25 & 26	Ballet Tech, Vocab & Choreography	1,2,3,4,7	<b>*PERFORMANCE PAPERS DUE*</b>
14 Class 27 & 28	Ballet Tech, Vocab & Choreography	1,2,3,4	
15 Class 29 & 30	Ballet Tech, Vocab, Choreography & Performance	1,2,3,4	<b>*FINAL IN-CLASS PERFORMANCE DEMO*</b>