

Cedar Crest College
DNC 211 Beginner Ballet
Spring 2009

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Pattie Bostick

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Course Prerequisites None

Required Text: *Ballet Basics*, Sandra Noll Hammond

Course Description:

A beginning technique course designed to introduce and explain the basic fundamentals of a ballet class. Emphasis will be placed on body awareness, movement vocabulary and execution of basic ballet steps. The knowledge acquired in this class will lead to the development of 1) a new relationship between your mind, body and spirit, 2) a greater appreciation of classical ballet, 3) an enthusiasm for dance which will lead you to a greater participatory role in supporting this art form.

Dress: Black leotard, pink or black tights, pink ballet slippers, Ballet skirts optional. Hair must be pulled neatly in a bun.
NO shorts or baggy cover ups!!!!

Assignments:

Readings may be passed out throughout the semester for your information and growth as a dancer. Written feedback may be required. Supplemental reading and video viewing are recommended according to individual needs and interests.

You are required to carry a small notebook and pencil to each class. In this notebook you will keep track of any corrections or assignments you may receive, generally or specifically, in class. Take notes on the required readings that pertain to class. Please use drawings, diagrams and your own phrasing for understanding. I will collect this notebook once during the semester. Four written assignments will be given out.

- Any written assignment not turned in during the designated class will be lowered one letter grade for each day it is late.
- All assignments need to be typed, double spaced, 12 point font, 1 inch margins. Student name, date, instructor name, course title and assignment topic as heading.
- E-mailed attached papers will not be accepted.

Format: Barre; Floor Stretch; Center (Adagio, Pirouettes, Petit Allegro); En Diagonale; Reverence

Attendance: You are allotted (2) absences, without penalty, for illness, personal business, religious holidays, death in the family, etc. Students who have 4 absences REGARDLESS OF REASON must withdraw or fail the course. This class is an “experience”, not a lecture or lab, and the work missed cannot be made up. If a student is more than 5 minutes late to class, without prior notification, it is recorded as a 1/3 absence. Therefore 3 “lates” result in one absence. If you are anticipating an extended absence due to illness or injury, contact me immediately. If illness or injury does prevent you from participating in class on a given day and you are physically able, you are strongly encouraged to observe class. You are allowed no more than four consecutive class observations after which you must withdraw or fail.

Participation: The quality of participation in class directly affects your grade. You must challenge yourself daily to go beyond what is comfortable and safe. The quality and consistency of your participation will determine the path and speed of your progress.

General Performing Arts Policies

- do not bring food or beverages other than water into the dance studio
- do not bring cell phones into the dance studio
- do not enter the dance studio with street shoes on
- do not wear scented, “fruity” lotions to class; these lotions contain oils that stain the marley floor and cause slick surfaces.

Course Objectives:

1. The ability to communicate proficiently in at least one fine arts discipline (dance, music, theatre, creative writing, visual arts). “Proficiency” implies the ability to define and solve artistic problems with insight, reason, and technical competency.
 2. The ability to understand and evaluate the significance of works of art, broadly defined, from structural, historical, and /or cultural perspectives, using concepts, theories, analytical techniques and/or intellectual traditions appropriate to the discipline.
- A. DNC 211: Beginning Ballet fulfills Standard 1 and Standard 2 by introducing students to the fundamentals of classical ballet with emphasis on terminology, execution of movement and historical awareness. This course helps students explore and integrate body knowledge through classical ballet movement in addition to demonstrating proper body alignment. Students are required to read assigned articles relevant to the historical foundation of classical ballet and classical ballet in the 21st Century. Through film and classroom discussion, students develop an awareness of classical ballet as a performance art and the creative endeavors of the choreographers.
- B. Sixty-five percent of a student’s final grade in DNC 211 is designated to her understanding the fundamental principles of ballet, the terminology, and the ability to perform and execute basic ballet movement. In addition to the physical experience of the movement class, students are required to write four essays on posed topics related to their artistic experience in this class. The course culminates with a classroom choreography project, done by the student, which demonstrates the learned fundamentals. A grade of C or above is given to a student that demonstrates average to outstanding competency in the course with regards to the standards. A grade lower than a C is given to a student that demonstrates a below average or unsuccessful achievement of competency in the course with regards to the standards.

Assessment:

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| 65% | Attendance/Quality of participation in class
(Understanding the fundamental principles of ballet technique,
the ability to perform and execute basic ballet steps.) |
| 20% | Journal/Writing Assignments. |
| 15% | Choreography Assignment/Exam. |

Policies/Procedures The following have been taken from the student Customs Book:

Honor Philosophy

The Cedar Crest Honor Philosophy states that students should uphold community standards for academic and social behavior in order to preserve a learning environment dedicated to personal and academic excellence. Upholding community standards is a matter of personal integrity and honor. Individuals who accept the honor of membership in the Cedar Crest College community of scholars pledge to accept responsibility for their actions in all academic and social situations and for the effect their actions may have on other members of the College community.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity and ethics remain steadfast, withstanding technological change. Cedar Crest College academic standards therefore apply to all academic work, including, but not limited to, handwritten or computer generated documents, video or audio recordings and telecommunications.

As a student at Cedar Crest College, each student shall:

- Only submit work which is his/her own.
- Adhere to the rules of acknowledging outside sources, as defined by the instructor, never plagiarizing or misrepresenting intellectual property.
- Neither seek nor receive aid from another student, converse with one another when inappropriate, nor use materials not authorized by the instructor.
- Follow the instructions of the professor in any academic situation or environment including taking of examinations, laboratory procedures, the preparation of papers, properly and respectfully using College facilities and resources including library and computing resources to ensure that these resources may be effectively shared by all members of the College community.
- Abide by the Cedar Crest College Computer Use Policy.
- If a student perceives a violation of the Academic Standards, he/she will go to their instructor.
- If you are unable to resolve the problem with the instructor, you should go to the chair of the department. If you need further assistance after consultation with the instructor and the chair, you should see the Provost.

Classroom Protocol:

Appropriate classroom behavior is defined and guided by complete protection for the rights of all students and faculty to a courteous, respectful classroom environment. That environment is free from distractions such as late arrivals, early departures, inappropriate conversations and any other behaviors that might disrupt instruction and/or compromise students' access to the Cedar Crest College education.

Furthermore: Students are expected to have prompt and regular classroom attendance in accordance with the policy stated on the syllabus.

Learning Disabilities/Statement of College Policy:

Students with documented disabilities who may need academic accommodations

should discuss these needs with their professors during the first two weeks of class. Students with disabilities who wish to request accommodations should contact the Advising center.

I fully support the Cedar Crest College Honor Code and Classroom Protocol Code.

Plagiarism will result in an F for the assignment and will be reported to the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Dean of the Faculty.