



**Introduction to Ballet Dance Technique 1221**  
**Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 am – 9:50 am**

**Contact Information:**

Emily Davis, Instructor PAC Office 150A

Office Hours: By Appointment only, please email to schedule

Email: ead042@shsu.edu

Location: Dance Program Main Office

**Course Description:**

This course is an undergraduate introduction to ballet course for non-majors to introduce the theory and practice of ballet. Classes will include ballet steps, positions, and exercises for the barre and center. No previous experience in dance is required.

**Course Objectives:**

The objectives of this course are to:

- Introduce basic ballet steps
- Develop foundational alignment and placement for ballet
- Learn basic ballet vocabulary
- Become familiar with basic ballet etiquette and form
- Enhance physical fitness and kinesthetic awareness
- Enhance appreciation of ballet as an art form through

**Course Policies:**

- **Department Attendance Policy** – Due to the participatory nature of the course, attendance is mandatory. Attendance will be taken each and every class period. Each absence in excess of **three** class periods will lower the student's course grade by **5 points**. No make-up classes will be allowed. Absences for official university functions may be excused provided that the student requests this accommodation before the absence occurs and presents official documentation. Professional opportunities will be assessed at half an absence. All other absences count toward the total of three.

There is a strict **no tardy** policy. Tardy students may not be allowed into class and could receive an absence for the day.

In cases of minor injury or illness, students may be allowed to observe rather than participate physically. In such cases the student must request the accommodation before class begins and present observation notes to the instructor at the conclusion of class. Students with ongoing medical or physical problems must develop a program of recovery in consultation with a physician/physiotherapist and with the instructor. If the condition interferes with the student's ability to participate for an extended period, he or she will be advised to drop the course.

- **Class Dress Code:**  
Girls – Leotard (solid color), Tights (solid color, pink preferred), Ballet shoes (pink preferred), and hair in a bun (or if it is too short secured back from the face as best as possible). Ladies have the option of wearing a skirt (solid color preferred).  
Boys – Solid color form-fitting shirt; solid color tights, biker shorts, or form fitting leggings (black preferred); ballet shoes (preferably with socks of the same color)
- **Class Etiquette** – Interruptions of the class including talking, sitting down, stopping in the middle of a combination, arriving late to class, leaving the classroom without permission, etc. are distracting and disrespectful each other. With the exception of injuries or emergencies please ask for permission before being excused from the dance studio. Proper hygiene is strongly encouraged. Cell phones and other electronic devices are to be left in the dressing rooms and not brought into the classroom. No food, chewing gum, or drinks other than bottled water are allowed in the dance studio.

### **Class Assignments/Responsibilities:**

- **Movement Evaluations:** Students will perform a mid-term and final movement combination consisting of basic ballet steps and combinations.
- **Journal Assignments:** Students will write two journal assignments as a way to set goals, self-assess and evaluate their own progress, and reflect upon their movement evaluations.
- **Vocabulary Quizzes:** Students will take two ballet vocabulary quizzes covering some basic ballet terminology.
- **Ballet Observation:** Students will watch and/or discuss a sampling of a classical ballet and complete a written assignment on their observations.
- **Non-Majors Workshop:** At the end of the semester all students will perform in Non-Majors Workshop a piece of choreography learned in class. Non-Majors Workshop is **December 4, 2017** at 7:00 pm, call time is 6:00 pm. This will serve as the final movement evaluation for this course.

### **Grading Policy:**

1. Class Participation	30%
2. Journal Assignments and Vocabulary Quizzes	30%
3. Ballet Observation and Written Assignment	10%
4. Movement Evaluations	30%

### **Grading Scale:**

90 – 100%	A
80 – 89%	B
70 – 79%	C
60 – 69%	D
< 60%	F

## **ASSIGNMENTS/RESPONSIBILITIES: SHSU Academic Policies and Procedures**

### **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see Dean of Student's Office.

**CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT** - Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Cellular telephones and pagers must be turned off before class begins. Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

### **VISITORS IN THE CLASSROOM:**

Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

### **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY:**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail [disability@shsu.edu](mailto:disability@shsu.edu)). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Sxervices for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: <http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/7ff819c3-39f3-491d-b688-db5a330ced92.pdf>

### **STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY:**

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: "a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20...." A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that

absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/861001.pdf>

**SYLLABUS CHANGE POLICY:** This syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advanced notice.