

## **Intermediate Ballet, DANC 345 002**

### **1-3 Credits**

Fall 2017, MW, 9:00 AM to 10:15 AM  
Location: PAB A301  
Instructor: Monica Stephenson  
Office Hours: by appointment  
Email: msteph2@gmu.edu  
Dept. Website: <http://dance.gmu.edu>

#### **Course Description:**

*Provides continued ballet training for the intermediate-level dancer. Emphasizes increasing technical proficiency, improving anatomical awareness, and developing deeper understanding of skills and principles of ballet technique and how they provide foundation to teach and perform.*

*Meets general education fine arts requirement. May be repeated for 24 credits.*

#### **Nature of Course Delivery:**

This course will be taught through studio practice, lecture and discussion.

#### **Learning Outcomes**

At the end of this course students will:

- Understand and apply correct alignment during barre and center work.
- Demonstrate understanding of the skills and processes that form the foundation of ballet technique.
- Develop technical skills and expand ballet vocabulary.
- Acquire musical sensitivity and the ability to replicate ballet sequences incorporating a variety of rhythms and spatial pathways.
- Increase anatomical awareness.
- Develop a connection to artistry and the music in the execution of ballet technique.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between technique, artistry, and the expression of a work's underlying concept.
- Identify and analyze the formal elements of ballet using the appropriate vocabulary.
- Analyze performance (cultural productions) using standards appropriate to dance and cultural context.
- Analyze and interpret a dance performance in its social, historical and personal context.
- Engage in the artistic process, including conception, creation and ongoing critical analysis.

#### **Requirements**

- Class attendance is essential for success in this course. Students are expected to attend every class.
  - Moreover, **four** absences may result in a failing grade. It is **not** possible to make up any missed classes. (see department website for guidelines)
  - Latecomers must sign in. Chronic lateness will affect final grades.
  - If it is necessary to leave class early, inform the instructor ahead of time. The class will count as ½ attendance.
- Clothing: Proper dance attire is required. See "Checklist for a Successful Dance Class."
  - Ballet shoes are required.
  - Hair should be secured.
- Mid-term movement exam: **Wednesday, October 11, 2017**
- Mid-term vocabulary exam: **Wednesday, November 8, 2017**. Students are expected to recognize, understand, and spell correctly all ballet terms covered during the semester.
- Final movement exam: **Wednesday, December 6, 2017**

• Concerts: Students are required to attend 1 professional ballet performance. Performance options will be discussed in class. **You will be required to turn in your ticket stub and program.**

**Festival of South African Dance**

Saturday, September 30 at 8:00 PM  
Center for the Arts Concert Hall

**Limited free tickets available to students beginning 9/19/2017**

**Pilobolus**

Friday, October 13 at 8:00 PM  
Center for the Arts Concert Hall

**Limited free tickets available to students beginning 10/3/2017**

**Tango Buenos Aires**

Saturday, October 14 at 8:00 PM  
Center for the Arts Concert Hall

**Limited free tickets available to students beginning 10/3/2017**

**Doug Varone and Dancers featuring Mason Dance Company**

Saturday, November 18 at 8:00 PM  
Center for the Arts Concert Hall

**Limited free tickets available to students beginning 11/7/2017**

• Attendance at the following George Mason Dance Company Concert. **You will be required to turn in your ticket stub and program.**

**Mason Dance Company Fall: New Dances**

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday  
November 9, 10, & 11 at 8:00 PM each evening  
November 10 at 2:00 PM

Harris Theater

Tickets: \$15, full; \$10, students, staff & seniors; \$7 groups of 10 or more

**Limited free tickets available to students beginning 10/31/2017**

Any physical problems, past or current, should be discussed with the instructor.

See the website (<http://dance.gmu.edu>) for guidelines and additional information about succeeding in dance classes.

**Grading**

Attendance/concentrated participation	25%
Growth, development, progress	25%
Technical ability	25%
Written/Movement exam	25%

**Grading Standards:**

- A grade of "A" is given for superlative work that demonstrates a profound commitment to the course material, and further, that goes on to employ this material as a springboard for independent thought and work.
- A grade of "B" is given for very good work that completely fulfills all the requirements of the course in a conscientious and dedicated manner, and that demonstrates mastery of the course content.
- A grade of "C" is given for work that fulfills all the requirements of the course in a satisfactory manner, but that falls short of demonstrating rigor and mastery.
- A grade of "D" is given for work that is unsatisfactory
- A grade of "F" is given for work that fails to fulfill the requirements of the course.

**Mason Add/Drop Policy:** The last day to drop this class with no tuition liability is 9/5/2017. The last day to drop this class without Dean's permission is 9/29/2017, by 5pm. The elective withdrawal period for this class is from 10/2/2017 to 10/27/2017. It is the student's responsibility to check to verify that they are properly enrolled as no credit will be awarded to students who are not.

**Honor Code, Copyright, & Computing Policies:** *To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of the George Mason University community and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the university community, have set forth this honor code:* Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work.

You are expected to adhere to all University policies and guidelines during your participation in this course. All work must be your own. Inappropriate use of the work of others is a George Mason University Honor Code violation. Please review the University's website for information on the following: Honor Code and Judicial Procedures; Copyright/Fair Use; and Responsible Use of Computing.

**If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations** please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 703.993.2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office. Students must inform the instructor at the beginning of the semester, and the specific accommodation will be arranged through the Disability Resource Center.

**It is not possible to receive an incomplete grade in this class.** If you anticipate difficulty in completing this course see your instructor immediately to discuss your options.

**NOTE:** Cell phones, pagers and alarms must be turned off in class. **No exceptions.**

#### **Relationship of Course to Program Goals and Professional Organizations**

Intermediate Ballet (DANC 345) provides continued ballet technique training for intermediate students. This course meets the Virginia Department of Education endorsement competency for understanding the knowledge, skills and processes of the classic ballet discipline. The course, in compliance with the standards established by the National Association of Schools of Dance, facilitates the development of a high level technical skill. It also prepares teacher licensure candidates to meet the Dance Arts Standards of Learning for Virginia Public Schools (see [www.pen.k12.va.us/DOE/Superintendent/Sols/home.shtml](http://www.pen.k12.va.us/DOE/Superintendent/Sols/home.shtml)): DM.1; DM.2; DM.3; DM.4; DM.5; DM.17; DM.18; DM.20; DM.21; DI.1; DI.2; DI.3; DI.4; DI.8; DI.16; DI.17; DI.18; DI.20; DI.21; DI.22; DII.1; DII.2; DII.3; DII.4; DII.7; DII.16; DII.17; DII.19; DII.20; DII.21.

**EMERGENCY ALERT: You are encouraged to sign up for the Mason Alert System** by visiting the website <https://alert.gmu.edu>. An emergency poster exists in each classroom explaining what to do in the event of crises and that further information about emergency procedures exists on <http://www.gmu.edu/service/cert>.

\*Photos may be taken periodically during the semester for the School of Dance social media use. Images will be identified only as class groups; student names will not be used. Please notify me if you prefer **NOT** to be included.