

Course ID:	Course Title:	Winter 2024
DA 103-1	Dance Fundamentals	Prerequisite: None
		Credits: 3

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
Delivery:	In Class	Instructor:	Kyrsten Blair	First Day of Class:	Jan.9
Days:	Tuesday	Email:	Kyrsten.Blair@ambrose.edu	Last Day to Add/Drop:	Jan. 21
Time:	6:30-9:30pm	Phone:	403-244-3001	Last Day to Withdraw:	March 28
Room:	RELL 216 or RELL 124	Office:	RELL 216 or RELL 124	Last Day to Apply for Coursework Extension:	April 2
Lab/Tutorial:	None	Office Hours:	By Appointment	Last Day of Class:	April 12
Final Exam:	In-Class on April 12				

Important Dates and Information

Classes begin on January 8

Last day to add/drop with tuition refund is January 21

Undergraduate Program Day (no daytime classes) January 25

Family Day (no classes) February 19

Reading Week/Winter Module classes February 20 – 24

Last day to request a revised time for a final exam is March 4

Last day to withdraw from courses without academic penalty is March 28

The last day to apply for an extension for the coursework work is April 2

Last day of classes is April 12

Final Exams (including Saturday) April 16 - 23

Course Description

Dance Fundamentals is a praxis and lecture-based introductory dance class open to all students. This course will explore classical, contemporary, and jazz dance techniques. The training includes barre work, centre-practice, across-the-floor, and improvisation. Students will also be introduced to basic skeletal and muscle anatomy and health. Classroom work

will focus on a holistic understanding of dance genres and history. Studio work will emphasize rhythm, theme, and musical interpretation as applied to improvisation and choreography.

Expected Learning Outcomes

Students in DA 103 will be expected to demonstrate:

1. An understanding of basic dance history
2. Articulate observations and interpretations of dance performances
3. Basic positions and beginner movement vocabulary for ballet
4. Basic movement vocabulary of contemporary dance within set exercises
5. Basic jazz movement and exploration of its relationship with music and improvisation
6. Understanding of the various genres through creation and presentation

Textbooks

There is no textbook for this course. There are, however, weekly activities, including video and written resources, to engage students in reflection, discussion, and movement exploration.

Equipment/Attire

Please wear clothing that can be easily moved in, which includes leggings, athletic pants or bike shorts, athletic tops or T-shirts and socks that aren't too slippery. No Jeans or clothing that limits movement.

Chewing gum and **phones are not allowed in the studio**. Hair should be tied back so it is off the face. Jewelry should only be worn if it is tight to the body.

If students have ballet or jazz shoes, they may be worn when those styles are practiced but are not required. For each class, please bring a water bottle, notebook/pen, or laptop/tablet for taking notes.

Course Schedule

Class Content and Location	Activity	Class Dates
Lecture – Intro to the Course, Early Dance History Studio – Intro to Studio, Ballet positions & exercises	Watch, Discuss & Dance	January 9
Lecture – Ballet Through the Ages, Alignment and Anatomy Studio – Ballet in The Centre and Across the Floor	Discuss & Dance	January 16
LECTURE - Ballet cont. and Dance as an Art Form STUDIO - Modern Exercises	Discuss & Dance	January 23
Attend matinee performance	Meet at DJD Dance Centre on Sunday at 1:30pm	January 28
No Class on Tuesday		January 30
LECTURE - Contemporary Dance Video	Performance Observation Paper Due	February 6

STUDIO - Modern Exercises		
LECTURE – Modern and Contemporary Dance	Contemporary Dance Video Response Due	February 13
STUDIO - Review of Ballet and Modern for Midterm		
Reading Week – No Class		February 20
Movement Exam 6:30-7:30pm. Written Exam 7:30pm	Midterm Exam	February 27
LECTURE - Jazz Dance Roots and Evolution	Discuss & Dance	March 5
STUDIO - Jazz Movement and Rhythms		
LECTURE – Jazz Dance; Review for Final	Discuss & Dance	March 12
STUDIO - Jazz Movement and Rhythms and Group Planning		
LECTURE - Musical Theatre and Dance on Film	Discuss & Dance	March 19
STUDIO - Jazz Review and Group Choreography		
STUDIO – Independent Review for Presentations	Review	March 26
STUDIO - In Class Presentations; Review for Final	Jazz and Group Presentations	April 2
Final Exam in Dance Studio	Reflection Video Due	April 9

Requirements:

15% - Attendance and Participation

Full credit will be given for meeting all the following requirements:

1. Arriving at classes on time
2. Participating in movement exercises and wearing appropriate movement attire
3. Completing assignments and engaging in class discussions
4. Remaining for the full duration of the class
5. Attend one dance performance

Those who miss a class due to illness or emergency are expected to email the instructor before their absence if possible. Classes will not be recorded via Zoom (unless mandated); however, lecture materials will be shared for student review. Students are responsible for catching up on movements missed from the studio content with their peers. More than three absences will impact student success and require a meeting with the instructor.

Each class is worth ~1.5% of your overall grade.

** To receive credit for classes missed due to illness or other issues, students must submit a one-page written summary of the course content presented on the date they were absent. Guidance is available upon request. This can be submitted within two weeks of the absence.*

10% - Performance Observation Paper: We will attend the Decidedly Jazz matinee performance “Olio” on Sunday, January 28th. Students will take notes about the performance based on the assignment outline posted by email. Write a

500-750 word review. Provide a short description of the work and discuss your experience of the performance. Relate some aspect of the performance to your class experiences, incorporating dance vocabulary from the in-class discussions and experience. The rubric will be posted by email. Submit your paper by email to Kyrsten.Blair@ambrose.edu. **Due: Tuesday, February 6**

5% - Video Reflection: Submit a video reflection. Record a video response of your reaction to the Contemporary Dance Video. Your video should not be any shorter than 5 minutes and no longer than 10 minutes. Guideline will be posted by email. Submit a video reflection to Kyrsten.Blair@ambrose.edu.
Due: Tuesday, February 13

10% - Midterm Movement Exam: The midterm exam for this course is divided into two sections. The movement exam will include a demonstration of set ballet and modern exercises learned in the first few weeks and the ballet positions for both arms and feet. The exam will be done in the dance studio. The rubric for this exam will be posted by email.
Midterm Exam Date: 6:30pm Tuesday, February 27

10% - Midterm Written Exam: Students will take a multiple choice, long and short answer exam based on the course instruction on early dance history, dance as an art form, ballet and modern dance. More information regarding the exam content will be posted by email. Students may request accommodation through Student Academic Success.
Midterm Exam Date: 7:30pm Tuesday, February 27

10% - Jazz Movement Presentation: Students will present their jazz dance exercises, choreography and Swing dance combination, demonstrating an understanding of jazz rhythms and movement aesthetics. The grading rubric will be posted by email and include categories for participation, presence, physicality, precision, and musicality.
Presentation Date: Tuesday, April 2

15% - Group Presentation, 5% - Reflection Video: Based on the genres explored in class, students will create a dance with a small, assigned group for presentation to the class in the dance studio. Record a video response of your experience of the creation process and performance experience. Your video should not be any shorter than 5 minutes and no longer than 10 minutes. Guideline will be posted by email. Submit a video reflection to Kyrsten.Blair@ambrose.edu.
Presentation Date: Tuesday, April 2. Reflection Video Due: Tuesday, April 9

20% - Final Exam: Students will dance and take a multiple choice, long and short answer exam based on the cumulative knowledge they gained throughout the course. More information regarding exam content will be given later in the semester. Students may request accommodation through Student Academic Success.
The final exam date: Tuesday, April 9, 6:30-9:30pm in Dance Studio

Grade Summary:

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

Grade	Interpretation	Grade Points
A+	Excellent	4.00
A		4.00
A-		3.70
B+	Good	3.30
B		3.00

B-		2.70
C+	Satisfactory	2.30
C		2.00
C-		1.70
D+	Poor	1.30
D	Minimal Pass	1.0
F	Failure	0.00
P	Pass	No Grade Points

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 the student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

Other:

Decidedly Jazz Field Trip

Students will attend DJD’s matinee performance, “Olio,” on Sunday, January 28. This means that we will NOT have class on Tuesday, January 30, in lieu of our field trip night. Tickets will be purchased on your behalf using course fees;

however, students will need to arrange their own transportation to the Decidedly Jazz Dance Centre located at 111 12th Ave SE. We will meet in the building lobby at 1:30pm for a tour of the building, followed by the performance at 2:00pm. The dress code is business casual, and refreshments will be available if desired. If you cannot attend due to an emergency or illness, please contact the instructor as soon as possible to make alternative plans to complete the observation paper assignment.

Ambrose University Important Policies & Procedures:

Registration

Registration is the process of selecting and enrolling in classes for upcoming semesters. Only students who are registered will be permitted to attend class and receive a grade for the course. You are responsible for ensuring that the courses you take are appropriate for your program, that they do not have any scheduling conflicts, that they have the necessary prerequisites and that they meet all degree requirements.

Withdrawal From A Course

Prior to the Add/Drop deadline: through the student registration system whereby course(s) will be removed with no academic or financial penalty. After the Add/Drop deadline and until the Withdrawal deadline: through submission of the ‘Withdrawal from Course’ form whereby course(s) will remain on the permanent academic record/transcript with the symbol ‘W’. (See

ambrose.edu/registrar/request-forms.) Students who withdraw from more than 30 credits attempted at Ambrose University will be required to withdraw from their program. Students considering withdrawing from courses are encouraged to discuss with their Faculty Advisor and/or the Office of the Registrar questions relating to their withdrawal decision specifically relating to financial assistance, study permit requirements, prerequisites for subsequent courses, readmission, and/or graduation timeline. Students who do not formally withdraw from a course are still considered registered in the course, even if they are no longer attending classes. In this case, students will be assigned a grade based on coursework completed as per the course syllabus and are responsible to pay the tuition and fees assessed for the course. Under extenuating circumstances, students may request from the Office of the Registrar a course(s) withdrawal after the

Withdrawal deadline and until the last day of classes. Extenuating circumstances typically consider situations such as medical emergencies, compassionate grounds, or unforeseen conditions/situations beyond the students' control that arise after the start of the semester and are considered on a case-by-case basis. Supporting documentation from a physician or Registered Health Professional must accompany this request.

Coursework Extensions

Should a request for a time extension on coursework exceed the end of the term, a *Coursework Extension Application* must be completed and submitted to the Office of the Registrar. The extension (if granted) will be recorded on the student record. Extensions are granted at the discretion of the instructor and registrar. If granted, time extensions do not excuse you from a final examination where one has been scheduled for the course. More conditions apply.

Exam Scheduling

Students who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a *Revised Final Exam Time Application* to the Office of the Registrar by the deadline noted in the Academic Calendar. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; or 2) the scheduled final examination slot results in three consecutive examination periods. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Communication

Your Ambrose email account is the University's primary and official mode of communication with you. Information delivered to your Ambrose email is considered official notification. Ambrose University is not responsible for your failure to receive important information delivered to your Ambrose email.

Lecture Recording

The recording of lectures or any other classroom academic activity, other than an audio recording as an accommodation, is prohibited except at the discretion of the instructor. Any use other than that agreed upon with the instructor constitutes academic misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion. Permission to allow a

lecture recording is not a transfer of any copyrights, so such recordings may be used only for individual or group study with other students enrolled in the same class and may not be reproduced, transferred, distributed or displayed in any public or commercial manner. Student must destroy recordings in any, and all formats at the end of the semester in which they are enrolled in the class. All students recording lectures, must sign the Permission Form to audio record lectures which is available through the Office of the Registrar.

Standards of Behaviour in the Classroom Setting

Learning is an active and interactive process, a joint venture between student and instructor and between student and student. Some topics covered within a class may lead to strong reactions and opinions. It is important that Students understand that they are entitled to hold contradictory beliefs and that they should be encouraged to engage with these topics in a critical manner. Committing to this type of "active learning" significantly increases the learning experience for both teacher and student, and reflects the Christian imperative to pursue truth, which lies at the heart of the Ambrose educational experience. However, active discussion of controversial topics will be undertaken with respect and empathy, which are the foundations of civil discourse in the Classroom Setting. Primary responsibility for managing the classroom rests with the instructor. The instructor may direct a student to leave the class if the student engages in any behaviour that disrupts the classroom setting. If necessary, Ambrose security will be contacted to escort the student from class.

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.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. The academic calendar can be found at <https://ambrose.edu/academics/academic-calendar>

Privacy

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.

Academic Success and Supports

Accessibility Services

Academic accommodation is provided to Ambrose students with disabilities in accordance with the Alberta Human Rights Act and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Provision of academic accommodation does not lower the academic standards of the university nor remove the need for evaluation and the need to meet essential learning outcomes. Reasonable accommodations are tailored to the individual student, are flexible, and are determined by considering the barriers within the unique environment of a postsecondary institution. It can take time to organize academic accommodations and funding for disability-related services. Students with a disability who wish to have an academic accommodation are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services as early as possible to ensure appropriate planning for any needs that may include accommodations. Staff can then meet with students to determine areas to facilitate success, and if accommodations are required, ensure those accommodations are put in place by working with faculty.

Ambrose Writing Services

Ambrose Writing services provides academic support in the four foundational literacy skills—listening, speaking, reading, and writing. It also assists students with critical thinking and the research process. Throughout the academic year, students can meet with a writing tutor for personalized support, or they can attend a variety of workshops offered by Academic Success. These services are free to students enrolled at Ambrose University. Academic Success serves all students in all disciplines and at all levels, from history to biology and from theatre to theology. To learn more, please visit <https://ambrose.edu/sas/writing-services>

Ambrose Tutoring Services

Ambrose Tutoring Services provides support in specific disciplinary knowledge, especially in high-demand areas such as chemistry, philosophy, math and statistics, and religious studies. These tutors also coach students in general study skills, including listening and note-taking. During the academic year, Ambrose Tutoring Services offers drop-in tutoring for courses with high demand; for other courses, students can book a one-to-one appointment with a tutor in their discipline. These services are free to students enrolled at Ambrose University. To learn more, please visit <https://ambrose.edu/tutoring>.

Mental Health Support

All of us need a support system. We encourage students to build mental health supports and to reach out when help is needed.

On Campus:

- Counselling Services: ambrose.edu/counselling
- For immediate crisis support, there are staff on campus who are trained in Suicide Intervention Skills and can help you access mental health support. See <https://ambrose.edu/student-life/crisissupport> for a list of staff members.
- For additional wellness resources go to the Ambrose wellness page: <https://ambrose.edu/wellness>

Off Campus:

- Distress Centre - 403-266-4357
- Alberta Mental Health Helpline - 1-877-303-2642 (Toll free)
- Sheldon Chumir Health Care Centre - 403-955-6200

- Emergency - 911

Sexual Violence Support

We are committed to supporting students who have experienced gender based sexual violence in the past or while at Ambrose. Many of the staff, faculty, and student leaders have received Sexual Violence Response to Disclosure training. We will support you and help you find the resources you need and you can access information about reporting. Information about the Sexual Violence policy and on and off campus supports can be found on our website– ambrose.edu/sexual-violence-response-and-awareness.

Off Campus:

- Alberta's Oneline for Sexual Violence - 1-866-403-8000 call or text
- Clinic: Sheldon Chumir Health Centre - 403-955-6200
- Calgary Communities Against Sexual Abuse - 403-237-5888
- Chat: www.calgarycasa.com

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