

Agnes Scott College
Labanotation
Dance 340
Fall 2018
TR 11:30-12:45

Instructor- Bridget Roosa
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Office Hours- Monday and Wednesday 1-2 or by appointment
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Course Description and Objectives:

This course will introduce the students to the elementary concepts of Labanotation. Through lectures, practical work and dictation assignments the student will learn to record and read movement in its basic form. The final exam will also serve as a certification exam that means that with a qualifying score the student may become elementary certified with the Dance Notation Bureau, Inc.

Requirements:

ATTIRE: As this course is both theoretical and practical, the dancer must be dressed in dance clothing that allows for maximum movement potential.

ATTENDANCE:

Department Philosophy

The faculty of the Department of Theatre and Dance expects students to recognize the correlation between regular class attendance, effective learning, and good grades. The study of Theatre and Dance is a participatory endeavor and a two-sided commitment. Therefore, class attendance is expected of all students. Excessive absenteeism will result in a lower final grade or failure. Just as the student has a right to expect her professors to be present and prepared for all class meetings, so the faculty expects students to assume responsibility for class attendance, preparation, and participation. The Department does not provide opportunities for make up of class sessions or class lectures. The responsibility for learning the material missed is entirely that of the individual student. Students are responsible for reading and adhering to the academic regulations in the college catalog and in the Student Handbook. These policies, regulations, and attendance actions are governed by the Honor System.

Absences

Absences for classes that meet two (2) days a week are as follows: 1) a maximum of three (3) absences will be allowed without penalty for the semester; 2) each absence after the third (3rd) results in a reduction of one-third (1/3) of the student's final letter grade; 3) seven (7) or more absences for the semester will result in failing the class.

Three (3) late arrivals to all classes will constitute an absence.

Unless explicitly stated to the contrary, students are expected to attend all class meetings regardless of the nature of the activity. Class meetings include, but are not limited to, the following: lectures, discussions, performances, presentations, critiques, reviews, tests, consultations and tutorials. The instructor of record for each course retains the responsibility for determining what constitutes a class meeting. Missing a scheduled class meeting will constitute an absence.

Make-up Work

Class assignments and presentations must be completed on time. The possibility for any make-up work for absences that are excused will be determined and assigned on a case-by-case basis by the faculty member. Deadlines for such make-up work will be set by the faculty member. No make-up opportunity is available for work missed during unexcused absences. Making up missed work will not eliminate an absence from a student's attendance record.

If a student knows in advance of an absence that will occur (such as in the case of religious holiday or a school-sponsored activity) it is expected that work due on the day of the absence will be turned in on or before the due date. In the case of true emergencies, work must be completed by the date established by the faculty member. Grades for late assignments (except for true emergencies) will be reduced by one-third (1/3) of a letter grade for each day late with lateness calculated by calendar days rather than class meetings.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Topaz, Muriel. *Elementary Labanotation: A Study Guide*. 2nd Edition. NY: Dance Notation Bureau, 1996.

ASSIGNMENTS:

- ❖ Homework: The student is responsible for all homework assigned in class. **NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED.**
- ❖ Midterm Exam: An exam will be given in early October covering the first 4 lessons. A review session will precede this exam.
- ❖ Final Exam. This cumulative test will be a take home exam that with a qualifying score can be used for achievement of elementary certification through the Dance Notation Bureau, Inc.

Grading:

Class participation and attendance:	25%
Midterm Exam:	25%
Homework assignments:	25%
Final Exam:	25%

The grading scale will be:

A 93-100%	B 83-89%	C 73-79%	D 63-69%
A- 90-92%	B- 80-82%	C-70-72%	D- 60-63%

F-Below 60%

Academic Honesty:

The Agnes Scott College honor code embodies an ideal of character, conduct, and citizenship, and is an important part of the College's mission and core identity. This applies especially to academic honesty and integrity. Passing off someone else's work as your own represents intellectual fraud and theft, and violates the core values of our academic community. To be honorable, you should understand not only what counts as academic dishonesty, but also how to avoid engaging in these practices. You should:

- review each course syllabus for the professor's expectations regarding course work and class attendance.
- attribute all ideas taken from other sources; this shows respect for other scholars. Plagiarism can include portraying another's work or ideas as your own, buying a paper online and turning it in as if it were your own work, or not citing or improperly citing references on a reference page or within the text of a paper.
- not falsify or create data and resources or alter a graded work without the prior consent of your professor. This includes making up a reference for a works cited page or making up statistics or facts for academic work.
- not allow another party to do your work/exam, or submit the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from the course instructors. Cheating also includes taking an exam for another person, looking on another person's exam for answers, using exams from previous classes without permission, or bringing and using unauthorized notes or resources (i.e., electronic, written, or otherwise) during an exam.
- not facilitate cheating, which can happen when you help another student complete a take home exam, give answers to an exam, talk about an exam with a student who has not taken it, or collaborate with others on work that is supposed to be completed independently.
- be truthful about the submission of work, which includes the time of submission and the place of submission (e.g., e-mail, online, in a mailbox, to an office, etc.).

You should understand that penalties result from dishonest conduct, ranging from failure of the assignment to expulsion from the college. You should speak with your professors if you need clarification about any of these policies.

Title IX:

For the safety of the entire community, any incidence of, or information about sexual misconduct must be reported immediately to the Title IX Coordinator Marti Fessenden (mfessenden@agnesscott.edu, 404-471-6547), Deputy Title IX Coordinator Karen Gilbert (kgilbert@agnesscott.edu, 404-471-6435), or Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students Karen Goff (kgoff@agnesscott.edu, 404-471-6449).

Inclusion:

This course adheres to the principles of diversity and inclusion integral to the Agnes Scott community. We respect people from all backgrounds and recognize the differences among our students, including racial and ethnic identities, religious practices, and gender expressions. We strive for our campus to be a safe space in which all students feel

acknowledged and supported. At the same time, we understand that course content, critical inquiry, and classroom dialogues give us opportunities to examine topics from a variety of perspectives. Such discourse is a defining feature of a liberal arts education, and can compel debates that challenge beliefs and positions, sometimes causing discomfort, especially around issues related to personal identities. While we uphold and preserve the tenets of academic freedom, we request and invite your thoughtful and constructive feedback on ways that we can, as a community of learners, respectfully assist and challenge one another in our individual and collective academic work.

ADA:

Agnes Scott College seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with various abilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, please contact the Office of Academic Advising and Accessible Education (X6150) to make complete the registration process. Once registered, please contact me so we can discuss the specific accommodations needed for this course.

Course evaluation:

Your feedback on the course is extremely valuable to the department, the administration, and me. In particular, I take your comments very seriously and use them to improve the course the next time I teach it. You are responsible for completing an evaluation of the course at the end of the semester. I will provide more details later.

Classroom Behavior:

It is of utmost importance that the studio/classroom serves the community as a safe space for creative growth and exploration. Please abide by the following guidelines:

- No outside shoes allowed on the studio floors
- No cell phones are permitted in the classroom
- Eating in the studio is not permitted
- Please choose your class attire carefully. Follow the guidelines listed and be sure not to wear something that will make others uncomfortable.

Miscellaneous:

1. I want you to know that I will make myself available to you at any time you request. Please don't hesitate to try and set up time for a tutorial or to discuss any concerns.
2. Last but not least-have fun! ☺

Course Breakdown

8/30: Syllabus, Introduction to Labanotation and Lesson 1- Fundamentals of Labanotation

9/4 and 9/6: Lesson 2- Gesture

9/11 and 9/13: Lesson 3- Simple Air Work

9/18 and 9/20: Lesson 4- Pivot Turns

9/25 and 9/27: Lesson 5- Jumps with Leg Gestures

10/2: Review

10/4: Midterm

10/9: Catch up and review midterm feedback
Fall Break

10/16 and 10/18: Lesson 6- Floor Plans

10/23 and 10/25: Lesson 7- Circular Path

10/30 and 11/1: Lesson 8- Space Measurement

11/6 and 11/8: Lesson 9- Moving in and out of open Positions and Hand out final exam

11/13 and 11/15: Work sessions

11/20: Work session

Thanksgiving Break

11/27 and 11/29: Work sessions: Each class will begin with a 30-minute mandatory Q and A session

12/4: Work Session

12/6: Turn in final exam by 12:45pm. (There is no class on this day. You may turn in your final exams prior to this date.)

