

**YORK UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF HEALTH
SCHOOL OF KINESIOLOGY AND HEALTH SCIENCE**

Course:	PKIN 0570 0.0 Ballroom Dance I			
Term:	Winter 2017			
Prerequisite/Co-requisite:	none			
Course Instructor:	Samara L. Thompson samara@yorku.ca consultations available by request			
Course Website:	www.yorku.ca/samara			
Time and Location:	Section M	Tuesday, Thursday	11:30 am	Tait Studio 6
	Section N	Tuesday, Thursday	12:30 am	Tait Studio 6
	Section O	Tuesday, Thursday	1:30 pm	Tait Studio 6

EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION

Organization of the Course

This studio course is an introduction to ballroom dance. No previous dance experience is necessary. The course is designed to give students a practical and theoretical understanding of the different forms of ballroom dance, with an emphasis placed on the use of basic ballroom dance steps, combinations, and dances, and how they relate to music. Basic ballroom dancing etiquette will be addressed, as will the techniques of leading and following. As this course is practical in nature, the majority of class time is spent learning ballroom dance technique. By the end of term the students should be able to execute dance routines in the dance styles covered in the course. In addition, a brief history of ballroom dance is covered.

Dance Attire

In order to dance and move freely, appropriate clothing is required. Please wear comfortable, form fitting athletic clothing (nothing too loose). Hats and heavy shoes are unacceptable. Indoor non-marking dress shoes are preferred, though students may wear bare feet. Hair must be securely fastened away from the face and neck. For your safety and the safety of fellow students, please refrain from wearing jewelry.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Statement of Purpose and Learning Objectives

The purpose of this course is to teach students basic ballroom dance technique. For a further breadth of understanding, an overview of ballroom dance history is presented. The specific learning objectives of the course are that students will:

- understand and be able to execute the basic principles involved with American style ballroom dance and be able to apply them in social dance settings
- demonstrate at least four different American style ballroom dances, as taught in class
- understand and be able to use the basic principles of leading or following
- be able to integrate music and dance

During the first half of the course, students learn American/Social Style Waltz and Foxtrot. For the second half of the term, students learn American/Social Style Tango and Rumba. Additional dance styles may be added.

COURSE TEXT / READINGS

Selected Readings From:

Harris, Jane A. *Social Dance: from Dance A While*. San Francisco: B. Cummings, 2003.

Kraines, Minda G., Esther Pryor. *Jump Into Jazz*. Mountain View: Mayfield, 1996.

Rushing, Shirely, Patrick McMillan. *Ballroom Dance: American Style*. Dubuque: Eddie Bowers P, 1997.

EVALUATION

Theoretical

20%

There will be a written exam based on historical information and technical descriptions of ballroom dance.

Practical

60%

Students are evaluated on their retention and execution of ballroom dance technique, dances, and combinations. There will be two Practical Exams, the first based on Waltz and Foxtrot and the second based on Tango and Rumba. Each exam is worth 30%.

Participation & Attendance

20%

Students are expected to participate fully. This portion of the grade also reflects attitude, effort, progress, and improvement. As dance training is cumulative in nature, regular attendance and punctuality are necessary for the learning process and as such are expected of the students in this class. Students must attend 80% of the classes or a failing grade will result.

GRADING, ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION

Attendance

To receive credit for a practicum course a student must attend and actively participate in a minimum of 80 percent of classes for the course. When full participation is not possible, accommodation agreements may be reached with the student (complete classes missed in next term, individual testing, etc.). The following absences are allowed:

- 24 hour course, 2 hours per week for 12 weeks, students allowed 4 absences

Students are expected to participate in every class. Students may miss two classes without penalty and be late twice without penalty. Absences in excess of two per term can result in a grade deduction of 2% per occurrence. Lateness in excess of two per term can result in a grade deduction of 1% per occurrence. Early departures are treated as a late and can result in a grade deduction of 1% per occurrence.

If a student is injured or ill, obtain and submit a hard copy of a doctor's note. Students will not have a grade deduction for absences accompanied with a doctor's note and for other University approved reasons for absences (religious accommodation, compassionate grounds, etc), however all absences contribute to the overall number of absences allowed to pass the course. All attendance related grade deductions are compiled to a maximum of 10% off a student's grade.

In the event of an absence or limited participation, **all missed material is to be learned prior to returning to class.**

Grading Scheme

The grading scheme for the course is A, B, C, Pass, and Fail (e.g. A = 80 to 100%, B = 70 to 79%, C = 60 to 69%, F = below 59%). Assignments and tests will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade. For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar.

<http://calendars.students.yorku.ca>

Students may take a limited number of courses for degree credit on an ungraded (pass/fail) basis. For full information on this option see Alternative Grading Option in the Faculty of Health section of the Undergraduate Calendar.

<http://calendars.students.yorku.ca/2016-2017/kinesiology-and-health-science>

Physical Demands

This course will include elements that are physically demanding. Prior injuries can be aggravated by strenuous exercise so check with your physician and inform the Course Director before beginning the course. Be sure to share with the Course Director any changes in your injury or health that may impact your participation.

This course also includes human contact (i.e., correction of alignment or technical execution as well as the contact with colleagues). Students uncomfortable with the use of touch are requested to relay their feelings to the Course Director as soon as possible.

Assignment Submission

Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, assignments for this course must be received on the due date specified for the assignment. Assignments must be handed into the Course Instructor during class time. Alternate arrangements may be considered on an individual basis and must be agreed upon by the Course Instructor in advance of the due date.

Lateness Penalty

Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized. The penalty is 5% per day that the assignment is late. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the Course Instructor but will require supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor's letter).

Missed Tests

Students with a documented reason for missing a course test, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., which is confirmed by supporting documentation (e.g., doctor's letter) may request accommodation from the Course Instructor. In such cases, tests may be rescheduled and/or alternate arrangements may be made on an individual basis. Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Academic Standards, Curriculum & Pedagogy webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents) -

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate/committees/ascp/documents/CourseInformationForStudentsAugust2012.pdf>

- Senate Policy on Academic Honesty and the Academic Integrity Website
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Student Conduct Standards
- Religious Observance Accommodation

IMPORTANT COURSE DATES

Practical Exam 1

Tuesday, February 14

Thursday, February 16

Be prepared to dance any of the material covered in class.

Written Exam

Tuesday, February 28

Exam will be written during class.

Practical Exam 2

Tuesday, March 28

Thursday, March 30

Be prepared to dance any of the material covered in class.

Last Class

Monday, April 4

Please note: All course assignment dates are subject to change.
