

**PED 103L and KIN 119:  
BEGINNING SOCIAL DANCE  
Course Information**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Nick Enge  
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(650) 814-4760

**Office Hours:** Fridays 12pm-2pm in BEL 628 and by appointment

**Course Numbers:**

	<b>Leads</b>	<b>Follows</b>
<b>TTh 12 pm</b>	11785 (PED 103L) 11145 (KIN 119)	11805 (PED 103L) 11160 (KIN 119)
<b>TTh 1 pm</b>	11790 (PED 103L) 11150 (KIN 119)	11810 (PED 103L) 11165 (KIN 119)

**Course Times**

The TTh 12 pm class will start at 12 pm and end at 12:50 pm.

The TTh 1 pm class will start at 1 pm and end at 1:50 pm.

There is a recommended practice session called Dance Lab on Fridays from 12-2 pm.

**Course Location**

Bellmont 628

**Prerequisites**

There are no prerequisites for the course, and no prior experience in dance is necessary.

**Course Websites**

Announcements, assignments, and grades will be posted on Canvas.

Review videos, practice music, and other links will be posted at: [libraryofdance.org/ut](http://libraryofdance.org/ut)

**Textbook**

*Waltzing: A Manual for Dancing and Living* by Richard Powers and Nick Enge

The textbook is available for purchase in class or at Amazon.com for \$25.

## **COURSE CONTENT AND OBJECTIVES**

### **Course Philosophy**

This is an introductory social dance course, designed for absolute beginners and taught with an emphasis on the social aspects of dance as a form of communication between two people and among members of a group. The basics of several dance styles are taught, with attention paid to the arts of leading, following, and co-creating a dance.

### **Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Execute (lead or follow) the basic footwork, partnering skills, and variations for a variety of social dances, including East Coast Swing, Country Two-Step, Waltz, Cross-Step Waltz, Nightclub Two-Step, Merengue, Bachata, Salsa, Cha Cha, and West Coast Swing (exact dances may vary by semester).
2. Differentiate the rhythm patterns and music appropriate for each dance style.
3. Collaborate with partners of all backgrounds and ability levels.
4. Experience the benefits of social dance, such as body awareness and fitness, creativity and self-expression, social interaction and community-building, stress reduction, and self-confidence.

### **GRADING OPTIONS**

**Pass/Fail:** PED 103L students have the option to take the class Pass/Fail. In order to pass, you must earn at least 60 points. KIN 119 students must take the class for a grade.

**Graded:** If you take the class for a grade, grades will be assigned with the +/- system:  
A = 93-100%, A- = 90-92%, B+ = 87-89%, B = 83-86%, B- = 80-82%, C+ = 77-79%, C = 73-76%, C- = 70-72%, D+ = 67-69%, D = 63-66%, D- = 60-62%, F = 0-59%.

### **GRADED ELEMENTS**

There are two components of your grade:

1. Attendance (50% of your grade)
2. Assignments (50% of your grade)

Details on both components can be found on the next page.

## **ATTENDANCE (50% of total grade, 50 points)**

### **Signing In**

Each day, you will sign in on the sign-in sheet by putting a red bullet to the left of your name, like so: • Nick Enge

### **Recording Attendance**

We will record each day of class you miss by adding a letter to the right of your name, which corresponds to the day of class you missed (i.e., Day 1 = a, Day 2 = b). For example, "Nick Enge *cf*" means that Nick missed the third day of class and the fifth day of class. If you believe you have been marked absent in error, please email the instructor.

### **Arriving on Time**

You are expected to sign in and be ready to dance by the class start time. The sign-in sheet will be removed 10 minutes after the start of each class: if you have not signed in by then, you will be marked as absent.

### **Grading Attendance and Make-Up Assignments:**

Although we hope you make it class every day (and we think you will find that you want to!), we realize that you may miss class occasionally. Here's our policy on excused absences:

Your first 2 absences are automatically excused. This means that you can miss 2 classes for any reason without having to make them up.

In order to excuse an absence beyond those two, you will need to complete a make-up assignment. A make-up assignment is a regular assignment that you do a second time (see below for Assignments). These assignments are submitted in the "Make Up" assignments on Canvas. In addition to your 2 free absences, you can make up an additional 4. In the case of extended illness or injury, please talk to the instructor to discuss your situation.

Each absence that is not made up will subtract 5 points from your final grade.

### **Social Dance Soirée (10 points):**

In addition to the regularly scheduled classes, you are also expected to attend the final social dance party for all of the classes in the Union Ballroom. This is an end-of-semester celebration with dressy attire, special performances, and lots of fun! For grading purposes, the Soirée is equivalent to two regular classes (i.e., 10 points).

**ASSIGNMENTS (50% of total grade, 50 points)**

In addition to attending class, you will complete five additional assignments:

**#1 and #2: One-on-One Feedback: 20 points (10 points each)**

Two times during the semester, you will find a member of the teaching team (CA or instructor) before/after class or during Dance Lab and get feedback on your dancing.

You will then submit a short write-up on Canvas in response to their feedback, in which you report what you learned and how you plan to apply it in the future.

One feedback write-up is due halfway through the semester, and the other is due at the end of the semester.

**#3: Essay: 10 points**

Once during the semester, you will write a short (250+ word) essay reflecting on your experiences with social dancing.

More detailed prompts for this essay can be found on Canvas.

**#4: Dance Music: 10 points (2 pt each)**

Throughout the semester, you will identify five new danceable songs (not heard in class or Dance Lab\*) and submit them along with your recommendation of what you would dance to it here: <http://www.libraryofdance.org/ut/music/submit>

Particularly good submissions may be heard in future classes, Dance Labs, or at the Soirée!

\* Don't worry if you're not sure if it's ever been played or not—as long as you discover the song on your own time, it counts!

**#5: Off-Campus Outing: 10 points**

At least once during the semester, you will attend an off-campus social dance event, and upload a picture you take there (of the venue, your ticket, yourself, etc) to Canvas.

Note: Assignments submitted late will lose 1 point per calendar day after the deadline.

## **OPPORTUNITIES TO PRACTICE**

### **Class Assistants (CAs)**

The CAs are students who have previously taken these classes and volunteer their time to help because they love dancing and want to help you learn. They are fantastic resources — ask them questions, request feedback, or just dance with a more experienced partner!

*In Class:* The CAs will be assigned different duties in class, sometimes rotating in and sometimes walking around to help. If you have a question, call one of them over, especially before/after class!

*At Dance Lab and Outings:* The CAs want to dance with you at Dance Lab and outings so please feel free to find them and ask them for a dance!

### **Dance Lab**

There is a dance lab every Friday 12-2 pm in BEL 628. This is your chance to practice what you've learned to full songs with a variety of partners. You will meet new people from your class and others and have opportunities to interact more closely with the CAs and instructors, so bring your questions and your enthusiasm!

Most labs will also include mini-lessons led by the CAs at 12:15 and 1:15, if you're eager to learn even more. While we realize that not all students are available on all Fridays, Dance Lab is an integral part of the social dance learning experience and you are encouraged to attend as many dance labs as you can. These are open to all students, so you are welcome to bring friends not in class!

### **Pre-Class and Post-Class**

We play music before and after each class to give you more opportunities to dance. If you arrive early, or have time to stick around late, please find a partner and dance!

### **Outings**

Outings will be organized throughout the semester, so that you have the opportunity to use your dance skills in the real world. You're required to attend at least 1 off-campus outing, but you're encouraged to attend as many as possible!

For the latest announcements about all of our outings, join this Facebook group:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/UTSocialDanceOutings/>

## **CLASS POLICIES**

### **Respect**

You are expected to demonstrate sincerity, discipline, and a desire to learn through proper dress, punctuality, and respect for the instruction.

Social dancing requires practice, cooperation, and communication with a variety of partners. Be respectful and considerate of your partners in how you speak to and touch them. If you are treated in a way that makes you uncomfortable, please notify the instructor.

### **Rotation of Partners**

We rotate partners frequently throughout class, and everyone is expected to dance with all available partners. It is beneficial to experience working with dancers who are more or less skilled than you are, and helping each other learn to dance is a valuable part of the partner dance experience.

### **Nametags**

To avoid the perpetual game of "what's your name?" we wear name tags during class. Early in the semester, you will make a name-tag, and place it on the name tag board that corresponds to your class. Please remember to take your name tag at the beginning of class, and to put it back on the board at the end of class.

### **Footwear**

No street shoes of any kind are allowed in class (or Dance Lab).

Instead, we recommend you dance in socks. This will not only protect your own and other students' feet: it will also protect your knees by allowing you to turn more easily. Please remember to bring socks everyday (maybe tuck an extra pair into your bag to be sure.)

Dedicated dance shoes without a high heel (e.g., jazz shoes and ballet shoes with suede soles) are also okay, if you have them or want to get them, but they are not required. If you'd like to buy a cheap pair of dance shoes, we can recommend places to get them.

### **Dance Hygiene**

Please use hand sanitizer and/or wash your hands before and after class! Also, please take measures to make your partners comfortable: brush your teeth, take a shower, wear deodorant, avoid strong perfumes, secure your hair, and cut your fingernails.

Department of Kinesiology and Health Education  
The University of Texas at Austin

### **Mints**

Each student is asked to contribute a bag of individually wrapped breath mints to our communal jars. Regular (not sugar-free) Lifesavers Wint-O-Green (green) are preferred.

### **Drink Containers**

If you plan to bring a drink to class, make sure it is in a sealed bottle. There are water fountains and a water bottle filler just outside the gym.

### **Cell Phones**

Please put away and silence all cell phones during class.

## **UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

### **Honor Code**

The core values of the University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the University is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community. (<http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/conduct/standardsofconduct.php>)

### **Scholastic Dishonesty**

Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty are strictly enforced. (<http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/>)

### **Sexual Harassment**

Sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct in any form will not be tolerated, and individuals who engage in such conduct will be subject to disciplinary action. The University encourages students to promptly report sex discrimination, sexual harassment, or sexual misconduct to Dr. LaToya Hill, Coordinator of Student Emergency Services, at (512) 471-5017 or via email at [lhill@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:lhill@mail.utexas.edu). (<http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sh/>)

### **Disability Accommodations**

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259 (voice) or 232-2937 (video phone), or [ssd@uts.cc.utexas.edu](mailto:ssd@uts.cc.utexas.edu). Please notify the instructor of any special accommodations that you may need during the first week of class. (<http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>)

### **Campus Carry:**

Please note that this is an active class with movement and physical interaction that will make the concealed carry of a handgun very difficult. It is the responsibility of the LTC permit holder to know and understand the university policies regarding campus carry, so please plan accordingly.