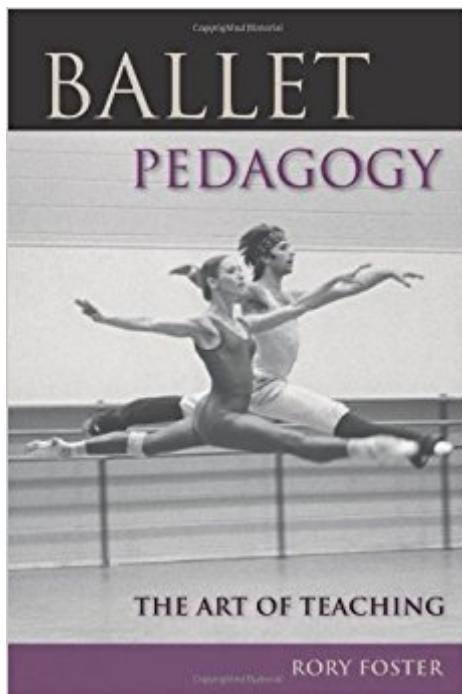


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# Ballet Pedagogy: The Art Of Teaching



## Synopsis

Finally, a ballet pedagogy book for teachers of all training methods" This book, although written with the ballet teacher in mind, is equally useful to the modern dance teacher. All teachers of concert dance should have it close at hand." --Eileen Cropley, Paul Taylor Dance Company "An original concept and a work of great necessity in the field of training in ballet. This is the best book on ballet pedagogy I have encountered." --Rick McCullough, Florida State University There are many different methods for teaching classical ballet--Bournonville, Vaganova, Cecchetti, and Royal Academy of Dancing being the most widely known. All of these methods are effective tools for presenting the technique and art of ballet. Knowing how to use these tools successfully requires more than being a devotee of the technique; it also requires the mastering of various skills. In *Ballet Pedagogy*, Rory Foster aims to share his extensive knowledge of how to teach rather than focus exclusively on what to teach. He argues that it is not enough for a ballet teacher to be well trained in technique, but that he or she must also know how to utilize pedagogical skills. Designed as both a manual for beginning teachers as well as a reference for experienced instructors, *Ballet Pedagogy* is appropriate for either followers of a single methodology or for those who have adopted a more eclectic approach to technique. Foster believes that effective teaching skills--proper demonstration, counting, correcting, musicality, anatomical approach, etc.--do not come automatically just because one has trained as a dancer. In this book, Foster--an expert in multiple ballet methods--covers all areas involving dance, from history to injury prevention, from anatomy and kinesiology to vocabulary and music. He even offers pragmatic advice on the business of starting a dance school. The result is an essential addition to every dance teacher's library.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Finally, a ballet pedagogy book for teachers of all training methods -- "This book, although written with the ballet teacher in mind, is equally useful to the modern dance teacher. All teachers of concert dance should have it close at hand."--Eileen Cropley, Paul Taylor Dance Company -- "An original concept and a work of great necessity in the field of training in ballet. This is the best book on ballet pedagogy I have encountered."--Rick McCullough, Florida State University -- There are many different methods for teaching classical ballet--Bournonville, Vaganova, Cecchetti, and Royal Academy of Dancing being the most widely known. All of these methods are effective tools for presenting the technique and art of ballet. Knowing how to use these tools successfully requires more than being a devotee of the technique; it also requires the mastering of various skills. -- In Ballet Pedagogy, Rory Foster aims to share his extensive knowledge of how to teach rather than focus exclusively on what to teach. He argues that it is not enough for a ballet teacher to be well trained in technique, but that he or she must also know how to utilize pedagogical skills. -- Designed as both a manual for beginning teachers as well as a reference for experienced instructors, Ballet Pedagogy is appropriate for either followers of a single methodology or for those who have adopted a more eclectic approach to technique. Foster believes that effective teaching skills--proper demonstration, counting, correcting, musicality, anatomical approach, etc.--do not come automatically just because one has trained as a dancer. -- In this book, Foster--an expert in multiple ballet methods--covers all areas involving dance, from history to injury prevention, from anatomy and kinesiology to vocabulary and music. He even offers pragmatic advice on the business of starting a dance school. The result is an essential addition to every dance teacher's library. --

Rory Foster is professor emeritus of dance at DePaul University. Trained with many renowned teachers in Chicago, New York, and London, he danced for five years with the American Ballet Theatre and served as ballet master for the Chicago Ballet.

I have been teaching ballet and jazz for almost 5 years. I wanted to brush up on some ballet history as well as refresh my memory (gain more insight) about the direction my ballet classes should be going. If you have a degree in dance and/or extensive teacher training, this book will probably not

give you much extra guidance. If you are like me and grew up a dancer (danced in college as well, but did not major in dance) and are now teaching, this is an excellent resource for the basic structure of ballet class. This book covers ballet history, different ballet teaching/training methods, basic anatomy, class structure, music for class, and much more.

This was an excellent book. Not only did I learn so much about ballet history (super fascinating) but I truly appreciate this author's anatomical emphasis as well as the thorough explanations to why a given bar exercise is important and what specific common mistakes to look for. Very helpful book. I would say a must have for new and old instructors alike.

Awesome resource. I have not been able to find much comparable materials. Greatly enhances my view and approach to teaching ballet!

Wonderful book. Gives nice insights as to how you can teach and what he has experienced in his life without being negative or promoting one way over another.

Very well written and enjoyable to read, it's not a big book but big enough to get the point across. You do learn how to teach a class in ballet and so much more. I recommend this book to anyone who is interested in ballet.

If you are interested in being a better ballet teacher, this is a great book. Instead of being one of the many descriptive books on methodology, the organizational information and "thinking" in this book can be overlaid on any of the systems. Inspiring!

This book is a slow read but is great to have just the same. Taken a little at a time it is VERY informative in many areas of teaching as well as running a dance studio.

Very profound explanation of ballet work. It is useful for beginner students and advanced teachers. I miss only a little dance anatomy

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