



CECCHETTI USA
C L A S S I C A L B A L L E T

SYLLABI FOR TEACHING EXAMINATIONS

AS REVISED IN JANUARY 2021

**PREPARED BY THE
EXAMINING BOARD OF CECCHETTI USA**

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GENERAL NOTES FOR TEACHING EXAMINATIONS

- Teachers are eligible to join Cecchetti USA as a **Certified Member** following the successful completion of **Grade 3 and Teaching Certificate 1**
- **Only Certified Members** may put candidates in for any exams under their own name up to the level as stated under each teaching examination.
- **Certified Members include: Student Teachers (age 16 – 25), and Teachers over 25.**
- Those who have successfully passed the Associate, Licentiate, or Fellowship examination will be considered **Qualified Teachers** of the Cecchetti Method, and may use the appropriate letters after their name (A, L or F CUSA)
- The qualifications conferred can be equated to:
 - “Associate” = Associate Degree from a 2-year college
 - “Licentiate” = Bachelor’s Degree
 - “Fellowship” = Master’s Degree
- Although not a teaching exam, nor does it confer any qualifications, the Maestro Enrico Cecchetti Final Diploma should be considered equal to a PhD Degree.

DRESS

- Candidates are expected to be well groomed and project a professional appearance
- Women – Appropriate teaching attire
- Men – Appropriate teaching attire

FORMAT

- Examiner(s) will question the candidate briefly regarding their background based upon the application materials
- Candidates will be asked to demonstrate exercises from the required syllabi pertaining to the level
- Candidate will then bring in and introduce the students for the class to the examiner(s), and pianist (**at the Qualifying Level**)
- Candidate will conduct a class as detailed for each examination
- Students may be released following the class, and candidate will answer questions as detailed in each examination section.
- The Examiners reserve the right to request any student to remain for further teaching purposes
- Results are: Awarded with Distinction, Awarded with Merit, Awarded, or Not Awarded
- The evaluation will be in the form of a written report

ESSENTIAL ANATOMY: A Multimedia Course for Dancers and Dance Teachers **Developed by Deborah Vogel, Neuromuscular Educator, for CUSA Qualifying Exams**

- This is the required anatomy component and must be successfully completed prior to applying for the Licentiate Examination. However, this exam may be taken at any time prior to the Licentiate Examination.
- Please contact Director of Examinations for course material and further information.

ASSESSMENT

Candidates will show their awareness and application of the Cecchetti principles as stated in **A Manual of the Theory and Practice of Classical Theatrical Dancing (Cecchetti Method)** by Cyril W. Beaumont and Stanislas Idzikowski, as appropriate for the level of the examination.

TEACHING SKILLS

- Voice, manner and general approach will be taken into consideration
 - Manner of teaching should be appropriate to the age level of the class
- Class content and balance
 - The candidate will be expected to balance the content between syllabus and free enchainment as detailed in each level.
 - The candidate will construct unset material to show original ideas, to further technical and artistic development appropriate to the level
 - Choice of music will show variations in quality appropriate to the level.
- Candidates will demonstrate their control of the classroom
 - The candidate will communicate clearly with the students (and the pianist when one is used) in a manner suitable to the age level being taught.
- Candidates will be assessed on their awareness of adaptation to differing physiques, gender and age.
 - The candidate may be asked to adapt one or more of their enchainment for any of the above.
- Show an appropriate range of teaching styles
 - methods of helping children learn, use of imagery, imagination etc.
- Observation of general and individual faults
 - The candidate will show an awareness of common faults and apply appropriate correction.
- Effectiveness of Correction
 - The candidate will communicate corrections with the students in a manner that will show visible results.
- Rapport with the students
 - Appropriate to the age level of the class
- Observation and methods of artistic and musical development

TECHNICAL ACCURACY

- Technical accuracy of their own demonstration
 - The candidate must show correct stance
 - Accuracy in the use of turn-out, pli  , footwork, extension and line, strength and control, and elevation demonstrated appropriately at the level of the specified grade.
 - The candidate must be able to convey the above in the absence of their own physical ability to perform.

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MUSICALITY

- The ability to communicate with the pianist in basic musical terminology
- Clarity and rhythm of instruction
- Tonal quality and rhythmic counting
 - The candidate will show an increasing ability to count any exercise, demonstrating the correct tempo, accent and quality and be conversant in different ways that music can be counted
- Awareness of musical quality
 - The candidate will select appropriate rhythms and tempos throughout
 - Choice of music will show variation in qualities.
 - Choice of music will be designed to enhance the artistic ability of the students
- Musicality, variations of style, dynamics, and quality of movement

TEACHING CERTIFICATE 1

Eligibility Requirements

- Candidates must be a minimum of 16 years of age
- **Must have successfully completed the Grade 3 examination or above**

Content

- **Covers Primary through Grade 3 (includes Standards 1 – 3)**
- The duration of the exam will be **2** hours
- One examiner will conduct the exam
- **Before the class the candidate will be questioned on, and may be asked to demonstrate, any basic step or exercise from Primary, Standards 1 – 3, and Grades 1 – 3 syllabi.**
- **Candidates will be asked to demonstrate how the work builds through the grades.**
- Candidates may bring with them their syllabi materials for reference.
- Class should be at a Grade 1 or 2 level
- Class may be conducted using recorded music or pianist - candidates choice
- The candidate must present written class notes to the Director of Examinations no later than two weeks prior to the examination. Notes should follow the same general format as the syllabus notes
- Candidate will conduct a 45-minutes class with 4-6 of their own students, **wearing numbers**. If this is not possible, the Director of Examinations must be notified no later than two weeks prior to the examination for students to be provided
- Class should consist of approximately ½ syllabus and ½ free work
- Candidates will be questioned regarding the differences between the teaching of boys and girls
- Candidates will be questioned on their understanding of how to correct stance and commonly seen faults
- This exam is not required for progression to the Associate Exam

Upon successful completion of this exam the teacher is eligible to:

- **Enroll in CUSA as a Certified Member, or a Student Teacher (up through age 25)**
- **Enter students for examinations - Primary through Grade 3**
- **Progress to Teaching Certificate 2 (optional)**

TEACHING CERTIFICATE 1 – PART A

Eligibility Requirements

- Candidates must be a minimum of 16 years of age
- Must have successfully completed the **Grade 1** examination **or above**

Content

- **Covers Primary, Standard 1, and Grade 1**
- The duration of the exam will be 1 ½ hours
- One examiner will conduct the exam
- **Before the class the candidate will be questioned on, and may be asked to demonstrate, any basic step or exercise from Primary, Standard 1, and Grade 1 syllabi.**
- **Candidates will be asked to demonstrate how the work builds through the grades.**
- Candidates may bring with them their syllabi materials for reference.
- **Class should be at the Standard 1 level**
- Class may be conducted using recorded music or pianist-candidates choice
- The candidate must present written class notes to the Director of Examinations no later than two weeks prior to the examination. Notes should follow the same general format as the syllabus notes
- Candidate will conduct a 45-minutes class with 4-6 of their own students, **wearing numbers**. If this is not possible, the Director of Examinations must be notified no later than two weeks prior to the examination in order for students to be provided
- Class should consist of approximately ½ syllabus and ½ free work
- Candidates will be questioned regarding the differences between the teaching of boys and girls
- Candidates will be questioned on their understanding of how to correct stance and commonly seen faults
- This exam is not required for progression to the Associate Exam

Upon successful completion of this exam the teacher is eligible to:

- **Enroll in CUSA as a Certified Member, or a Student Teacher (up through age 25)**
- **Enter students for examinations - Primary through Grade 1**
- **Progress to Teaching Certificate 1 – Part B**

TEACHING CERTIFICATE 1 – PART B

Eligibility Requirements

- Candidates must be a minimum of 16 years of age
- Must have successfully completed the Grade **3** examination **or above**
- **Must have successfully completed the TC 1A examination**

Content

- **Covers Standard 2, Grade 2, Standard 3, Grade 3**
- The duration of the exam will be 1 ½ hours
- One examiner will conduct the exam
- **Before the class the candidate will be questioned on, and may be asked to demonstrate, any basic step or exercise from Standards 2 & 3, and Grades 2 & 3 syllabi.**
- **Candidates will be asked to demonstrate how the work builds through the grades.**
- Candidates may bring with them their syllabi materials for reference.
- The candidate must present written class notes to the Director of Examinations no later than two weeks prior to the examination. Notes should follow the same general format as the syllabus notes
- **Class should be at a Grade 2 or Standard 3 level**
- Class may be conducted using recorded music or pianist-candidates choice
- Candidate will conduct a 45-minutes class with 4-6 of their own students, **wearing numbers**. If this is not possible, the Director of Examinations must be notified no later than two weeks prior to the examination in order for students to be provided
- Class should consist of approximately ½ syllabus and ½ free work
- Candidates will be questioned regarding the differences between the teaching of boys and girls
- Candidates will be questioned on their understanding of how to correct stance and commonly seen faults
- This exam is not required for progression to the Associate Exam

Upon successful completion of this exam the teacher is eligible to:

- **Enroll in CUSA as a Certified Member, or a Student Teacher (up through age 25)**
- **Enter students for examinations - Primary through Grade 3**
- **Progress to Teaching Certificate 2 (optional)**

TEACHING CERTIFICATE 2

Eligibility Requirements

- Candidates must be a minimum of 16 years of age
- Must have successfully completed the Grade 7 examination as either an A or B candidate, **or above.**

Content

- **Covers Standards 4 – 7, and Grades 4 - 7**
- The duration of the exam will be **2** hours
- One examiner will conduct the exam
- **Before the class the candidate will be questioned on, and may be asked to demonstrate, any basic step or exercise from Standards 4 – 7, and Grades 4 – 7 syllabi.**
- **Candidates will be asked to demonstrate how the work builds through the grades.**
- Candidates may bring with them their syllabi materials for reference.
- Class should be at a **Grade 5 or Standard 6** level
- Class may be conducted using recorded music or pianist - candidates choice
- The candidate must present written class notes to the Director of Examinations no later than two weeks prior to the examination. Notes should follow the same general format as the syllabus notes
- Candidate will conduct a 45-minutes class with 4-6 of their own students, **wearing numbers.** If this is not possible, the Director of Examinations must be notified no later than two weeks prior to the examination for students to be provided
- Class should consist of approximately ½ syllabus and ½ free work
- Candidates will be questioned regarding the differences between the teaching of boys and girls
- Candidates will be questioned on their understanding of how to correct stance and commonly seen faults
- This exam is not required for progression to the Associate Exam

Upon successful completion of this exam the teacher is eligible to:

- **Enroll in CUSA as a Certified Member, or a Student Teacher (up through age 25)**
- **Enter students for examinations - Primary through Grade 7**

TEACHING CERTIFICATE 2– PART A

Eligibility Requirements

- Candidates must be a minimum of 16 years of age
- Must have successfully completed the **Grade 5** examination **or above**

Content

- **Covers Standards 4 & 5, and Grades 4 & 5**
- The duration of the exam will be **1 1/2** hours
- One examiner will conduct the exam
- **Before the class the candidate will be questioned on, and may be asked to demonstrate, any basic step or exercise from Standards 4 & 5, and Grades 4 & 5 syllabi.**
- **Candidates will be asked to demonstrate how the work builds through the grades.**
- Candidates may bring with them their syllabi materials for reference.
- Class should be at a **Grade 4 or Standard 5** level
- Class may be conducted using recorded music or pianist - candidates choice
- The candidate must present written class notes to the Director of Examinations no later than two weeks prior to the examination. Notes should follow the same general format as the syllabus notes
- Candidate will conduct a 45-minutes class with 4-6 of their own students, **wearing numbers**. If this is not possible, the Director of Examinations must be notified no later than two weeks prior to the examination for students to be provided
- Class should consist of approximately ½ syllabus and ½ free work
- Candidates will be questioned regarding the differences between the teaching of boys and girls
- Candidates will be questioned on their understanding of how to correct stance and commonly seen faults
- This exam is not required for progression to the Associate Exam

Upon successful completion of this exam the teacher is eligible to:

- **Enroll in CUSA as a Certified Member, or a Student Teacher (up through age 25)**
- **Enter students for examinations - Primary through Grade 5**
- **Progress to Teaching Certificate 1 – Part B**

TEACHING CERTIFICATE 2 – PART B

Eligibility Requirements

- Candidates must be a minimum of 16 years of age
- Must have successfully completed the Grade 7 examination **or above**
- **Must have successfully completed the TC 2A examination**

Content

- **Covers Standards 6 & 7, and Grades 6 & 7**
- The duration of the exam will be **1 1/2** hours
- One examiner will conduct the exam
- **Before the class the candidate will be questioned on, and may be asked to demonstrate, any basic step or exercise from Standards 6 & 7, and Grades 6 & 7 syllabi.**
- **Candidates will be asked to demonstrate how the work builds through the grades.**
- Candidates may bring with them their syllabi materials for reference.
- Class should be at a **Grade 6 or Standard 7** level
- Class may be conducted using recorded music or pianist - candidates choice
- The candidate must present written class notes to the Director of Examinations no later than two weeks prior to the examination. Notes should follow the same general format as the syllabus notes
- Candidate will conduct a 45-minutes class with 4-6 of their own students, **wearing numbers**. If this is not possible, the Director of Examinations must be notified no later than two weeks prior to the examination for students to be provided
- Class should consist of approximately ½ syllabus and ½ free work
- Candidates will be questioned regarding the differences between the teaching of boys and girls
- Candidates will be questioned on their understanding of how to correct stance and commonly seen faults
- This exam is not required for progression to the Associate Exam

Upon successful completion of this exam the teacher is eligible to:

- **Enroll in CUSA as a Certified Member, or a Student Teacher (up through age 25)**
- **Enter students for examinations - Primary through Grade 7**
- **Progress to Associate**

EFFECTIVE AS OF JANUARY 2019

ASSOCIATE

Eligibility

- Must be a minimum of age **21**
- Must have successfully completed the Grade **9** exam as an A or B candidate

Prerequisites

Candidate must provide to the Director of Examinations no later than one month prior to the examination date the following:

- name of primary teacher of Cecchetti training (where, when)
- name of teacher responsible for coaching this exam within the last 6 months
- **a copy of their Grade 9 report**
- a resumé of teaching experience (where, when, what levels)
- timetables with results **from previous sessions (for any levels - Primary through Grade 7 (if applicable), or written verification of equivalent teaching experience at the Elementary (Pre-Professional) level.**
- two typed copies of class notes

Content

- The duration of this exam is **2½ hours**, conducted by two examiners
- A pianist **is preferred** for this exam, **however the candidate may use recorded music and will be expected to convey the tempos, rhythms, and musicality in their demonstration of their class.**
- Before the class candidate will be:
 - questioned on the development of the syllabus from Primary through Grade 8. It is not expected that exact patterns be known, but rather an understanding of how the work builds from a young child through to a higher level
 - expected to demonstrate, to the best of their physical ability, any **Grade 8 and /or 9 exercises, male and female, chosen by the examiners**
 - asked to demonstrate knowledge of the basic steps through Grade 8 and be able to describe in detail the movement being performed. Candidates may be questioned on the theory of techniques and principles as laid down in the Cecchetti manual
- Candidate will conduct a **75-minute** class with 4-6 of their own students, consisting of equal parts free and traditional exercises from Grade 8 including:
 - 20-minute warm-up barre,
 - pointe and men's work,
 - class notes should follow the same general format as the syllabus notes
 - Set exercises need not be detailed, but must be listed within the context of the class notes
- Following the class candidates will be:
 - asked questions derived from their class
 - questioned on the approach to teaching of pointe work and the teaching of boys
 - asked to demonstrate an understanding of correct stance, common faults, and their correction.
 - asked to demonstrate an understanding of quality, phrasing and dynamics of movement and ability to count any exercise with tempo, accent, style and quality
 - asked to discuss their approach to teaching and safe practices

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January 2021

- This exam is required to progress toward Licentiate

Upon successful completion of the Associate exam, the teacher is eligible to:

- become a Qualified Member of Cecchetti USA, and
- use the qualifying initials ACUSA, and
- may enter candidates up through Grade 9 including TC 1 & 2, and Associate

EFFECTIVE AS OF JANUARY 2019

LICENTiate

THE LICENTiate EXAM IS NOW DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS FOR THOSE CANDIDATES WHO HAVE NOT SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE GRADE 10 EXAM. THOSE WHO ALREADY HAVE PROOF OF THEIR GRADE 10, MAY SKIP PART 1 AND WILL BE EXAMINED ON PART 2 ONLY.

Part 1

Eligibility

- Must be a minimum of **25** years of age
- Must have successfully completed **Grade 9 exam as an A or B candidate**
- Must have successfully completed the Associate exam
- Must have successfully completed the Essential Anatomy exam

Duration

- This exam is **2 1/4 hours**, conducted by two examiners

Content

- **the candidate will be expected to demonstrate, to the best of their physical ability, any exercises from the Grade 10 syllabus, male and female, chosen by the examiners**

Part 2

Prerequisites

Candidate must provide to the Director of Examinations no later than one month prior to the examination date the following:

- name of primary teacher of Cecchetti training (where, when)
- name of teacher responsible for coaching this exam within the last 6 months
- **a copy of their Grade 10 report**
- a resumé of teaching experience (where, when, what levels)
- timetables with results **from the Grade 9 level** from previous sessions, **or written verification of equivalent teaching experience at the Intermediate level.**
- two typed copies of class notes

Content

- The duration of this exam is **2.75** hours, conducted by two examiners
- A pianist must be used for this exam
- Before the class, the candidate will be:
 - questioned on the development of the syllabus from Primary through Grade 10. It is not expected that exact patterns be known, but rather an understanding of how the work builds from a young child through to a higher level

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- expected to demonstrate, to the best of their physical ability, any **Grade 9 and /or 10 exercises, male and female, chosen by the examiners**
- asked to demonstrate knowledge of the basic steps through Grade 10 and be able to describe in detail the movement being performed.
- Candidates may be questioned on the theory of techniques and principles as laid down in the Cecchetti manual
- Candidate will conduct a 75-minute class with 4-6 students (provided by CUSA) of equal parts free and traditional exercises from Grade 9 including:
 - 20-minute warm-up barre,
 - pointe and men's work,
 - class notes should follow the same general format as the syllabus notes
 - Set exercises need not be detailed, but must be listed within the context of the class notes
- After the class, the candidate will be:
 - asked questions derived from their class
 - questioned on the approach to the teaching of pointe work and the teaching of boys as applicable to Grade 10
 - asked to demonstrate an understanding of correct stance, common faults, and their correction.
 - asked to demonstrate an understanding of quality, phrasing and dynamics of movement and ability to count any exercise with tempo, accent, style and quality
 - asked to discuss their approach to teaching and safe practices

Upon successful completion of this exam all benefits of Associate remain, plus:

- may use the qualifying initials LCUSA, and
- may enter candidates up through Grade 10 including teaching exams through Licentiate
- may enter candidates for the Final Diploma if they hold the Diploma certificate
- may potentially be considered for invitation to begin the training process to become an examiner at the First Tier only.

EFFECTIVE AS OF JANUARY 2019

FELLOWSHIP

THE FELLOWSHIP EXAM IS NOW DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS FOR THOSE CANDIDATES WHO HAVE NOT SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE MAESTRO ENRICO CECCHETTI DIPLOMA. THOSE WHO ALREADY HAVE PROOF OF THEIR DIPLOMA, MAY SKIP PART 1 AND WILL BE EXAMINED ON PART 2 ONLY.

Part 1

Eligibility

- Must be a minimum of **28** years of age
- Must have successfully completed **Grade 10 exam as an A or B candidate**
- Must have successfully completed the Licentiate exam
- Must have successfully completed the Essential Anatomy exam

Duration

- This exam is **2 1/2** hours, conducted by two examiners

Content

- **the candidate will be expected to demonstrate, to the best of their physical ability, any exercises from the Diploma syllabus chosen by the examiners**

Part 2

Prerequisites

Candidate must provide to the Director of Examinations no later than one month prior to the examination date the following:

- name of primary teacher of Cecchetti training (where, when)
- name of teacher responsible for coaching this exam within the last 6 months
- **a copy of their Diploma report**
- a resumé of teaching experience (where, when, what levels)
- timetables with results **from the Grade 10 level** from previous sessions, **or written verification of equivalent teaching experience at the Advanced level.**
- two typed copies of class notes

Content

- The duration of this exam is 3 hours, conducted by two examiners
- A pianist must be used for this exam
- Before the class, the candidate will be:
 - questioned on the development of the syllabus from Primary through Grade 10. It is not expected that exact patterns be known, but rather an understanding of how the work builds from a young child through to a higher level
 - expected to demonstrate, to the best of their physical ability, any **Grade 10 and/or Diploma exercises, male and female, chosen by the examiners**

- asked to demonstrate knowledge of the basic steps through Grade 10 and be able to describe in detail the movement being performed.
 - Candidates may be questioned on the theory of techniques and principles as laid down in the Cecchetti manual
- Candidate will conduct a 90-minute class with 4-6 students (provided by CUSA) of equal parts free and traditional exercises from Grade 10 including:
 - 20-minute warm-up barre,
 - pointe and men's work,
 - class notes should follow the same general format as the syllabus notes
 - Set exercises need not be detailed, but must be listed within the context of the class notes
- After the class, the candidate will be:
 - asked questions derived from their class
 - expected to demonstrate, to the best of their physical ability, **any Grade 10 and/or Diploma exercises, male and female, chosen by the examiners**
 - questioned on the theory of technique and principles as laid down in the Cecchetti manual
 - questioned on the approach to the teaching of pointe work and the teaching of boys as applicable to **Diploma**
 - asked to demonstrate an understanding of correct stance, common faults, and their correction.
 - asked to demonstrate an understanding of quality, phrasing and dynamics of movement and ability to count any exercise with tempo, accent, style and quality
 - asked to discuss their approach to teaching and safe practices
- Candidate will submit two typed copies, double-spaced, of a research paper (candidate's choice of a related subject) of a minimum of 2500 words, no later than two weeks prior to the exam to the Director of Examinations

Upon successful completion of this exam all benefits of Licentiate remain, plus:

- **may use the qualifying initials FCUSA, and**
- **may enter candidates for all examinations at all levels, and**
- **may potentially be considered for invitation to begin the training process to become an examiner.**

Mark Allocation for Teaching Exams

CERTIFYING EXAMINATIONS

ADD SECTION MARKS, DIVIDE BY 10 FOR TOTAL

Section Marks

E = Excellent	5
V = Very Good	4
G = Good	3
S = Satisfactory	2
N = Needs Improvement	1
U = Unsatisfactory	0

Final Results

Awarded with Distinction	4 - 5
Awarded with Merit	3 - 3.9
Awarded	2 - 2.9
Not Awarded	0 - 1.9

QUALIFYING EXAMINATIONS

ADD SECTION MARKS, DIVIDE BY 10 FOR TOTAL

Section Marks

E = Excellent	5
V = Very Good	4
G = Good	3
S = Satisfactory	2
N = Needs Improvement	1
U = Unsatisfactory	0

Final Results

Awarded with Distinction	4.6 - 5
Awarded with Merit	3.5 - 4.5
Awarded	2.0 - 3.4
Not Awarded	0 - 1.9

In any case where a candidate receives Awarded with Distinction, on Certifying or Qualifying exams, there will be a special seal of distinction affixed to the certificate!

At the Certifying and Qualifying levels (TC 1, 1A, 1B & TC 2, 2A, 2B and Associate, Licentiate, and Fellowship), where a candidate receives a mark of U in two or more sections, the final mark will be “Not Awarded” regardless of the total of “Section Marks.”