DAN 4959: BA Senior Project

Instructor of Record / Mentor: Brianna Taylor

*Email Policy: Use ONLY your **UFL.EDU** email account OR Canvas Inbox for e-mail correspondence related to class. Please include your name & class in the subject line or within the body of all correspondence.

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Mentorship Meetings: TBD
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BA Senior Project Description *Senior Project* (*SP*) is the capstone course for all BA dance students. The *SP* is an original research initiative, which culminates in a written paper, determined by the student in consultation with a dance faculty member and subject to approval by the dance area. The project is to innovatively merge the student's academic and dance interests. Take advantage of the open structure of the BA *Senior Project*, as it provides you with an unequaled flexibility to explore research areas. For example, the *SP* may serve you as a touchstone for post-graduation research, become a notable highlight in your resume, potentially publishable, and innovatively further the field of dance.

NOTE: The paper may be supplemented by a presentation, but a presentation is not required. Please read further for more information on optional BA presentations.

BA Senior Project Summary

The year before you will enroll in Senior Project (typically the final semester of your third year):

- ✓✓ **Select an advisor from the dance faculty** (and a co-advisor from outside the dance faculty, as you may decide).
- ✓✓ **Establish and declare your research topic.**
- ✓✓ NOTE: Y**ou are required to establish and declare your research topic** by the last two semesters before graduation (typically by the end of your final semester of your third year)**.** If there are any issues with your topic, your dance faculty advisor will guide you through. Work with your advisor to complete your *Senior Project* registration form with complete information regarding topic and method of evaluation before submitting to Undergraduate Advisor.
- ✓✓ **Choose fall or spring semester of senior year to register for SP**
  You are required to register for SP in fall or spring semester <u>only</u> (not both) and should be agreed upon with your advisor.

The semester that you enroll in Senior Project

- ✓✓ **Follow the BA Senior Project syllabus**
  Available on the college website, the syllabus contains all deadlines and the evaluative process for final grading.
- ✓✓ **For research that uses human subjects**
  This requires specific paper work and must follow university protocols and requires additional time. Please see: http://irb.ufl.edu/index/humanrsch.html
- ✓✓ **If applicable, arrange public presentation with your advisor and/or BA Coordinator**

Senior Project 'Thesis' Paper

The Senior Project paper is the final phase of your Senior Project and the articulation of your research. It is expected that you will use the following format in the writing of your Senior Project paper.

The Senior Project paper is the final phase of your Senior Project, is the articulation of your research, and should include the following:
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Review of Literature
- Methodology
- Conclusion: Outcomes, Reflections, and Future Directions

Possible due dates (TBD between mentor and mentee):
- **Monday, March 4th**: Turn in an <u>abstract</u> (300 to 500-word summary of what you think your paper will be about – it's OK if this changes!) and <u>annotated bibliography</u> of all secondary sources (scholarly research on topic, artistic lineage, and source materials for rehearsal process). Annotated means putting a sentence or two after each full bibliographic entry to explain how/why this source will be used in your paper. Be sure to format your bibliography according to MLA format (see link below for style guide).
- **Friday March 22nd:** <u>Rough Outline</u> due. Use the outline given below and fill it in with the information and analyses you have developed thus far. Indicate where the holes are. It's OK to have holes!
- **Friday April 12th:** <u>First draft (aka "down draft")</u> due. Don't worry about formatting and proofreading too much in this draft. Focus on getting the content down.
- **Monday April 22:** <u>Second draft</u> due. This should be a mostly corrected and formatted draft which incorporates all edits suggested by your advisor.
- If your advisor needs further edits between the second draft and the final draft, this would be accomplished during a time-line established between you and your advisor.

Final Draft SUBMITTED no later than May 1 @ 11:59 PM.
* We'll discuss this proposed schedule together to support your goals and the successful completion of your research. If you foresee any issues with meeting final due date, please let me know as soon as possible.

RESEARCH PAPER REQUIRED FORMAT

Formatting and Style:

It is expected that you will use the MLA style guidelines in the writing of your Senior Project paper. Two great MLA formatting and style guidelines:

- *A GREAT and EASY-TO-USE site for **MLA** STYLE GUIDELINES:*
  http://content.easybib.com/citation-guides/mla-format/
- **MLA Formatting and Style Guide** This is a great online resource for MLA formatting:
  https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/

Other Required Components:

Please note for them that for the paper you will have additional requirements beyond MLA, including title page, acknowledgments. etc.

- *Title Page*, with title of paper, your name, date submitted, class name and number, and professor (no page number) See: http://content.easybib.com/citation-guides/mla-format/how-to-cite-a-scholarly-project-mla/
- *Dedication* (roman numeral ii)
- *Acknowledgements* (roman numeral iii)
- *Abstract* succinct overview of the paper (Write—or rewrite—*after* you have completed your paper) (roman numeral iv). An abstract summarizes the paper and is used by prospective readers to decide whether or not to read the entire text. Make it compelling and powerful reading (100-250 words maximum).
- *Table of Contents* (roman numeral v). Use exact title of section on left and 1st page number of the section on right: include page numbers for dedication, acknowledgments, abstract, and section headers (but do not cite page numbers for title page or Table of Contents.
- One-page *Introduction* to topic (start numeral 1)
    - *Problem and Purpose Statement: who or what are you proposing to discover, challenge, understand, illuminate. Purpose of paper and what you seek to achieve in this writing.*
    - *Rationale: what is important about this exploration? What contribution does it make to the field of dance?*
    - *Personal Statement: Why is the subject important to you? Is there a personal connection to the subject; or a connection you would like to make?*
- Two–page *Discussion of the Literature* and other resources you researched (written, visual, media) - Demonstrate your knowledge of what has been done before related to this topic.
- Two-page *Methodology* section describing the research process you undertook
    - Detail ideas and approaches showing WHAT you actually did.
    - You may include HOW you made unique connections across (or unique use of) your selected "literature" (written, visual, media, etc.) and questions it prompted.
- Two-page *Outcomes, Reflections, and Future Directions* section, summarizing the most salient outcomes of your project and possible future directions of your research/project.
    - The critical findings, results, or conclusions of the research, including strengths and weaknesses.
    - What further questions do you have or what directions for research?
    - What are the *larger* implications of your findings?

- Optional: Visual Resources
- Works Cited in **MLA** (Note you will use simple in-text citations as per **MLA**; place extra explanatory notes in endnotes)

BA Paper with Presentation – Guidelines

The BA students' *Senior Projects* have potential for presentation in diverse public fora. A presentation may be a choreographed work or work-in-progress, teaching demonstration, documentary-style film, PowerPoint presentation, or other. While **a presentation is not required**, the dance area will support you as resources allow. **A presentation does not replace the paper**. **Please note that a choreographed dance, done for its own sake, would not be approved as a viable BA Senior Project.**

Please also note that there is no SoTD budget available for BA *Senior Projects*. If you do decide to include a presentation as a part of your grade, this presentation should be executed as professionally as possible, given the limited resources, and reflect the highest standards for academic/creative research.

Students with a viable presentation related to their research paper may have several options for exhibition:

- A Senior Project Symposium at a regularly scheduled *UnShowing.* Please note that *UnShowings* do not receive technical support (lights, costumes, etc.). Showing/Presentation is limited to 12 minutes and should require minimal set-up. You may petition for a more in depth/longer presentation.
- Other outlets/venues that you identify, such as:
  - An alternate location associated with another college/program—such as the Harn Museum Nights, the Harn Museum of Dance, or other.
  - Presentation through an existing group with another venue for presentation, such as the Center for Arts in Medicine (AIM), the VISA talent show, a UF student dance company, other UF Student Government approved organizations, etc.

Examples of previous successful BA presentations (in conjunction with their research paper):

- PowerPoint presentation of creative work linked with Veteran causes and concerns.
- PowerPoint presentation sharing research on dance, economics, and the creative economy
- Documentary film using Laban Movement Analysis as a toolkit for women with Lymphedema.
- Dance Film – creative and technical study
- Poster presentation related to a University Scholars award
- Showing duet choreographed by the Senior
- Showing improvised solo related to the student's research

Evaluation:

The general criteria for BA assessment will apply to the overall project and written paper. The BA Senior Project should be a clear and articulate integration of the student's areas of interest and studies in Dance as well as other major, minor, and certificate studies.

Evaluation – Course with NO Public Presentation

Points	Work Description
(*deductions only*)	Attendance at regularly scheduled SP mentor meetings
20 pts	Stays on track with incremental due dates in process
20 pts	Shows creative/ critical imitative in designing project, conducting research, and solving problems as they arise
60 pts	Senior Project 'Thesis' Paper [and Presentation, if applicable] (see rubric below)
100 pts	*Total*

Evaluation – Course WITH Public Presentation

Points	Work Description
(*deductions only*)	Attendance at regularly scheduled SP mentor meetings
20 pts	Stays on track with incremental due dates in process
20 pts	Shows creative/ critical imitative in designing project, conducting research, and solving problems as they arise

50 pts	Senior Project 'Thesis' Paper [and Presentation, if applicable] (see rubric below)
10 pts	Public Presentation at Senior Project Symposium or other outlet agreed upon by student and mentor
100 pts	*Total*

Grading Rubric - Paper

	Exemplary = A/A-	Satisfactory = B/B- C+/C	Unsatisfactory = C- and below
Content Develops competency in the terminology, concepts, methodologies, and theories of dance studies and knowledge of varied applications of dance.	Commands an exceptional disciplinary fluency to freshly interpret and advance knowledge.	Develops adequate disciplinary competency to effectively interpret knowledge.	Student fails to develop effective disciplinary competency.
Critical Thinking Analyzes and fosters dance studies inquiry in correlation with diverse creative, historical, social, cultural perspectives, and/or other disciplinary perspectives.	Demonstrates exemplary ability to recognize, probe, and develop relationships between dance and varied disciplines.	Demonstrates ability to recognize, probe, and develop relationships between dance and varied disciplines.	Fails to demonstrate ability to probe and develop relationships between dance and varied disciplines.
Communication Develops and articulates in writing and/or practice applications of dance studies.	Innovatively applies dance studies and communicates analyses with exceptional effectiveness.	Realizes a solid level of application and effectively communicates analyses.	Does not realize a solid level of dance studies application and analyses.

Honors Thesis

Depending on your approach to your quantitative, qualitative, and/or creative research, as well as you GPA, it is possible that this Senior Project paper can be converted into a research paper that will put you in good stead for graduation with high or highest honors should your GPA warrant such recognition. Your Dance History paper could also be used. This usually requires adapting or reconfiguring a portion of your creative research into a focused research topic. Typically, the Senior Project paper, by itself, would not be acceptable for this level of consideration. High/Highest honors papers also require a faculty mentor, as well as a second reader.

Please see the current SoTD student handbook for a more extensive discussion of Honors Thesis processes in COTA.

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.

UF POLICIES AND RESOURCES

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:
Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, https://disability.ufl.edu/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:
UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

NETIQUETTE/COMMUNICATION COURTESY:
All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. An email is not a text message nor a DM. Please begin emails with a formal greeting and avoid unprofessional colloquialisms. For UF guidelines on "netiquette":
http://teach.ufl.edu/docs/ NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf

CAMPUS RESOURCES
- Health and Wellness U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit https://umatter.ufl.edu/ to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit counseling.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit https://shcc.ufl.edu/
- Dean of Students: http://dso.ufl.edu/
- University Police Department: Visit https://police.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; http://ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center

ACADEMIC RESOURCES:
- E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu. Or go to http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/

- Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services https://career.ufl.edu/
- Library Support: https://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ ask various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/
- Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/
- Student Complaints On-Campus: https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/
- On-Line Students Complaints: https://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/

***If you have **ANY** questions about the syllabus don't hesitate to ask me at any time during the semester. I look forward to co-creating and learning together this semester!