

**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA SCHOOL OF THEATRE AND DANCE  
FUNDAMENTALS OF DANCE TECHNIQUE-DAA 1000  
FALL 2017**

**Instructor: Angela McDonough DiFiore**

**adifiore@arts.ufl.edu**

**Office Hours: M/W 1pm-3pm, Friday by appointment only**

**Office: Nadine Maguire Pavilion T211 (office renovation TBA)**

**DAA 1000, Section 157A, 3 Credits**

**Class meetings- T/H- SCOC 2205, Period 4-5, 10:40am-12:35pm**

**Exam 11A**

**Catalog Description:**

Practice and principles of fundamentals and stylistic characteristics common to ballet, jazz, and modern dance.

**Objectives:**

- To provide a student, that has a limited or no previous dance background, with the basic techniques and history of ballet, modern and jazz.
- Enhance your mind/ body connection by practicing proper body alignment and learning the different principles of dance, creating a "thinking body", while gaining knowledge of the basic anatomy of the human body that directly relates to movement.
- Concentration on practicing elements of performance quality, and discovering one's own potential and personal style, while developing your kinesthetic memory.
- Experience, discuss and write about one live dance performance

**Attire:**

- Leotards and tights, or unitards, all form fitting garments. You may prefer a T-shirt and jazz pants, as long as they are completely form fitting. No shorts and no midriff or cut off tops. Men must wear a dance belt.
- Please see the instructor if you have any questions regarding attire.
- Form fitting "warmers" must be removed after the warm-up
- NO extra shorts, baggy shirts, baggy pants, sweat pants, hats etc.
- NO large jewelry, or watches
- NO Gum
- Hair must be swept away from the face and secured
- You may want to bring a towel and a bottle of water to class with you.
- Inappropriate attire or failure to dress for class will result in a deduction of 5 points from your grade

**Dance Etiquette:**

- Dance is an art and requires personal discipline and motivation. Respect for other students and the instructor is of the utmost importance.
- Be aware of the appropriate times to talk and or sit.

- Personal hygiene is expected and is its own reward.
- Please do not text, check messages or make phone calls during class.
- Silence your cell phones completely before class begins.
- Be encouraging to others!

### **Attendance:**

Attendance is mandatory. Participation is the only way to meet the objectives of this course. This means you are required to be on time, dressed in the proper attire, and attentive for the duration of the class time. It is highly encouraged that you actually arrive early to warm-up, prepare and focus for the class. The following attendance policy insures the integrity of the objectives of the course.

- Attendance is mandatory. You must be present for all scheduled classes, plus required concerts and events.
- You may make up **one** missed class (See me for approval and details). Each unexcused absence deducts 5 points from your grade.
- You are responsible for any material that you miss when you are absent.
- Excused absences are medical/ and or family emergencies, UF school events/trips and UF approved religious holidays. and the instructor must receive appropriate and legitimate documentation within one week of the absence.
- Absences from a technique or written exam will result in a technique or test grade of zero.
- It is your responsibility to know your schedule. Plan ahead to see two dance concerts of your choice and for your class observations/or UnShowings observation. Please keep your ticket stubs to turn in for credit.
- Three times tardy will make an absence. When late you must clear your entry into class with the instructor. You are late after the role has been taken/ class begun. You may not be permitted to join the class or observe if you are 15 minutes late or more.
- Leaving class early requires the instructor's consent before class or it will count as an absence.
- If you are injured, see the instructor immediately.
- If you are unable to move, injured or sick you may "actively" observe class and complete a short observation assignment (due at the end of class). Class observation is not a time to do other homework, read, text, work on your laptop etc. You are only allowed 2 observation days unless you have a doctor's note stating otherwise.
- Prolonged illness or injury may result in dropping the course. Incomplete grades are rare, and only given with medical documentation. If approved, CFA Incomplete contract must be signed by the Director, Instructor, and Student.

**Evaluation :**

Attendance/ Attire Mandatory as explained above

Class (SOTD dance technique class, or Unshowing) Observation Paper (5 points)

Technique Midterm exam/ Technique Final exam - 20 points (10 points each)

2 written tests from the textbook and discussion- 30 points (15 points each)

Harn Museum visit Solo/paper (10 points)

Final Group Project (25 points)

2 Performance Observation papers 10 points (5 points each)

Total=100

\*I will offer ONE Make up opportunity/extra credit assignment- See me for details. (5 points)

**Grade Scale:**

A 93-100  
points  
A- 90-92  
B+ 86-89  
B 83-85 points  
B- 80-82  
C+ 77-79  
C 73-76 points  
C- 70-72  
D+ 67-69  
D 63-66 points  
D- 60-62  
E 59 and  
below

**IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES:**

**Classes Begin Monday August 21, 2017**

**NO CLASSES: Monday September 4, 2017 Labor Day**

**Friday October 6, 2017 Homecoming,**

**Friday November 10, 2017 Veterans Day**

**Wednesday November 22-24, 2017 Thanksgiving Holiday.**

**CLASSES END: Wednesday December 6, 2017**

**Drop and Add period ends Friday August 25, 2017**

**Harn Museum Visit (Due Thursday September 14, 2017):** Take a trip to the UF Harn museum at your leisure, on Hull Rd. and find an inspirational piece of art for your one

minute solo and group final project assignment. Write a two page description of the artwork or exhibit you are using for your choreographic inspiration. Make a one minute solo about how you feel the piece should be portrayed through movement.

**Technique Midterm Exam: Thursday October 12, 2017** The technique exam is primarily for checking our communication of goals and your early degree of successful effort.

**Written Tests: #1 and #2 Tuesday October 10, 2017 and Tuesday November 7, 2017** There will be two written tests based on reading assignments and in class discussion. #1 is chapters 1-4 and #2 is chapters 5 and 6. The readings are found in the Dance Fundamentals Handbook.

**Technique Final: Thursday November 16, 2017** The final technique evaluation will be done during regular classes. This is an exam based on your technical progress from mid semester to the end of the term.

**Final Projects: (group showings) Tuesday December 5, 2017**

You will be placed into groups and you will work on choreography that will develop from your visit to the UF Harn Museum. Each member of the group will collaborate on the final choreography. The pieces will be 3-5 minutes, music of your choice, costumes of your own choice and very well rehearsed. We will solidify the details at Midterm time, once we form our groups. **Work Days for group project Final: TBA**

**Performance Observation Papers-DUE Tuesday December 5, 2017 (early papers are appreciated and can be turned in at any time during the semester)**

Attend two approved dance concerts of your choice and write a two page, typed, double spaced, no cover sheet, college level, summary of what you observed (2 papers, one for each concert). Email the final observation papers and scanned tickets to [adifiore@arts.ufl.edu](mailto:adifiore@arts.ufl.edu). You may turn the ticket stubs in to me in person during class, but please email the final papers.

**Class/UnShowing Observation Paper-DUE Tuesday December 5, 2017 (early papers are appreciated and can be turned in at any time during the semester)**

One page observation paper of a UF Class or UnShowing.

**Note about UnShowings:**

We are still working on finalizing the UnShowing schedule. All cast in BFA Showcase works are expected to attend UnShowings as well as all Dance majors. 2 of the UnShowings will be on Friday mornings during an extended BFA technique class time from 10:40 AM-12:35 PM. **These two days are tentatively September 8 and 22.** The other 2 will be on Monday nights from 6:30-8:30 PM (or slightly later). These 2 are tentatively **Mondays October 16 and 23 with the 23rd being the only Adjudicated Showing** just before going into Showcase tech.

**Dance Productions (subject to change)**

**Dance Alive! - ASPIRE!** October 26, 2017, UFPA, 7:30p

**BLACK LABEL MOVEMENT** October 26, 2017 at 8:00p

Location: Santa Fe College Fine Arts Hall

**THE FLORIDA DANCE ASSOCIATION YOUNG DANCER WORKSHOP “A”** October 27 at 8:00p Location: Santa Fe College Fine Arts Hall

**THE FLORIDA DANCE ASSOCIATION YOUNG DANCER WORKSHOP “B”** October 28 at 8:00p Location: Santa Fe College Fine Arts Hall

**Malpaso Dance Company** November 5, 2017 at UFPA, 7:30p

**Dance Alive! – The Nutcracker** December 15 – 7:30p; December 16- 2:00p and 7:30p; December 17 – 2:00p at UFPA, 7:30

**Agbedidi (SoTD Dance), Constans Theatre, December 1-3**

**BFA Showcase G-06, November 1, 2, 3 & 5**

**Fathom Dance Events Fall 2017:**

Sunday, October 22, 2017 at 12:55 PM: Bolshoi Ballet's Le Corsaire

<https://www.fathomevents.com/events/bolshoi1718-le-corsaire?date=2017-10-22>

Sunday, November 19, 2017 at 12:55 PM: Bolshoi Ballet's The Taming of the Shrew

<https://www.fathomevents.com/events/bolshoi1718-the-taming-of-the-shrew-encore?date=2017-11-19>

Regal Cinemas Gainesville Cinema 14 3101 SW 35<sup>th</sup> Blvd. Gainesville, FL 32608

**Communication:**

**Obviously communication is very important! Please come to me with all questions and concerns at any time throughout the semester. You may make an appointment to speak with me before or after class regarding your progress or any questions you have regarding Dance Fundamentals. Email me at [adifiore@arts.ufl.edu](mailto:adifiore@arts.ufl.edu) to schedule an appointment. You are encouraged to ask questions during class and if you need more feedback from the instructor, please do not be afraid to ask. Remember, unless you communicate to me directly, I will have to assume that you are satisfied, happy and clear about all materials presented. I want you to have a great dance experience.**

**Text:**

The DAA 1000 Handbook was prepared especially for this course and is available FREE online. The link is: <http://www.arts.ufl.edu/theatreanddance/downloads/syllabi.aspx>

Scroll to: Syllabi and click on DAA 1000 Fundamentals of Dance Handbook

Please bring a notebook and pen/ pencil to each class meeting. Please check the bulletin board outside of class for announcements.

See UF College of Fine Arts main page: [www.arts.ufl.edu](http://www.arts.ufl.edu)

**\* All items on this syllabus are subject to change during the course of the Fall 2017 semester.**

**\*\*Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation.**

**\*\*Academic Honesty Guidelines: The academic community of students and faculty at the University of Florida strives to develop, sustain and protect an environment of honesty, trust and respect. Students are expected to pursue knowledge with integrity. Exhibiting honesty in academic pursuits and reporting violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines will encourage others to act with integrity. Violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines shall result in judicial action and a student being subject to the sanctions in paragraph XI of the Student Conduct Code. The conduct set forth hereinafter constitutes a violation of the Academic Honesty Guidelines (University of Florida Rule 6C1-4.017).\*\***