

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA SCHOOL OF THEATRE AND DANCE
BASIC JAZZ DANCE-DAA 2504
SPRING 2018

Instructor: Angela McDonough DiFiore
adifiore@arts.ufl.edu

Office Hours: M/W 11am-12pm, Friday by appointment only

Office: Nadine McGuire Pavilion T211

DAA 2504, Section 221D, 2 Credits

Class meetings- T/H- McGuire G10, Period 4-5, 10:40 am- 12:10 pm

*Email Policy: Use ONLY your *CANVAS* email account for email correspondence related to class. Please include your name & class in the subject line or within the body of all correspondence. UFL.EDU email may be used when Canvas is not available.

Syllabi are posted at CFA website under: *Student & Parents*: <http://arts.ufl.edu/syllabi/>

Lab Fees can be located at: <http://registrar.ufl.edu/soc/201608/all/theadanc.htm>

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to introduce Jazz technique and to develop a “thinking body” through active participation and personal discovery. Drawing on a variety of influences, this class will emphasize moving with an ease in the joints and developing a grounded neutral body with an increased range of movement. There will be a focus of musical time and rhythms. We will focus on understanding and demonstrating the aesthetic attributes and styles of Jazz dance. We will with become familiar with the vocabulary and terminology associated with Jazz dance. We will also focus on each individual student regarding style and performance quality.

Objectives:

With successful completion of this course you will be able to demonstrate correct body alignment during floor, center and locomotor exercises and perform beginning combinations as well as recognizing aesthetic attributes of Jazz dance. We will concentrate on developing a technical proficiency and a movement range, and musicality of the dancer. We will explore warm-up, center practice and traveling combinations.

Dress Code:

- Jazz Shoes are required (NO jazz sneakers)
- Dance Clothing leotards, black tights or jazz pants, (NO baggy T-shirts, sweat pants,shorts,midriff tops)
- Gentlemen are expected to wear a dance belt
- NO jewelry or watches that inhibit movement
- NO gum
- Hair must be pulled back neatly and swept away from the face.

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 ensures the integrity of the objectives of the course.

- Attendance is mandatory. You must be present for all scheduled classes, plus required concerts and events.
- There are no makeup classes. 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 written exam will result in a test grade of zero.
- 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.
- It is your responsibility to sign in before every class! The sign in sheet will be located at the entrance of the G-10 classroom every day.
- 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 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.

<http://www.shcc.ufl.edu/excuse.shtml> (Infirmary)

<http://dso.ufl.edu/> (Dean of Students)

You are expected to attend all scheduled classes. Attendance is **MANDATORY**. Always let me know ahead of time that you will be absent if at all possible. If an unexpected situation arises and you must miss class please leave me a message at adifiore@arts.ufl.edu

Evaluation:

Attendance/ Attire Mandatory as explained above

Personal progress/ effort/ participation (50 points)

"What is Jazz Dance?" 2-3 page paper (10 points)

Dance Events Attendance: 5 events (50 points)

2 Technique evaluations (40 points)

Final Choreography Design Project (Research, class sequence, video etc.) (50 points)

Total=200

Grade Scale:

A =186-200 Points

A-=180-185 Points

B+=175-179 Points

B =166-174 Points

B-=160-165 Points
C+=155-159 Points
C =146-154 Points
C-=140-145 Points
D+=135-139 Points
D =126-134 Points

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES*

NO CLASSES: Monday, January 15, 2018 Martin Luther King, Jr Day

March 3-10, 2018 Spring Break

CLASSES END: Wednesday April 25, 2018

Drop and Add period ends Jan 12, 2018

“What is Jazz Dance?”-Due Tuesday February 27, 2018 by 11:55pm

Write a 2-3 page paper regarding the question “What is Jazz Dance? You may also include what you hope to focus on this semester in your final project.

Technique evaluations: TBA Midterm and Final

Final Design Projects: Tuesday April 24, 2018 Class Meeting/Final Class

This is a project of your own design to be shared during the last week of classes. Examples for your project could be a live presentation, powerpoint demonstration, video or jazz dance choreography that must contain an aspect of Jazz dance (historical or current). We will meet to discuss and approve your project ideas and assign groups around Midterm.

Effort:

You will be graded on the effort that you put into the class, so always work to the best of your ability! If you don't know what your fullest ability is I will help you find it. Effort includes the following:

1. Adhering to the dress code and dressing out for every class meeting
2. Participation
3. Punctuality/Focus
4. Personal progress

Dance:

Dance is a physical art form. As your instructor, I consider it necessary for me to touch you during alignment exercises to ensure proper form and shape and to aid in injury prevention. Also, at times you may be instructed to touch others in the classroom to learn partnering technique. Lastly, in regards to these two points it is essential that the utmost respect to one's personal space be abided.

Cell phones:

Please silence all pagers and cell phones before class begins. Please keep phone off of the vibrate setting and completely silence your phones. Please conduct all calls and text messaging prior to the start of class. You may not text message, take calls or retrieve messages during class time. Have respect for your classmates and your self. Letting others interrupt you detracts from your focus and overall experience.

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 DAA 2504 Jazz Dance. Email me at 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 Jazz dance experience.

Biography:

Angela McDonough DiFiore has over twenty years experience in the field of dance as a performer, choreographer, and educator. She holds a BFA in Dance from New World School of the Arts and an MFA in Dance (Choreography and Performance), from Florida State University. Angela has presented her choreographic work in performances at FSU's Days of Dance in Tallahassee, Florida, the Florida Dance Festival in Miami Florida, Florida Dance on Tour, Gainesville, Florida, Broward College, Ft Lauderdale Florida, Santa Fe College, Gainesville, Florida, College of Central Florida, Ocala, Florida, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, Mt San Jacinto Community College, Mt San Jacinto, California, and Pro Danza Italia in Montescudaio, Italy.

From 1998-2003 Angela served as co-director of the dance program at Broward College in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. At Broward College she had the opportunity to teach Ballet, Modern and Jazz as well as choreograph for the BCC Dance Ensemble, direct concerts, develop dance program curriculum and mentor students.

She has performed throughout the south Florida region with such groups as Dancesynergy, Corps Chameleon, Millennium Dance Syndicate Ballet Flamenco La Rosa and Kokoflux, Fuzion Dance Artists, and other independent artists. While completing her MFA in dance at Florida State University, Angela had the opportunity to dance in the work of choreographers such as Lynda Davis, Terry Creach, Susan Marshall, and Brendt Schneider. She was also an active member of Dance Repertory Theatre, as a performer, rehearsal director and company assistant.

While living in New York City, Angela performed with The Ugly Company, directed by Tennille Lambert at various performances at the Cunningham Theatre Space, Movement Research, and Dance Theater Workshop. She also taught for FSU in NYC (a dance program in NYC through Florida State University, designed for undergraduate Seniors and Masters students), leading the Movement/Studio element "Class as a moving body". Angela worked closely with Dr. Sally Sommer to connect the studio element with the history and research portions of the FSU in NYC experience.

Additional creative projects have included choreographing and performing a solo titled, "Kindred Memories" with original music composed by Richard DiFiore. "Kindred Memories" was reconstructed for a University of Florida dance major in performances during 2014 and 2015. She also reset her solo "Lilac Wine" for dance students at University of Florida and Mt San Jacinto Community College. Angela created a work titled "Dances for Will McLean", commissioned by the Will McLean Foundation and the College of Central Florida. Angela was an organizer and contributor to the Florida Waterways Dance Project 2011, and the National Water Dance Project 2014 led by Kristin O'Neal, in collaboration with University of Florida. In April 2016 Angela had the pleasure of being a guest choreographer, collaborator and organizer for the National Water Dance Project "The Ripple Effect" in collaboration with Solveig Santillano and Mercyhurst University, Erie Pennsylvania.

In addition to dance, Angela has a great interest in yoga and has cultivated her own personal practice since 2003, and is a RYT certified yoga instructor and a member of Yoga Alliance since 2010. She

created a yoga course designed specifically for dancers, at the School of Theatre and Dance at the University of Florida in 2011. Angela has taught both dance and yoga at Santa Fe College, University of Florida, the College of Central Florida, Soma Movement Arts and Perry Mansfield Performing Arts School and Camp.

Events* (Required BFA Showcase, Dance 2018, One of your choice PCPA, 1 UnShowing)

Required Performance and Event Participation

To help you to “think outside the box,” you must venture outside the studio!

Important Box Office Changes: The (McGuire) University Box Office will open 45 minutes prior to the opening of each Constans Theatre or McGuire Black Box production. All primary box office activity will now be handled at the Stephen C. O’Connell Center (Gate 1) Hours: Tuesday thru Friday Noon- 5:00, Saturday 10:00am-2:00pm (No Mondays)

Performance Behavior/Decorum:

- **Yes, please dress nice!**
- **No cell phones/texting at all, ever, never during a performance (unless the show requests it!)**
- **Represent the SoTD at the show!**

Performance and Event Dates

Dates/times subject to change – please check dance bulletin board and/or contact appropriate box office. You will receive a voucher (coupon) at the beginning of the semester for assigned SoTD productions with instructions of how to use it to get discount tickets. Viewing of SoTD plays is highly recommended, but not required. Non-majors, please verify event schedule with instructor, as you may not be required for attendance at all events.

Dance Productions (subject to change)

These are not required for this course. I am sharing them as some of you may be interested in attending. Please see me if you have any questions.

First UnShowing - Friday, February 2, 2018 at 10:40 am-12:35pm

Second UnShowing - Monday, February 26, 2018 at 6:30pm

Adjudication #1 Showing: Monday, March 12, 2018 at 6:30pm - 9:00pm

Adjudication #2 Showing: Monday, March 19, 2018 at 6:30pm

Dance 2018: Stepping on the Audience: An Evening of Dance in Intimate Spaces -
February 9 -10 at 7:30 PM , February 11 at 2:00 PM, February 14 - 17 at 7:30 PM and
February 18 at 2:00PM

The Harn Museum of Dance (HMod 2.0) - Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 1:00PM- 4:00PM

Spring 2018 BFA Showcase - April 4-April 9th (Various Times)

National Water Dance April 14th 4pm

<http://se.nationalwaterdance.org/>

Tango Fire - Friday, January 19, 2018 at 7:30PM

<https://performingarts.ufl.edu/events/tango-fire/>

Ballet Boyz - Friday, January 31, 2018 at 7:30PM

<https://performingarts.ufl.edu/events/balletboyz/>

Pilobolus: Shadowland -Friday, February 23, 2018 at 7:30PM

<https://performingarts.ufl.edu/events/pilobolus-shadowland/>

Martha Graham Dance Company - Monday, March 5, 2018 at 7:30PM

<https://performingarts.ufl.edu/events/martha-graham-dance-company/>

Falun Dafa Association Presents SHEN YUN- Wednesday, March 14 - 16 at 7:30PM

<https://performingarts.ufl.edu/events/shen-yun/>

Lil Buck and Jon Boogz: Love Heals All Wounds - Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at 7:30PM

<https://performingarts.ufl.edu/events/lil-buck-and-jon-boogz-love-heals-all-wounds/>

Elements of Style- Dance Theatre of Santa Fe- Friday, March 23-24 at 7:30PM

<http://finearts/sfcollege.edu>

Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella - Thursday, April 5 ,2018 at 7:30PM

<https://performingarts.ufl.edu/events/rodgers-and-hammersteins-cinderella/>

Dance Alive National Ballet: The Ring - Saturday, April 7, 2018 at 7:30PM
<https://performingarts.ufl.edu/events/dance-alive-national-ballet-presents-the-ring/>

Fathom Events:

Bolshoi Ballet: Romeo and Juliet

January 21, 2018, 12:55 PM

<https://www.fathomevents.com/events/bolshoi1718-romeo-and-juliet?date=2018-01-21>

Bolshoi Ballet: The Lady of the Camellias

February 4, 2018, 12:55 PM

<https://www.fathomevents.com/events/bolshoi1718-lady-of-the-camellias-encore?date=2018-02-4>

Bolshoi Ballet: The Flames of Paris

March 4, 2018, 12:55 PM

<https://www.fathomevents.com/events/bolshoi1718-flames-of-paris?date=2018-03-04>

Bolshoi Ballet: Giselle

April 8, 2018, 12:55 PM

<https://www.fathomevents.com/events/bolshoi1718-giselle?date=2018-04-08>

Location:

Regal Cinemas Gainesville Cinema 14 3101 SW 35th Blvd. Gainesville, FL 32608

****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

****All items on this syllabus are subject to change during the course of the Fall 2018 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).

STUDENT ON-LINE EVALUATION PROCESS

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>

UF POLICIES:

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) 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: Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/> - 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 (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-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 in this class.

COUNSELING AND WELLNESS CENTER CONTACT INFORMATION:

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

COMMUNICATION COURTESY: All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats.

[<http://teach.ufl.edu/docs/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>]

GETTING HELP:

If applicable: For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Other resources are available at <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help> for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability resources
- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support