

## DAN 4959 (Section # 17DA): BA Senior Project Spring 2018

### Instructor of Record:

Assistant Professor Elizabeth Johnson, [ejohnson@arts.ufl.edu](mailto:ejohnson@arts.ufl.edu)

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

**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>

**Office:** Room 234, Nadine McGuire Theatre & Dance Pavilion

**Office Hours:** T/TH 11 AM – 1 PM, Fridays by appointment

**Office Phone:** 352-273-0522

### BA Senior Project Description

*Senior Project (SP)* is the capstone course for all BA dance students. The *SP* is an original research initiative 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 in the form of a website, research project, podcast, or senior paper.

Take advantage of the open structure to the BA *Senior Project*, as it provides you with an unequalled 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 furthers the field of dance.

The work may be supplemented by a presentation, but a presentation is not required. **Please read further for more information on BA presentations.**

### BA Paper with Presentation - Guidelines

The BA students' *Senior Projects* have potential for presentation in diverse public fora. While a **presentation is not required**, the dance area will support you as resources may allow. A presentation does not replace the paper. Students with a viable presentation related to their research paper will have several options for exhibition:

- Choreographic or dance theatre hybrids may be considered for the BFA Dance Showcase during the scheduled *UnShowing* adjudication. \*
- 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 Arts in Medicine (AIM) the VISA talent show, a UF student dance company, other UF Student Government approved organizations, etc.
- An Informal Showing arranged by the dance program in tandem with other dance events (or BA projects), usually presented during the final *UnShowing* of the semester (TBA).

Please refer to some of the examples of presentations at the end of this section.

\* In regards to the BFA Adjudicated *UnShowing* - as our program emphasizes the choreographic/creative process, all majors, BFA and BA, should not to place too much emphasis on an anticipated performance venue as the pinnacle of their project. Numerous layers of practical and aesthetic criteria go into the selection process making it a difficult process to predict. Please note that BA *Senior Projects* that include a presentation as a supplement to the paper may be presented **independently of the BFA Senior Project and BFA Spring Dance Showcase.**

**Please note that a choreographed dance, done for its own sake, would not be approved as a viable BA Senior Project.**

The Dance Area hopes to establish a specific *UnShowing* time for an **Informal Showing** for BA *Senior Projects* probably near the close of the semester and you will need to follow those deadlines and be aware of the following:

- BA *SP* Informal Showings do not receive technical support (lights, costumes, etc.), unless they have been accepted into a Fall/Spring Showcase through the adjudication process, which has limited support.
- Showing/Presentation is limited to 12 minutes and should require minimal set-up. You may petition for a more in depth/longer presentation
- There is no SoTD budget available for BA *Senior Projects*.
- As a part of your grade, this presentation should be executed as professionally as possible and reflect the highest standards for academic/creative research.

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

- PowerPoint presentation of creative work linked with Veteran causes and concerns.
- Documentary film using Laban Movement Analysis as a toolkit for women with Lymphedema.
- Dance Film – creative and technical study.
- Presentation related to a University Scholars award.
- Creative work exploring and exhibiting the choreographer's concept of collaboration.

Although the research should begin as early as feasible, the following guidelines are for the final delivery of your project.

### **BA Senior Project Summary**

- ✓ **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.**
- ✓ **You are required to establish and declare your research topic** by the last two semesters before graduation (typically by the end of your final semester as a junior). 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 only and should be agreed upon with your advisor.
- ✓ **Follow the BA Senior Project syllabus**  
Available on the college website, the syllabus contains all deadlines and the evaluative process for final grading.
- ✓ **Research that uses human subjects**  
This requires specific paper work and must follow university protocols. Please see: <http://irb.ufl.edu/index/humanrsch.html>

### **UnShowings**

- 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 until finished

Spring 2018 BFA Showcase:

- Wednesday, April 4: 7:30pm (Program A)
- Thursday, April 5: 7:30pm (Program B)
- Friday, April 6: 7:30pm (Program A)
- Saturday, April 7: 2:00pm: Community in Motion Performance, 7:30pm (Program B)
- Sunday, April 8: 2:00pm (Program A) & 4:00pm (Program B)

\*Free Performance -First come first serve basis \*

### **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 format is similar to what you will utilize for your research paper in Dance History next semester.

### **Spring 2018 Paper Deadlines\*:**

By **March 21<sup>st</sup>** (Wed.): You will have initiated a conference with your assigned advisor about paper by this date. Complete outline, abstract draft and finalized bibliography due to assigned mentor/reader.

**March 28<sup>th</sup>** (Wed.): Outline due to assigned advisor 5:00PM.

**April 11<sup>th</sup>** (Wed.): First draft due to assigned advisor and any other mentor by 5:00PM.

**April 25<sup>th</sup>** (Wed.): Second draft due to assigned advisor and any other mentor by 5:00PM.

Third draft: If your advisor needs further edits, this would be accomplished during a time-line established between you and your advisor.

**Date of Final Draft TBD after feedback and editing incorporated. To be completed by graduation!**

\*Advisor may discuss any alterations on deadlines with you due to extenuating circumstances. If there are changes to the final deadline, please contact your advisor.

### **RESEARCH PAPER REQUIRED FORMAT**

NOTE: USE MLA STYLE GUIDELINES TO WRITE PAPER

*A GREAT and EASY-TO-USE site for **MLA STYLE GUIDELINES**:*

<http://content.easybib.com/citation-guides/mla-format/>

### **MLA Formatting and Style Guide**

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 (pages 1 and 2)
  - *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) (pages 3 and 4)
  - Demonstrate your knowledge of what has been done before related to this topic.
- One-page describing the **Scope of Project** and its parameters (page 5)
  - What limits did you specifically impose to create a manageable project?
  - What significant events or discoveries occurred in the process to further define the scope of the project—for example, changed course, specifics of time management, process issues, translation, limited primary resources, limited secondary resources, limited geographical access).
- Two-page **Methodology** section describing the research process you undertook (pages 6 and 7)
  - 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.
- Four-page narrative on your **Inquiry** (pages 8, 9, 10 and 11)
  - This is the “body” of the paper where you unfold the story/meaning/life of the research.
  - Explore and examine the themes that emerged in your research. This is where you will use your theory and data entries and other findings.
- One-page **Conclusion** summarizing the most salient points of your project and outcomes of your research/project (page 12).
  - 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?
- Visual Resources (page number 13, etc.)
- Works Cited in **MLA** (Note you will use simple in-text citations as per **MLA**<sup>1</sup>; place extra explanatory notes in endnotes) (page numbers...)

---

<sup>1</sup> For helpful information see the following:  
<http://cooperseng101.wordpress.com/syllabus-part-2-course-outline/mla-guidelines-for-quoting/>

(Depending on your approach to your quantitative, qualitative, and/or creative research, as well as your 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.)

**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.

	<b>Exemplary = A/A-</b>	<b>Satisfactory = B/B-C+/C</b>	<b>Unsatisfactory = C-and below</b>
<b>Content</b> 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.
<b>Critical Thinking</b> 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.
<b>Communication</b> 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.

**UF POLICIES:**

**UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

**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 at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php>.

**NETIQUETTE: 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/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>

#### GETTING HELP:

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

- [Learning-support@ufl.edu](mailto: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