

# Tap 2

**class:** DAA 4930  
**location:** CON G11  
**time:** Mon & Fri, 3:00 - 4:55  
**instructor:** Andrew Cao  
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**phone:** tbd  
**office:** McCarty C 305  
**office hours:** Mon & Wed, 10:25am - 11:25am

## Course Overview:

Becoming a proficient tapper is necessary to truly reach that “triple threat” status in the Musical Theatre world. While not all of us can be Savion Glover, achieving confidence and competence with metal on your feet is within the reach of all, hardworking students. In Tap 2, we will improve upon the skills of those already with a solid tap foundation by learning material from some of Broadway’s most well known tap choreographers and tap shows, like Susan Stroman’s CRAZY FOR YOU, Kathleen Marshall’s ANYTHING GOES, Casey Nicholaw’s ALADDIN, and many more. As with Tap 1, classes will be geared toward students pursuing a career in musical theatre, but students of all pursuits will benefit from and enjoy this approach to tap dance.

## Course Objectives:

- continue to develop a proficiency in the “standard,” musical theatre tap vocabulary and perform the proper step based on the terminology.
- recognize tap steps when seen
- create your own rhythms and tap choreography
- further develop your understanding of how to count, analyze, and write out the rhythmic structure of a song
- learn to pick up choreography quicker and represent yourself better in dance auditions

# Dance Attire and Class Etiquette

## SHOES



If you have been tapping in a flat in the past, it's time to start learning how to do it in a heel. For women, the standard Broadway tap shoe is a 2.5" heel, though a 2" or even 1.5" will be okay if you don't feel quite ready for 2.5".



**NON-MAJORS:** Female students who are non-theatre majors from outside the School of Theatre and Dance here at UFL are not required to use a heel. You may use whatever type of tap shoe you like



For men, any flat tap shoe will do. Color is up to you.



**CLOTHES:** Form-fitting clothes are always best, as it's important we see the lines and shapes that your body is creating. Most important, however, is that your ankles and feet can move freely. No hats or large, dangly necklaces, watches, etc.

**HAIR:** You are welcome to wear your hair down if it doesn't cover your face. I would suggest always having a hair tie available.

**FOOD:** Although no food is allowed in the dance studios, I encourage you to bring healthy snacks to refuel before/after class and even during water breaks. Please no gum.

**WATER:** Hydration is key to your body performing the way you want it to. Invest in a re-useable water bottle to bring with you into the studio. Drink water all day long.

**CELL PHONES:** You may take video of the choreo we learn to help you practice on your own, but you may absolutely NOT share any class material on any social media whatsoever.

## A note about Physical Touch...

The nature of our work as dancers involves an intimate relationship with our bodies and sometimes the bodies of dancers around us. Partnering, weight-sharing, and other forms of body-to-body contact will occasionally be a part of the material we're studying. In addition, although I will always attempt to offer corrections and guidance verbally, there may come a time when I need to use a physical correction to aid with positioning, alignment, or execution of a particular movement. If you are uncomfortable with ANY of the above, no problem. Feel free to speak with or email me so you and I can come up with a solution together.

## Schedule

Class structure will be roughly the same every day. We'll usually begin with a warm-up, followed by various exercises and activities to help learn and perfect new tap steps. Classes will most often end with work on a choreographic combination.

## Attendance

I have a strong opinion about punctuality and showing up to work. In the professional world, your reliability will play a big part in growing and sustaining your career.

**ABSENCES:** You will be granted 2 absences without penalty. You do not have to give me a reason or tell me ahead of time. For your 3rd absence, 3 points will be deducted from your final grade. 4th absence = 6 points will be deducted. 5th absence = 12 points will be deducted. Please note that these point deductions are cumulative. 6 or more absences will result in automatic failure of the class.

**LATE:** If you arrive late, please join in without distracting or disrupting the class already in progress. 3 late arrivals will count as 1 absence. Every additional late arrival after your 3rd will result in a deduction of 5 points.

**INJURY:** If you are injured in class or nursing an injury that already happened, please let me know. You can observe class without penalty.

# Grading

**Grading will be based on a 100 point scale.**

**80 points** are based on your classroom participation. This includes things like your attendance, work ethic, focus, energy, preparation, attitude, motivation, etc.

**20 points** will come from your **FINAL ASSESSMENT and PRESENTATION**, which will take place during one of our last classes and has 3 parts. Each part will represent 1/3 of your total final exam grade.

PART 1: Identify Vocabulary. I will demonstrate various tap steps we learned throughout the semester. You will have to identify them and write them down.

PART 2: Create and demonstrate your own choreography. Your combination must be a minimum of 45 seconds long and contain all the steps from a checklist I will provide to you. You may choose to do this with or without music.

PART 3: Perform class choreography. I will choose a combination or two that we learned in class and we will perform it in small groups, perhaps even individually. We'll decide which combination it will be and spend time in class reviewing the combination well in advance of the presentation date.

Letter Grade	% Equivalency	GPA Equivalency
A	100-94	4.0
A-	93-90	3.67
B+	89-87	3.33
B	86-84	3.00
B-	83-80	2.67
C+	79-77	2.33
C	76-74	2.00
C-	73-70	1.67
D+	69-67	1.33
D	66-64	1.00
D-	63-60	.67
E, I, NG, S-U, WF	59-0	0.00

# University Policies

Requirements for class attendance, make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

Current UF grading policies can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352 392 8565 <https://drc.dso.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.

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/>