

DAA 2611 Section: 2841(2 CREDITS)

Tuesday/ Thursday 12:50 – 2:20pm

McGuire Theatre and Dance Pavilion G-11

SYLLABUS

Professor Contact Information

INSTRUCTOR: Melissa Canto Brenner mbrenner@arts.ufl.edu*

Office: T212, Nadine McGuire Theatre & Dance Pavilion 2nd floor

Office Hours: T/TH 9:00-10:30am (Best way to reach me is via CANVAS e-mail)

Office Phone: 352-294-0458

*Email Policy: Use ONLY your **CANVAS** email account for email correspondence related to class. 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

Credits: 2; Prereq: DAA 2610 or instructor permission.

This course is a continuation of the practice of composition with an emphasis on process, improvisation, movement making, and choreographic development. Students will put into practice the basic elements of compositional techniques, including: theme and variation, time and space, dynamics and energy, and develop a more sophisticated understanding of choreography. Solo and group work will be explored.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- To provide the student with a variety of skills to generate movement and structure choreography
- To guide the student to fully develop their choreographic ideas
- To help the student build a personal ‘toolbox’ of ideas for choreography
- To develop, present, and gain feedback on solo and group work
- To expose the student to a variety of choreographers and choreographic styles
- To experience, discuss and write about professional choreography/ live dance performances

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Students must bring a notebook/ journal to every class. Notebooks will be kept for students to collect and store information, inspiration, track individual progress, and build a compositional ‘toolbox’.

CANVAS

DAA2611 is set up on Canvas (e-learning). All writing assignments and electronic communication will take place in Canvas. No hard copies will be accepted. A schedule and timeline for the course can be found on the Canvas calendar.

SUGGESTED READING

“The Creative Habit” by Twyla Tharp

“A Choreographer’s Handbook” by Jonathan Burrows

The New York Times

COURSE POLICIES

SOTD DANCE ATTENDANCE:

Dance Class Attendance Guide:

- Mindful participation in each class meeting is the only way to meet the objectives of this course.
- Attendance, which is mandatory, means that when you enter the classroom, you are present, alert, and contributing to the progress of the class every second.
- If you are not present when attendance is taken or class begins you are marked absent.
- In the case of extended health issues, refer to the Injury and Illness Policy in this syllabus.

Dance Technique Class Absence Policy

- Five (5) or more absences (excused or unexcused) result in automatic failure.
- All undocumented absences are unexcused: each unexcused absence = 5 point deduction. Excused absences may include those related to illness/injury that are documented by a medical professional. Events related to family emergencies or professional obligations should be discussed with your instructor. (See *Make-up Policy* for more information on excused absences.)
- For your safety and the focus of the class, you may not join class if it has already started. You are late and counted absent; with instructor permission, you may observe.
- If you should leave class early, 3 points are deducted from your grade.
- If unable to dance but still attend, with instructor permission, you may ‘actively’ observe for full class credit, onetime. You will complete an assignment as assigned by the instructor due at the end of class.
- UF approved religious days are excused and do not need to be made-up. (Travel time not included.) You are responsible for material covered during your absence.
- A MEDICAL WITHDRAWAL will not be supported without approved documentation. An Incomplete is only considered by UF Dance in extreme cases and is not available in technique classes.

Dress Policy

- Attire which is form fitting & suitable for movement
- No oversized clothing
- No gym shorts
- Your ankles must be visible
- Hair needs to be confined, out of the dancer's face; essentially not a distraction to the dancer, instructor or the class (no hats)
- No large jewelry, including all non-stud earrings, necklaces & watches
- No chewing gum

UF Absence Policy

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies, as follows:

Source: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

- Students are responsible for satisfying all academic objectives as defined by the instructor. Absences count from the first class meeting.
- In general, acceptable reasons for absence from or failure to participate in class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) must be excused. Other reasons also may be approved.
- You cannot participate in classes unless you are registered officially or approved to audit with evidence of having paid audit fees. The Office of the University Registrar provides official class rolls to instructors.
- If you do not participate in at least one of the first two class meetings of a course or laboratory in which you are registered, and you have not contacted the department to indicate your intent, you can be dropped from the course. You must not assume that you will be dropped, however.
- The university recognizes the right of the individual professor to make attendance mandatory. After due warning, professors can prohibit further attendance and subsequently assign a failing grade for excessive absences.

COURSE TIMELINE

January 8, 10	Course Introduction
January 15, 17	Elements of Composition
January 22, 24	Movement Invention
January 29, 31	Showing #1
February 5, 7	Inspirational Resources/ Harn Museum Visit #1
February 12, 14	Using Props
February 19, 21	Prep for showing #2
February 26, 28	Showing #2/ ACDA
March 4-March 10	Spring Break
March 12, 14	Creative Habits/ Titles and Music
March 19, 21	Hard Museum Visits #2-3
March 26, 28	Showing #3
April 2, 4	Site Work
April 9, 11	NATIONAL WATER DANCE
April 16, 18	Prep for Final Showings
April 23	Final Showings

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

PROCESS SHOWINGS

Together we will workshop compositional tools and ideas. Some of these ideas will culminate into short movement studies. Students will be encouraged to develop and present THREE movement studies throughout the semester, which will be observed by and discussed with the class. Some time will be given in-class to develop these studies, but students may need to find additional time to create. Showing dates are listed in the course timeline.

PROGRESS/ EFFORT/ COMPREHENSION/ RISK

Students are expected to be actively engaged and put forth maximum effort during class. A supportive learning environment will be facilitated and each student will be expected to contribute.

DISCUSSION BOARD

The CANVAS discussion board will serve as a vessel for sharing, observing, and responding to choreography virtually. Each student will be required to post FOUR videos throughout the semester (1 per month) of choreography (full length or excerpt) that is not their own. Included should be some background information: Choreographer, company, year and any other background information that can be provided. In addition, each student will reply to the thread of at least EIGHT posted videos- or threaded replies-, 2 per month. Detailed instructions can be found on Canvas under the DISCUSSIONS tab.

UNSHOWINGS/ UF DANCE PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE

Students will be required to attend all semester UnShowings and SOTD Dance performances. Viewing of unshowings and performances will aid in the understanding of creative process and engage students in feedback sessions/ discussion surrounding choreography. Sign-in sheets will be available for proof of attendance.

Required UnShowing Dates / UF Dance Performances

- Monday, January 7, 2019 - Welcome Back Dance Area Meeting with Students & Dance faculty 7:00 – 8:30 PM in Studio G6
- Thursday, January 10, 2019 - Fall BFA 2018 Showcase Audition 6:30 - 8:30PM in Studio G6
- UnShowing #1- Friday, February 1, 2019 - 10:40 AM - 12:25PM in Studio G6
- UnShowing #2 -Friday, February 15, 2019 - 10:40AM - 12:25PM in Studio G6
- Harn Museum of Dance (HMoD) Showing G6 – Monday, March 18, 2019 – 6:30PM· Adjudication -Monday, March 25, 2019 - 6:30PM - Until in Studio G6 (Finalize Program)
- Final UnShowing - Monday, April 22, 2019 - 6:30PM - Until in Studio G6

The Harn Museum of Dance (HMod 2.0) - Saturday, March 23, 2019 at 1:00PM- 4:00PM

Spring 2019 BFA Showcase –Wednesday, April 3 – Sunday, April 7, 2019: April 3, 2019 at 7:30PM Program A; April 4, 2019 at 7:30PM Program B; April 5, 2019 at 7:30PM Program A;

April 6, 2019 at 2:00PM - Community in Motion Showcase; April 6, 2019 at 7:30PM Program B; April 7, 2019 at 2:00PM Program A; April 7, 2019 at 4:00PM Program B

Dance 2019 –Friday, February 22- Sunday, February 24, 2019: February 22- 23, 2019 at 7:30PM; February 24, 2019 at 2:00PM

PERFORMANCE CRITIQUE

Students will be required to attend at least THREE of the following performances, and write a critical response to ONE performance. There will be a module on Canvas titled ‘Performance Proof of Attendance. Here you should upload a selfie at the three performances (Pre/ Post or Intermission, and certainly not during, of course). If you forget to take a selfie, a one paragraph description will suffice as proof. Writing guidelines for the critique can be found on Canvas. Papers should be submitted through Canvas, within the correct module, no later than **May 2nd**. *If you are unable to attend one of these performances, please notify the instructor immediately for alternative options.*

UF Dance Productions

Spring 2019 BFA Showcase –Wednesday, April 3 – Sunday, April 7, 2019: April 3, 2019 at 7:30PM Program A; April 4, 2019 at 7:30PM Program B; April 5, 2019 at 7:30PM Program A; April 6, 2019 at 2:00PM - Community in Motion Showcase; April 6, 2019 at 7:30PM Program B; April 7, 2019 at 2:00PM Program A; April 7, 2019 at 4:00PM Program B

Dance 2019 –Friday, February 22- Sunday, February 24, 2019: February 22- 23, 2019 at 7:30PM; February 24, 2019 at 2:00PM

UFPA Performing Arts

National Ballet Theatre of Odessa: Swan Lake –Wednesday, January 9, 2019 at 7:30PM
<https://performingarts.ufl.edu/events/national-ballet-theatre-of-odessa-swan-lake/>

Complexions Contemporary Ballet –Thursday, January 31, 2019 at 7:30PM
<https://performingarts.ufl.edu/events/complexions-contemporary-ballet-star-dust/>

Dance Alive National Ballet: Tango Mucho Madness! –Saturday, February 2, 2019 at 7:30PM
<https://performingarts.ufl.edu/events/dance-alive-national-ballet-tango-mucho-madness/>

Dance Alive National Ballet: Land of La Chua –Friday, March 1, 2019 at 7:30PM
<https://performingarts.ufl.edu/events/dance-alive-national-ballet-land-of-la-chua/>

Lucky Plush Productions: Rooming House –Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at 7:30PM
<https://performingarts.ufl.edu/events/lucky-plush-productions-rooming-house/>

Santa Fe College Dance Productions

Elements of Style –Friday, March 22, 2019 – Saturday, March 23, 2019 at 7:30PM

<https://tickets.vendini.com/ticket-software.html?t=tix&w=cc5d3f5d01e45efac6a75aac3c774f8>

UF Box Office #: (352) 392-1653

UF Performing Arts (Phillips Center) #: (352) 392-2787

Santa Fe Fine Arts Hall Theatre #: (352) 395-4181

FINAL PROJECT/ PAPER

The final project will be a showing of a fully developed choreographic work. Students may utilize tools explored in class, and/or continue with one of the three movement studies to present for the final showing. These may be solo or group works. Final project showings will take place **April 23**. A reflective paper on the process will be through Canvas, due by **May 1st** (11:59pm)

EVALUATION

Process Showings	30 points (3 @ 10 points each)
Progress/ Effort/ Comprehension/Risk	20 points
Performance Critique/ Attendance	10 points
Unshowing/ UF Dance Attendance	10 points
Discussion Board	8 points
Final Project Showing	15 points
Final Project Reflection Paper	7 points
Total	100 Points

Point/Grading Scale:

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

STUDENT ON-LINE EVALUATION PROCESS

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing on-line 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/NetiquetteGuide-forOnlineCourses.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