

# DAA 1000 - Fundamentals of Dance

SUMMER A 2019

Periods 2 \* MTWRF 9:30a -10:45a \* Section 027B \* Class # 10956

**Location:** Nadine McGuire Pavilion G-6

**Instructor:** Meredith Farnum

**Email:** [mfarnum@arts.ufl.edu](mailto:mfarnum@arts.ufl.edu) or Canvas Inbox

**Office:** Nadine McGuire Theatre & Dance Pavilion, Room T212

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 11:00a – 12:00p or by appointment

**Office Phone:** 352-294-0458 / SoTD Main Office: 352-273-0500

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

**Lab Fees** can be located at: <http://aa.ufl.edu/policies/material-and-supply-fees/>

**Canvas (e-learning):** <http://elearning.ufl.edu>

## Catalog Description

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Practice and principles of fundamentals and stylistic characteristics common to ballet, jazz and modern dance. (H) 3 credits

*Fundamentals of Dance* is designed to provide accessibility to the world of dance for all students - novice or pre-professional. Along with learning the rudiments of the dance techniques, with a focus on dance styles common to Western culture, you will discover the rich heritage, challenging discipline, fertile aesthetic, as well as your place in the vast spectrum of dance. There is truth in advertising – as once you are successful in this class, these fundamentals become the basis for achieving excellence in higher levels and making informed connections with how this art interacts with your life. The following objectives provide the direction for the course:

## Objectives:

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- To provide a student with the history, basic techniques, and contemporary references relevant to accessing a basic understanding of ballet, jazz and modern dance
- Enhance the mind/body connection through the application of sound biomechanical principles as they relate to dance, such as practicing proper alignment, learning basic human anatomy, and learning of alternative approaches to movement study. This knowledge will be directly applied to the various styles of dance learned in class
- Practice elements of performing and explore performance quality, discovering your own potential and personal style while developing your kinesthetic memory
- Experience, discuss and write about live dance performances

## Dance Etiquette and Attire:

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Dance is an art and requires personal discipline and motivation. Respect for other students and the instructor is of the utmost importance. When in class you will be attentive and active. Be aware of the appropriate times to talk and/or sit.

Attire should be form fitting, allowing the line of the body to be seen. Leotards and tights (leggings or jazz pants) are suitable for female students. *Dance* shorts can be worn, but only with tights.

For male students, form fitting shorts (compression shorts) or athletic pants with a form fitting T-shirt are suitable.

Form fitting warmers can be worn and should be removed after warm-up. Dance shoes are not required for this course, but socks are recommended. **No baggy sweats, shirts, pants or shorts. No street clothes or street shoes. No large jewelry, no chewing gum, no hats, and no loose hair.** Personal hygiene is expected and is its own reward. **You may lose points for improper attire, hair or attitude.**

### **Attendance Guide:**

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#### SoTD Dance Attendance:

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

- Mindful participation 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 this will count as an absence.
- For extended health issues refer to the Injury and Illness Policy in the current SoTD Handbook (SoTD website)

Information on make-up work: Any make-up work requires proper and official documentation from professional sources and presented to the instructor in a timely fashion. To earn credit for an absence you must do two things:

- 1) Immediately after your return to class, turn in approved/legal documentation to instructor
- 2) Make-up the class with an approved assignment. All Make-up assignments for excused absences must be completed by the last day of classes of the semester.

There are no makeup classes for unexcused absences.

### **Attendance Policy:**

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**MANDATORY.** Participation is the only way to meet the objectives of this class. This requires you to be in class on time in the proper attire and with your attention focused on dance. Once in the studio, you should be warming up and stretching to prepare yourself for class.

- You must be present for all scheduled classes, plus required concerts, auditions, and events.
- It is your responsibility to know your schedule. Check your UF email & the dance studio bulletin boards. The instructor will only respond to UF email (ufl.edu)
- Each unexcused absence will result in a loss of ten (10) points.
- You are responsible for all material covered in class during your absence. You are advised to ask other students for material missed in class. It is not the teacher responsibility to re-teach you when you are absent.
- Prolonged illness or injury may result in dropping the class. (An incomplete is rare.) • AN INCOMPLETE WILL NOT BE GIVEN WITHOUT MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION. If approved, College of Fine Arts Incomplete Contract must be signed by the Director, Instructor, and Student.
- You are tardy if you are not present for roll call. When late you must clear entry into class – it is at the instructor's discretion whether you will be allowed to participate in class if you are more than ten minutes late. This is for your own safety.

- Six (6) points will be deducted for being late or leaving early (for any reason)
- Other classes that schedule events during this class will be considered an absence and are not excused. Field trips with school events must be documented by the school and documentation must be sent directly to me. UF approved religious days are excused and do not need to be made-up. (Travel time not included.) Student is still responsible for material covered during their absence.
- If unable to dance, with instructor permission, you may 'actively' observe one time for full credit.
- You will complete an observation paper due at the end of class. Check with instructor for instructions. You may not receive credit for attendance if you arrive ten minutes into the scheduled class time.
- You may not use this time for napping or "study hall", otherwise it will be considered an absence.
- Absences without proper documentation from exams result in a **zero**. If you miss the final exam you cannot pass this course.
- You may not pass the course with 5 or more absences (excused or unexcused)

### **UF Absence Policy**

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

Please use the following locations for UF resources for physical and mental health care:

<http://shcc.ufl.edu/> (Student Health Care Center)

<http://shcc.ufl.edu/forms-records/excuse-notes/> (excuse note policy)

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

### **Student online 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/>

**Text:**

The DAA1000 Handbook was prepared especially for this class and will be available online on Canvas. **Communication is very important. Please come to me with all questions and concerns throughout the semester. You can make an appointment or talk to me immediately before or after class about your progress or if you have any questions. If questions pertain to the information in this syllabus, I ask that you read your syllabus thoroughly before asking an intelligent question on clarification. You are encouraged to ask questions during class and if you need or want more feedback from the instructor, please do not be afraid to ask. Remember, unless you communicate and come to me directly, I will assume that you are satisfied and happy. I want you to have a great dance experience.**

**Assignments and Tests**

TOTAL POINTS TO EARN = 200

Attendance	100 points
Technique Evaluation	10 points
Discussion Post and Response (on Canvas)	10 points
Written Test (15 each)	30 points
Museum Paper	5 points
Midterm Project (in class)	15 points
Final Project	30 points

**Grade Scale**

A	200-186 points	100-93%
A-	185.99-180 points	92.99-90%
B+	179.99-172 points	89.99-86%
B	171.99-166 points	85.99-83%
B-	165.99-160 points	82.99-80%
C+	159.99-154 points	79.99-77%
C	153.99-146 points	76.99-73%
C-	145.99-140 points	72.99-70%
D+	139.99-134 points	69.99-67%
D	133.99-126 points	66.99-63%
D-	125.99-120 points	62.99-60%

E	119.99 points or lower	59% and below
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## UF POLICIES

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**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/](http://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: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-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:**

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

**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/docs/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

Principle Test – May 23

No classes – May 27 (Memorial Day)

Museum Paper – May 28

Final Group Info due – May 29 \* see description below.

Discussion Post – May 30 (on Canvas)

Discussion Response – June 5 (on Canvas)

History Test – June 14

Group Finals – Performance (posted on Canvas) – Final Journal Paper due – June 19

May 13 - INTRO

May 14 - Alignment/ Conditioning/ Flexibility - Chapter 1

May 15 – May 24 - Modern - Chapters 2, 3 & 4 read during this time - Principles test on Ch.

1- 4, all additional info via lectures (see date above)

May 20 - Receive assigned dancer for Discussion Post.

May 21 – Harn Museum and/or Museum of Natural History visit

May 22, 23 & 24 (In Class)– Mid-term Project

May 28 – Choose final project groups in class.

\* May 29– Hand in list of dancers, composition choice, style of dance and working title in class. This will count for 2 points towards your in-class portion of your final project grade. Here is the info that you will need to have:

**Working Title (the title of your dance composition – can be changed later)**

Choreographed and performed by: (list group members)

Composition inspiration and/or music

Style(s) of dance that your group has chosen

May 28 - June 5 – Ballet – Chapter 5 read during this time.

June 6 – June 1– Jazz – Chapter 6 read during this time. History Test on Ch 5-6, videos and lectures.

June 17 – Work in class on group projects

June 18 – complete group pieces and clean

June 19 –Final performance submission due on Canvas and **JOURNAL DUE**

ALL ABOVE DATES ARE SUBJECT TO VARIATION.

## **ASSIGNMENT AND TESTS**

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**Technique Evaluation** (10 points) An ongoing in-class evaluation primarily for checking our communication goals and your degree of successful effort. Absences could affect this grade.

**Discussion Post** (6 points) On the discussion board on Canvas, you will post a video link with the history of the piece and choreographer/dancer (minimum – 150 words). Each student will be assigned a person from Chapter 5 of the handbook. You may find the video on YouTube. You may use the handbook as a resource but must also include at least one more cited resource.

**Discussion Response** (4 points) You will read and view all the discussion post to help prepare for the History test. You will choose one post to reply. In your response you need to summarize the video and analyze the video using either the Three Elements of Dance or using Laban Terminology. Be specific in describing type of technique, lighting, music, props, theme, etc. (minimum 75 words)

**Museum Paper** (5 points) You will take a trip to the Harn Museum or The Museum of Natural History on Hull Rd. to find an inspirational exhibition for your midterm movement project. Submit a page description, including artist and title, (in Canvas) of the artwork or exhibition you are using for your choreographic inspiration. The choreography will be presented as part of your midterm evaluation.

**Written Test** (30 points – 15 points each) There will be two written tests based on text and review and discussion during the class. The first will be a Principles Test on Chapters 1-4, in class exercises and appendix. The second will be a History Test on Chapters 5-6 and discussion post videos.

**In-class Project** (Mid-term) (15 points) Based on discussions and related assignments, the instructor will inform the class on the details of this project, which will be worked on in-class. This project will provide you with the basics on how the class will proceed with the final project

**Final Project** (30 points) Groups of 2-4 students will collaboratively choreograph a 1.5 to 2-minute

composition. It is up to you to choose your own group of dancers to work with. If you need assistance, let me know. There will be time in class available for working on projects, but also be prepared to meet outside of class if needed. The time spent in class working on your project is part of participation/attire and will affect your final grade. Absences are discouraged during this time and will affect your final project grade. Groups can choose any one of the dance styles covered in class or a combination of dance styles. The midterm museum experience will inform your final work. Everyone is expected and required to have input. This is a group project. It is about everyone in the group. Work Together! Make sure you exchange phone numbers/email addresses with other members in your group. Compositions will be recorded and uploaded to Canvas. More information will be provided in class.

**Journal** Also, every dancer needs to hand in a one page typed, double space journal on their final project experience. This is your final performance for this class. Include costumes, props (if needed) and whatever else your dance needs. Have FUN and be creative. This is your opportunity.

**Final Project Evaluation:** In-class work – 5 points  
Choreography/ Costume/makeup/props – 10 points  
Performance and Video– 10 points  
Journal – 5 points

Reading You are required to keep up with the reading of the text. Material in the text will be continually referenced in class and we will also have lectures and discussions on each chapter. Read this syllabus thoroughly!

Makeup Papers for **excused** absences are **due one week after the show** (any dance performance, play or musical as per approval from instructor) that you are critiquing. You are to write a summary/review that is 1 page, typed, double spaced, 12 pt. Please write “Makeup Paper” under your name. Papers will not be accepted after June 19<sup>th</sup>.