

Broadway Dance Styles 1

class: DAA 4930

location: CON G11

time: 8:30am - 10:25am

instructor: Andrew Cao

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office: McCarty C 305

office hours: Mon & Wed, 10:25am - 11:15am

Course Overview:

Straight from Times Square in New York City to The School of Theatre & Dance at UFL! In Broadway Dance Styles 2, you will learn original choreography from currently running Broadway shows and other relevant Broadway productions of the last 15 years, familiarizing yourself with the latest musical theatre dance styles and techniques found in New York, across the country, and around the world. This course will give you the skills to approach musical theatre dance with confidence and increase your chances of booking work in the highly competitive musical theatre market.

Course Objectives:

- improve overall dance technique and ability
- increase strength, health, flexibility, and confidence
- expand knowledge of and familiar with the musical theatre dance repertoire
- learn to pick up choreography quicker
- demystify professional dance auditions and represent yourself to the best of your ability when auditioning
- recognize a choreographer's style, know which shows he/she is famous for, and understand where he/she fits into musical theatre history timeline

Dance Attire and Class Etiquette

SHOES: Classes will involve a variety of combinations encompassing many different styles, so BFA musical theatre students should consider adding the following shoes to their arsenal. *If you already have dance shoes but are worried they're not the right heel height or color or whatever, no worries. The info below is merely a guide. Please get in touch with me if you have any questions!



- 1) Character heel.
Industry standard heel height is 2.5"
- 2) Jazz shoe/slipper



* Women should choose a color that is closest to your skin tone, in an effort to create a seamless line from the top of your leg to the tip of your toe.



- 1) Character shoe
- 2) Jazz shoe/slipper



* Men should choose black.

* **BOTH MEN AND WOMEN:** in addition to the shoes above, it will often be okay for you to wear tennis shoes or sneakers in class. Just make sure they're not your outside/street shoe as no outside/street shoes are allowed in the dance studios.

* **NON-MUSICAL THEATRE MAJORS:** If you are a non-musical theatre major, it is not necessary for you to purchase these shoes. A tennis shoe or sneaker is totally fine. As above, this tennis shoe or sneaker must not be an outside/street shoe as no outside/street shoes are allowed in the dance studios.

CLOTHES: Form-fitting clothes are always best, as it's important that we see the lines and shapes that your body is creating. You may wear heavier/looser/baggier clothes at the start of class and shed layers as your body begins to warm up. No hats or large, dangly necklaces, etc.

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 often begin by talking a bit about the choreographer/musical/style that we're studying that day, followed by a warm-up and technique exercises. The majority of class will be spent working on choreographic combinations.

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 a **FINAL PRESENTATION**, which will be a showing during one of our last classes. We'll choose two or three different combinations that we learned throughout the semester and spend a class or two reviewing and cleaning the dance material before the final presentation date. Grading for the dance portion will be based on the accuracy and quality of your movement, but the most important thing I'll be assessing is your demonstrated growth and improvement as a dancer.

Letter Grade	Total Points	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 professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at

<https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>.

Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via

<https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>.

Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at

<https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.