

# **DAA 1000: Fundamentals of Dance Technique (3 Credits)**

University of Florida School of Theatre and Dance

Stephan C. Connell Center

Fall 2019 | Section: 6014 | TR | Period 8 - 9 (3:00 PM - 4:55 PM)

## **Instructor of Record:**

Assistant Professor Rachel Carrico, PhD

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Office Hours: W 1:00-2:30

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## **Course Description**

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:

## **Course Objectives**

- 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

## **Textbook**

- A handbook of materials prepared especially for this course will be available on our Canvas site.
- Supplemental readings will be posted to Canvas as hyperlinks and downloadable PDFs.

## **Canvas**

DAA1000 is set up on Canvas (e-learning). DAA1000 students must have access to Canvas on a regular basis to successfully complete the course. All writing assignments and out-of-class 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. For help at Canvas start at <https://canvas.uoregon.edu/courses/26168>

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/201601/all/theadanc.htm>

## ASSESSMENT

ASSIGNMENT	DUE DATE	POINTS
Written Exam 1 (online)	Sept. 26	10
Harn Museum Paragraph	Sept. 26	5
Midterm Movement Exam	Oct. 8	10
Written Exam 2 (online)	Nov. 7	10
Final Movement Exam	Nov. 26	10
Compare/Contrast paper	Dec. 10	10
Attendance & Participation	Ongoing	45
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100</b>

### **Grading Scale**

Grades are tabulated on a 100-point scale and a letter grade is assigned as follows:

-----	93–100 A	90–92 A-
87–89 B+	83–86 B	80–82 B-
77–79 C+	73–76 C	70–72 C-
67–69 D+	63–66 D	60–62 D-
59 and below	F	

If you have questions about how grade points are assigned by the University, go to:

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

### **Written Online Exams (20 points)**

The two written exams will be based on reading assignments and in-class discussions.

They will be available online, on our course Canvas page, during the following dates and times.

- Exam #1: September 26, available on Canvas 7 AM-11:59 PM
- Exam #2: November 7, available on Canvas 7 AM-11:59 PM

The two written exams will open-book/ open-note and timed. You can start the exam at any moment during the timeframe in which it's available, but once you begin, you will have a limited amount of time to complete it, and you can only make one attempt.

Tips for Scoring High on Exams: In order to perform well on these exams, complete the readings when they are assigned, participate fully in discussion, and keep detailed notes on the connections between the various readings and lectures/discussions. If you do

this, then you will have no problem earning high grades on the exams. They are open book – have all material in front of you before you begin. However, you will not have time to look up answers and quotes if you are not already very familiar with the material. If you have not read carefully, attended class, and taken detailed notes before beginning the exam, it will be very difficult for you to answer the questions within the timeframe.

### **Harn Museum Paragraph (5 points)**

We will take a trip to the Harn Museum on Hull Rd. on Sept. 24 to find an inspirational piece of art for your midterm movement project. Submit a paragraph on Canvas by Sept. 26 that describes your chosen artwork/exhibition, including artist and title of the artwork or exhibition and why you chose it to inspire your choreography. The choreography will be presented as part of your midterm movement exam.

### **Movement Exams (20 points)**

These exams will occur in class and are based on your technical progress throughout the semester. More information on this will be given as we approach the exam dates.

- Midterm: October 8th
- Final: November 26th

### **Compare/Contrast Paper (10 points)**

Attend TWO live dance performances (SEE APPROVED PERFORMANCE LIST BELOW). Submit on Canvas a two-page (double spaced) paper to compare and contrast the performances. Writing guidelines will be available through Canvas. Papers must be submitted via Canvas by 12/10.

### **Attendance & Participation (45 points)**

This is a movement-based course and the only way to complete the work is to come to class; therefore, participation accounts for 45% of your final grade. Full participation means that you arrive on time, are dressed in dance attire, bring a notebook, pen, and any readings or other required items, turn off your cell phone, and complete all activities to the best of your ability: actively dancing, observing, talking, writing, and listening every day. Participation includes a demonstration of involvement and commitment to learning, a willingness to be a good citizen of the class, an effort at respectful contributions. If a student is disruptive during class (talking or simply not participating) he/ she /they will lose participation points. These points can be deducted at the teacher's discretion.

## **Policies, Expectations, and Resources**

### **Extra Credit**

Extra credit is only offered in extreme circumstances. Do not expect that extra credit will automatically be available to you. If emergencies arise, please talk to the instructor.

### **UF Dance Program Absence Policy**

- Three unexcused absences will reduce your grade one-letter grade (i.e., from B to C). Each subsequent unexcused absence lowers your grade by half letter grade (i.e., from C to C-). **After five unexcused absences the student may not return to class and result in automatic failure of the course.**
- All undocumented absences are unexcused: each unexcused absence = 5 point deduction. Excused absences may include those related to illness/injury which 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.)
- If unable to dance but still attend, with instructor permission, you may *actively* observe for full class credit, one time. 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 days not included.) You are responsible for material covered during your absence.
- A student with medical documentation may apply to UF for Medical Withdrawal. 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.
- In the case of extended health issues, refer to the Injury and Illness Policy in the SoTD 2019-20 Handbook (SoTD website).

### **UF Absence Policies**

UF Dance Program requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with UF policies listed below and that can be found at: <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.

Please consult the following sites for UF's physical and mental health resources:

<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)

### **Observation Papers**

Observing class is only acceptable if the student is ill, injured, or tardy and gets instructor permission. If the student is observing class, they must take observation notes, which will be due by the end of the week via Canvas. These notes should not be a regurgitation of the steps performed in class but rather observations of what you learned as a witness to dance.

Observation papers must be submitted via Canvas in the "Participation/ Observation Papers" module by Sunday (midnight) the same week. The student is only permitted to observe class up to TWO times during the semester.

### **Dance Technique Class – Makeup Policy**

- You are responsible for all material covered during any absence
- There are no makeup options for unexcused absences
- Absences from Written Exams, Quizzes, Mid-Terms, and/or Finals may only be made up with approved documentation
- To earn credit (amount of credit determined by the instructor) for an excused absence you must do two things:
  - 1) Immediately after your return to class, turn in approved/legal documentation to instructor. If you need the original documentation, the instructor will accept copies.
  - 2) Make up the class with an approved assignment submitted on the required date. If the assignment is to attend another class as a make-up, it must be the same technical level, or lower; student must request permission of that instructor. If the assignment is to attend a performance, student must submit a one-page reflection paper about the performance via Canvas.

### **Tardiness**

- For your safety and the focus of the class, you may not be allowed to join class if it has already started. If you enter once movement has begun, please sit quietly on the side of the room until the instructor can give you permission to either join the class or observe for the rest of class. The student who observes will write a one-page observation paper, due at the beginning of the next class, to receive a "tardy" instead of "absent."
- If a student is not present when role is called, s/he/they will be marked "absent." It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor (after class) that they arrived late and ask that their mark be changed to "tardy." Each tardy will result in a 1 point deduction.
- If you should leave class early, 3 points are deducted from your grade.

### **Dance Technique Classroom Etiquette**

- Please protect our dance floors - no street shoes on the dance studio floor. No gum, food or drinks are allowed in the studio, except water in a closed container.
- For your safety and the safety of others, bags and personal items must remain along walls, away from the studio floor.
- Please turn off your cell phone when you enter and refrain from checking it during class.
- Wear comfortable dance or exercise attire that permits freedom of movement. Attire in class should be neat, clean, and allow for clear execution and observation of alignment and movement. Hair should be secured and hats removed to allow for full and vigorous moving. Please do not wear watches or jewelry that might be harmful to yourself or others, or otherwise inhibit movement. No special shoes are required for this course; you will be dancing barefoot or in socks unless otherwise instructed. Here are just one of the many places to purchase dance attire: Discount Dance Supply: [www.discountdance.com](http://www.discountdance.com).

**Learning Community:** As we cultivate our studio practice, we will critically evaluate our thoughts, opinions, and assumptions. As a learning community, I ask that we collectively invest in an environment in which all class members feel empowered to physically and intellectually take risks, ask questions, experiment, and grow. Dance practices frequently intersect with the difficult and at times violent pasts and presents of inequalities related to race, gender, sexuality, class and ability. Feelings of discomfort can at times accompany new physical practices as well as ideas. I ask that, as part of your rigorous engagement with the course, you meet the material as best you can and allow others the space to do the same. Please consult with me should any questions or concerns around course content or dialogue arise.

- Online Learning Community: Our learning community includes communication outside of class. Your commitment to creating a positive learning community includes not only how you interact in class but also how you interact with and/or represent other members of our class online via in threaded discussions on Canvas, social media, and other platforms. Please use formal, respectful, and professional standards when corresponding with me and with each other via email and/or Canvas. An email is not a text message nor a DM. Please begin emails with a formal greeting and avoid unprofessional colloquialisms. For UF guidelines on “netiquette”: <http://teach.ufl.edu/docs/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>

**Course Evaluations:** 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/> .

**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.

A note on choreography and plagiarism: Plagiarism violates the UF Honor Code and can result in Suspension or Dismissal. Plagiarism means intentionally or unintentionally using another's words or ideas without giving credit. When using ideas or exact words from another person you must give citations for the source(s), even if those ideas are paraphrased in your own words. Using words, ideas, computer code, or any work by someone else without giving proper credit is plagiarism. Any time you use information from a source, you must cite it. In addition, as we are working with aspects of movement composition that may often make reference to other works of dance, no unaccredited lifting, copying, or sampling of dance material from YouTube or other sources will be permissible. These kinds of actions/uses are subject to penalties for plagiarism.

**Accommodations:** Appropriate accommodations will always be granted to students with documented disabilities. Please notify me if there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in disability-related barriers to your participation as soon as possible, and we can work to find a solution. Note that 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.

## **More Campus Resources**

### *Health & Wellness*

- *U Matter, We Care:* If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or 352 392- 1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.
- *Counseling and Wellness Center:* <https://counseling.ufl.edu/>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.
- *Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS):* Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.
- *University Police Department:* 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).  
<http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

## Academic Resources

- *E-learning technical support*, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learningsupport@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.
- *Library Support*, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- *Writing Studio*, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>
- *Student Complaints On-Campus*: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honorcode-student-conduct-code/>
- *On-Line Students Complaints*: <http://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/>

**Changes to the Syllabus:** While this document provides guidelines for the class, I do reserve the right to change the syllabus at any time during the semester if the need arises. Each class is different, and sometimes it takes some tweaking to respond to the needs of the group. Being flexible with the syllabus allows us to get it right. Thanks in advance for your understanding.

## Approved Performance List

(choose two for compare/contrast paper)

### **UF Dance Productions (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)**

UF Box Office #: (352) 392-1653

**Fall 2018 BFA Showcase** – October 23 –27

<https://arts.ufl.edu/in-the-loop/events/fall-bfa-dance-showcase-1485/>

**AGBEDIDI** –November 22-24

<https://arts.ufl.edu/in-the-loop/events/agbedidi-a-fusion-of-traditional-african-and-contemporary-dance-1486/>

### **Santa Fe College Dance Productions**

SFC Fine Arts Hall Theatre (352) 395-4181

**Young Dancer Workshop- Welcome Concert** – November 1st at 8:00PM

<https://www.sfcollege.edu/finearts/index.php>

**Young Dancer Workshop Showcase**– November 2nd at 8:00PM

<https://www.sfcollege.edu/finearts/index.php>

**Carmen Suite**- November 8-9 at 7:30PM

<https://www.sfcollege.edu/finearts/index.php>

**Holiday at Santa Fe!** – December 7 at 2:00PM and 6:00PM

<https://www.sfcollege.edu/finearts/index.php>



### **UFPA Performing Arts**

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

**Black Label Movement** – Friday, October 11th at 7:30PM

<https://performingarts.ufl.edu/events/black-label-movement/>

**Dance Alive National Ballet**- Anna Karenina- October 24-25 at 7:30PM

<https://performingarts.ufl.edu/events/anna-karenina/>

**Beyond Gainesville**- Any performance that appears on this list of Central Florida performances is approved – if you want to take a road trip and see some dance, go for it!

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tc5MTc3Ag2Ec-3VgyLYjh86O6-Yz9z7GFq7pWLwXbi0/edit>

Performance Behavior/Decorum:

- Yes, please dress nice!
- No cell phones/texting at all, ever, never during a performance
- Represent the SoTD at the show!