

Song & Dance (Gator Tones)

class: TPP 2250

location: G15 and G11

time: Tues & Thurs, 4:05pm - 6:00pm

instructor: Andrew Cao

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office: McCarty C 305

office hours: Mon & Wed, 10:40am - 11:30am

Course Overview:

In this class we will approach the art form with a focus on the ensemble. Through learning multiple song & dance numbers, students will improve their skills in vocal music, acting, storytelling, and dance.

We will also spend a significant amount of time on understanding the business elements of a life in the theatre: auditions, headshots, resumes, casting, agents, etc. A solid understanding of these non-performance based parts of the industry is absolutely necessary to create and sustain a successful career in musical theatre.

Course Objectives:

- Improve your skills as a singer, dancer, and actor through professionally run, large-group rehearsals.
- Expand your knowledge of the musical theatre repertoire
- Understand proper rehearsal etiquette and how to become a positive leader in group situations
- Pick-up new music and choreography quickly and efficiently.
- Learn strategies and techniques for better individual practice & study outside of rehearsals.
- Develop an understanding of the business side of a musical theater career: auditions, casting, headshots, resumes, marketing,, etc.

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 unexcused absences without penalty. You do not have to give me a reason or tell me ahead of time. For your 3rd unexcused absence, 3 points will be deducted from your final grade. 4th unexcused absence = 6 points will be deducted. 5th unexcused absence = 12 points will be deducted. Please note that these point deductions are cumulative. 6 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. You will be granted 3 late arrivals without penalty. Every additional late arrival after your 3rd will result in a deduction of 5 points from your final grade.

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

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

catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/

Production Attendance

Productions are the laboratory for this class and are a key component for discussion. Therefore, attendance at all Mainstage School of Theatre and Dance productions is required of students enrolled in classes with the following prefix designations: THE, TPA, TPP and ORI. Attendance at related events is encouraged. Take your coupons to the box office to get your admission tickets two weeks in advance of the productions.

SPLENDOR

SPLENDOR is an annual fundraiser for the SoTD. Attendance at this performance is required. An unexcused absence at the sound check and the evening performance will lower your final semester grade by one full letter.

This year, SPLENDOR is on Saturday, March 21st 2020.

Schedule

This is an approximate schedule. Daily schedule will fluctuate depending on the nature of the performance material and the availability of guest speakers.

WEEK 1	Lecture #1 / Industry Pro Q&As
WEEK 2	Performance #1:
WEEK 3	Performance #1:
WEEK 4	Casting Exercise / Audition Workshop
WEEK 5	Casting Exercise / Audition Workshop
WEEK 6	Casting Exercise / Audition Workshop
WEEK 7	Lecture #2 / Industry Pro Q&As
WEEK 8	Performance #2: (Splendor Prep)
WEEK 9	SPRING BREAK
WEEK 10	Performance #2: (Splendor Prep)
WEEK 11	Performance #2: (Splendor Prep)
	SPLENDOR. Mandatory Attendance. Please plan to be available this entire day
WEEK 12	Lecture #3 / Industry Pro Q&A
WEEK 13	Performance #3:
WEEK 14	Performance #3:
WEEK 15	Review and Prep for Final Presentations
WEEK 16	FINAL PRESENTATIONS

* Discussion of all SoTD Productions, including Dance Productions, will usually be held on the Tuesday after each show's closing night.

Mid-Term Evaluation: Students will be given a written evaluation of the first half of the semester. Numbers are based on a 10 point scale, where 10 is exceptional and 1 is poor.

* Mid-term evaluation is informational only and will not necessarily be reflective of your final grade.

Please see "Grading" section for a more detailed description of the categories below.

	Ranking	Notes
Attitude		
Motivation		
Preparation		
Execution of Combinations		
Application of Direction/Corrections		

	Total Number	Deducted points
Absences		
Late arrivals		

Grading

Semester grade will be based on a **100 point scale**. (see next page for letter grade breakdown)

40 Points are based on your attendance.

3 rd Absence = -3 points	4 th Absence = -6 points	5 th Absence = -12 points
6 th absence results in automatic failure of the class		
* note that point deductions are <i>cumulative</i> .		
* Every additional late <i>after</i> your 3 rd late will result in a 5 point deduction		

40 points are based on your Daily Classroom Performance. The categories below are each worth 8 points.

Attitude	Student is positive, optimistic, joyful, and supportive of other students...
Motivation	Student is focused, eager to learn, and makes the most of all educational opportunities...
Preparation	Student has learned any material we covered in the previous class, has done any required reading/research/homework, and is ready to approach the work <u>like</u> a professional...
Participation in Discussion	Student is inquisitive and actively participates in class discussions...
Performance	Student commits to performing the songs to the best of his/her ability...
	8 Points = Always
	6 Points = Most of the time
	4 Points = Sometimes
	2 Points = Rarely
	0 Points = Never

20 points will come from a **FINAL PRESENTATION**, which will be a showing during one of our last classes. We'll likely perform all of the performance numbers we worked on during class. Grading for the final presentation will be broken down as follows. Each of the following categories are worth 10 points.

Technical Accuracy	Student executes the vocals, staging/choreography, acting, and style accurately and as he/she was directed.
Attitude, Effort and Energy:	Student is positive, enthusiastic, supportive of other students, and commits 100% of their energy...
	10 points = throughout the entire performance
	8 points = throughout most of the performance
	6 points = throughout some of the performance
	4 points = throughout very little of the performance
	2 points = throughout none of the performance
	0 points = (student did not show up to participate)

Current UF grading policies can be found at:

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

University 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/>

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

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.