

DANCE COMPOSITION 3: DAA 3614

Syllabus Fall 2020

Class: Tuesday/Thursday 12:50-2:20 PM – Online

Instructor of Record:

Augusto Soledade, asoledade@ufl.edu

*Email Policy: Use ONLY your UFL.EDU email account for e-mail correspondence related to class. Please include your name & class in the subject line or within the body of all correspondence.

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

Office: Room 225, Nadine McGuire Theatre & Dance Pavilion

Office Hours: Mon/Wed 1:30-3:00pm and Tue/Thu 11am-12pm

Office Phone: 352-273-0506

Required Texts: N/A

Course Description

In Dance Composition 3 we will integrate practical and theoretical explorations to cultivate choreographic knowledge and skills. You will continue to build choreographic skills by practicing creative and compositional methods in specific relationship to solo and group studies and work with improvisational structures that help you generate movement material and vocabularies.

Within these parameters, you will continue to explore and define your personal creative “process,” persist in sculpting your unique artistic voice and keep identifying and challenging your unconscious choreographic tendencies and habits. We will also practice a peer-based observation and feedback so you can continue developing your communication skills through thoughtful, intelligent, articulate feedback to your peers; in turn, this will help them and you to clarify your creative choices. By the end of the semester, you should be able to understand and articulate more clearly where you stand as a creative artist, work successfully choreographing and directing groups, and demonstrate through your choreographic practices and written work a unique and more specific point of view.

Course Objectives

1. Learning to organize and direct your choreography for solo and group. This includes rehearsal organization, your personal preparation and time management, clear communication with your classmates and most likely an embodied “final product” of all these objectives (choreographic studies).
2. Understanding historic compositional tools for solo and group forms and demonstrating ability to manipulate and develop solo and group movement material.
3. Being able to articulate your choreographic choices and artistic leanings both through embodiment and writing.
4. Being able to give coherent, supportive and clear feedback to your peers and with the instructor, co-creating a learning environment where everyone feels safe to experiment, speak, and very importantly, learn by trial, error, and sometimes all out failure (yes you read that right).
5. Researching choreographer/s and Dance works of interest to better situate yourself in your artistic “Family Tree” and “try on” various creative practices to see what you are attracted or averse to.

Course Requirements

1. Attendance: due to COVID-19 pandemic, this course is offered online. Attendance at all synchronous classes, showings, and required events. Absences will affect your grade profoundly. I will not be unreasonable and understand personal emergencies, unexpected illness, and injury— e-mail me immediately concerning such. If you are injured, you are still required to attend class and participate in any way you are able. If you are absent, you are responsible for taking the initiative to catch up with your assignments and must be prepared to show work on assigned due dates—there is no “make up” for your work. Constant tardiness will also impact your grade negatively.
 - Attendance is MANDATORY! Participation is the only way to meet the objectives of this course.
 - You must be present for all scheduled classes.
 - If you are not present when attendance is taken, you are late and you will be considered absent until you inform the instructor of your presence.
2. Assigned creative and written work and showings must be turned in and presented according to course calendar, which is flexible and also subject to change as we go along.
3. A focused intent to perform, clearly and with conviction, all work in this class and to conduct yourself professionally and generously with your collaborators.

Required Performance and Event Dates

You are required to see two shows (The BFA Showcase and Agbedidi).

➤ **Semester Calendar:**

➤ **September**

- 08 - Faculty Auditions 6:30 - 8:30pm (Virtual)
- 09 and 10 – Fall BFA 2020 Showcase Auditions 6:30 - 8:30PM (Virtual)

➤ **October**

- 9 – BFA Program Audition (Virtual)
- 12 – UnShowing #1 6:30 – 8:30pm (Virtual)

➤ **November:**

- 09 – UnShowing #2 6:30 – 8:30pm (Virtual)
- 19, 20, 21 - BFA Showcase at 7:30pm (Virtual)
- 22 - BFA Showcase at 2pm (Virtual)

➤ **December**

- 4 and 5 - Agbedidi at 7:30pm (Virtual)
- 6 - Agbedidi at 2pm (Virtual)
- 07 – Final UnShowing 6:30 PM (Virtual)

Assignments

Composition assignments: involve the continued exploration, creation and development of movement studies.

1. The Death of Cleopatra
2. Image Study
3. Music Study 1
4. Music Study 2
5. Duet Study
6. Group Study

Writing Assignments:

Class Journal

Students are expected to keep a class journal which reflects on their own personal creative progress in this course. You are encouraged to jot down as many details about your process as possible including ideas that surface, successes and errors, development of study structure to name a few.

Journal Due by: December 4th, 2020 - No late Journals accepted.

Writing Responses

Throughout the semester, various writing assignments will be in the form of responses to videos watched and/or prompts provided to generate critical thinking and analysis.

Grading Criteria

Solo Studies 60%
Duet Study 15%
Group Study 15%
Class Journal 5%

Writing Responses 5%
TOTAL 100%

*** It is assumed that at this upper-class level of engagement that you will attend class and work with professionalism and shared respect. There are no grade percentages for these-- they are life attributes and skills. A lack of such will be recognizable in your conduct, written and embodied work.

Grades

95 – 100 A
90 – 94 A-
87 – 89 B+
84 – 86 B
80 – 83 B-
77 – 79 C+
74 – 76 C
70 – 73 C-
65 – 69 D+
60 – 64 D
59 and below F

EACH STUDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MONITORING HER/HIS OWN PROGRESS

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

As a member of the University of Florida community, we expect you to hold yourself and your peers to the highest standards of [honesty and integrity](#). If you need, or would like more feedback from the instructor, please do not be afraid to ask. You are welcome and encouraged to make an appointment during the semester to discuss your progress or any other question you may have. This is your education and you have a right to expect the fullest experience that can be provided for you. Please remember that unless you come to me personally with a problem, it will be assumed that you are doing well in the course and meeting course expectations.

***The schedule and procedures in this course are subject to change.**

Dance Composition 3 Fall 2020
Online

Week 1	
Day 1 – 9/1	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Checking in• Knowing Your Creative Self• 8 Principles in Composition – Where are these principles important/what context?• Understanding Evaluation Rubrics• What do you need?• Assignment: Methods of Composition 5 (reading)
Day 2 – 9/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Checking in

	<p>Identifying principles in composition: video watching activity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i3JLbFvrZ3Q https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qN4jYgY_5W4&feature=emb_title https://vimeo.com/370409777 https://vimeo.com/320322456 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methods of Composition 5 – discussion https://www.alvinailey.org/performances/repertory/mass Assignment: Video Watching – Abstract on Netflix
Week 2	
Day 1 – 9/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Checking in Abstract – discussion Video Watching – A Choreographer’s Creative Process – Wayne McGregor Ted Talk: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KPPxXeoIzRY Chroma (Duet): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2SMmL6kIx-w Watch Chroma and identify principles in composition. Giving Feedback Assignment: Dance Film Webinar https://vimeo.com/416544253?fbclid=IwAR3OwODXzJ9uXtYtOoy2ZhULWY0xnkshxhKEuraAEI6q_m_jrKAwjAG4OiM
Day 2 – 9/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Checking in Visual Exploration: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/national-museum-of-modern-and-contemporary-art-korea?hl=en https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/29/museum-of-underwater-art-to-open-inside-australia-great-barrier-reef.html The Death of Cleopatra* study <ol style="list-style-type: none"> https://artsandculture.google.com/exhibit/edmonia-lewis/gQJi3NKm3VagLg?hl=en Develop a 2-5 minute choreographic study based on the sculpture by Edmonia Lewis Research Cleopatra Use chair as prop
Week 3	
Day 1 – 9/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Death of Cleopatra Study Showing: work in progress/peer feedback
Day 2 – 9/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Death of Cleopatra Study Final Showing Image Study Select a painting from Visual Exploration Museum Research: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Author biography Author’s work Artwork reviews Making associations What questions are you asking yourself? Develop a 2-5 minute choreographic study based on the painting you selected <i>Note: make study relatable to the performance space</i>
Week 4	

Day 1 – 9/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • <i>Individual Feedback -The Death of Cleopatra Study</i> – Schedule TBA • Image Study Showing: work in progress
Day 2 – 9/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Image Study Showing: work in progress/peer feedback • Assignment: The Process of a Choreographer – Steven Butler https://www.ted.com/talks/steven_butler_the_process_of_a_choreographer_a_new_way_to_view_dance Synesthesia Musicality
Week 5	
Day 1 – 9/29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Image Study Final Showing • Listening Exercise – Visualizing Music: have color pencils and paper for the activity • Mapping out music exercise: Memory Mist • Assignment: Find three distinct pieces of music and create artwork
Day 2 – 10/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • <i>Individual Feedback Image Study:</i> schedule TBA • Music Study 1 Develop a choreographic study based on Memory Mist <i>Note: make study relatable to the performance space</i>
Week 6	
Day 1 – 10/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Music Study 1 Showing: work in progress/peer feedback
Day 2 – 10/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Music Study 1 Final Showing
Week 7	
Day 1 – 10/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • <i>Individual Feedback: Music Study 1</i>
Day 2 – 10/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Music Study 2 Develop a 2-5 minute choreographic study based on the music piece of your choice. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Create the work on your partner ○ Think outside the box ○ Making associations <i>Note: make study relatable to the performance space</i>
Week 8	

Day 1 – 10/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Music Study 2 Showing: work in progress
Day 2 – 10/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Music Study 2 Showing: work in progress/peer feedback
Week 9	
Day 1 – 10/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Music Study 2 Final Showing
Day 2 – 10/29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • <i>Individual Feedback: Music Study 2</i> • Duet Study (site specific – outdoor environment) Develop a 2-5 minute choreographic study based on your exploration of the outdoor environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Collaborate with a partner ○ Select music ○ Explore ○ Making associations • <i>Note: make study relatable to the performance space</i>
Week 10	
Day 1 – 11/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Duet Study: work in progress
Day 2 – 11/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Duet Study Showing: work in progress/peer feedback
Week 11	
Day 1 – 11/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Duet Study Final Showing • Group Study (dance film) Develop a 2-5 minute choreographic study based on your exploration of the outdoor environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Collaborate with group ○ Pick a theme ○ Select music ○ Explore ○ Think outside the box ○ Making associations • <i>Note: make study relatable to the performance space</i>
Day 2 – 11/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • <i>Individual Feedback: Duet Study</i> • Group Study (dance film)
Week 12	
Day 1 – 11/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Group Study work in progress
Day 2 – 11/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group Study work in progress
Week 13	
Day 1 – 11/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Group Study Showing: work in progress/peer feedback
Day 2 – 11/26	Thanksgiving
Week 14	
Day 1 - 12/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Group Study work in progress
Day 2 – 12/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Group Study work in progress
Week 15	
Day 1 – 12/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Group Study Final Showing/Feedback

- Stimulating the senses
 - Painting
 - Music
 - Literature
 - Dance
- Stimulating research
 - Author biography
 - Author's work
 - Artwork review
 - Making associations

Resources

1. <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/national-museum-of-modern-and-contemporary-art-korea?hl=en>
2. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/29/museum-of-underwater-art-to-open-inside-australia-great-barrier-reef.html>
3. <https://artsandculture.google.com/exhibit/edmonia-lewis/gQJi3NKm3VagLg?hl=en>
4. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hEVQdkRtbqI>
5. <https://vimeo.com/271644265>
6. <https://www.numeridanse.tv/en/home>
7. <https://search-alexanderstreet-com.lp.hscl.ufl.edu>
8. <http://www.ubu.com/dance/>
9. http://www.ubu.com/dance/forsythe_flat.html
10. http://www.ubu.com/film/forsythe_solo.html

11. http://www.ubu.com/film/juku_butoh.html
12. http://www.ubu.com/dance/khan_if.html
13. https://fod-infobase-com.lp.hscl.ufl.edu/p_Search.aspx?bc=0&rd=a&q=dance

Notes for studies:

- **Make dances relatable to space. Interact with furniture and other elements in the space.**
- **Think outside the box**
- **Explore**

Dance Area Attendance Policy:

For classes that meet two times a week:

- students can take 2 absences with no documentation with no penalty.
- If the third absence is unexcused, it will result in 5% deduction from the final grade.
- Excused or unexcused, on the third absence, a meeting is required with the instructor and/or area faculty to assess the student's continued participation in the course.
- If the fourth absence and all subsequent absences are unexcused, each will result in an additional 5% deduction from the final grade.
- Due to the nature of this course, opportunities to make up missed material is up to the instructor's discretion and may be made available through online assignments.

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 *virtual* 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 the SoTD

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.

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)

Student on-line 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. The instructor is the only person that views your written comments.

Summary results of these assessments are available to students at

<https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>

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 (source: <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.

Netiquette: Communication Courtesy: All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats.

If applicable: For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Canvas, please contact the UF

Help Desk at:

- (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 .

Dance Program Fall 2020 COVID protocols:

Excerpted and adapted from: *Coronavirus SoTD Fall 2020 Class & Production Practices* from Jenny Goelz and Peter Carpenter

For hybrid/in person courses, protocols for all faculty and students should be as such:

- Wear a facemask or cloth face covering during all indoor/in person classes... If activities are located outdoors, then masks are only necessary when individuals are unable to maintain a 6-foot distance. Comfort levels vary and no one in the SoTD community is required to refrain from wearing a mask under any outdoor/indoor circumstance.
 - A properly worn facemask covers both nose and mouth. The fitted N95 mask is most effective and disposable surgical, and multi-layered cloth masks have also been tested to be effective. (Article: <https://olv.duke.edu/news/researchers-created-a-test-to-determine-which-masks-are-the-least-effective/>. Duke University published study here: <https://advances.sciencemaq.org/content/early/2020/08/07/sciadv.abd3083>)
 - **If a student attempts to attend class without a facemask, as per UF protocol, the instructor will ask the student to wear a mask or leave the classroom/studio. If the student refuses to wear a mask, the instructor will report the student to the Student Affairs COVID-19 Education Office.**
- Use hand sanitizer or wash hands at the top of each class in shared spaces. Re-sanitization is needed if individuals use restroom facilities, touch their face, sneeze, or cough.
- Stay home and seek medical help for COVID-19 symptoms or exposure (persistent cough, fever 100.4+, new loss of taste or smell, muscle pain/headaches, shortness of breath, sore throat, chills, diarrhea, or feeling generally ill). **The culture of hiding illness or the “show must go on” mentality must be avoided.**
- Students will be asked to sanitize and strike individual chairs, ballet barres, etc. Instructor of record will specify protocols for each room cleaning supplies will be provided.
- Immediately dispose of personal trash in appropriate bags/containers. Do not leave tissues, paper towels, bandaids, tape, water bottles, or any other personal refuse on the floors or in the space.
- For everyone’s understanding: **avoid touch/skin to skin contact in staging, choreography, costume fittings, and during other class and production activities.** In our field, it is hard to refrain but for the safety of others and ourselves, until it’s safer, the most loving thing we can do is continue to provide ample distance to lessen viral spread.
- Students are asked to depart class promptly at the end of class and avoid lingering following outdoor and indoor rehearsals. Instructors of record will provide specific class protocols for arriving, departing class, and class breaks.
- Bring shelf-stable lunches and snacks to enjoy on your breaks outside. **The SoTD Breakfast Room, break area in the Costume Studio, SoTD Atrium, and studio space hallways are no longer available (no Dance Area carpet).** There are food options for purchase in the Reitz Union and there will be some limited available study areas in the lower Atrium lobby level.
- Class schedules will be affected by the need to lengthen breaks to air out rooms, encourage hydration (it is hard to keep hydrated with a mask on), and allow adequate time for socially distanced bathroom breaks/hand washing. Staggered breaks will be avoided to ensure that all involved are able to have a moment of rest.

For in studio hybrid technique courses, movement limitations include:

- No lying down
- No rolling
- No traveling across the floor
- 10' x 10' (or similar) taped areas will delineate the student's area of personal space. All movement must stay within these limits.

Class attire and preparation:

- SoTD Dressing rooms are not accessible. For studio classes in McGuire, please come to class dressed to dance. In the O'Connell building and other alternative spaces, public bathrooms are available but should not be considered alternative dressing rooms. All use of public bathrooms should remain socially distanced with masks as per UF mandate.
- Masks are to be worn for the entirety of the class. If masks need to be removed for any reason, please exit the studio/class area and find the nearest *out door* space.
- Intact socks (no holes) should be worn in technique classes in substitution for ballet shoes or bare feet. NO street shoes in any dance spaces.

These parameters are for our community's safety. As humane artists, let's exercise our responsibility to care for one another and model global best practices during this very difficult time. *It will pass eventually* and though we don't know exactly how the world will be on the other side, ***we will dance freely once again.***