

## **UF School of Theater and Dance**

### **DAA4930-4F50(27309) - Special Topics**

#### **I. COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: DAN 3614 Music for Dance**

Semester & Year: Spring

Meeting Days and Times: M/W 12:50pm – 2:45pm

Building and Room: Nadine McGuire – G06

#### **II. INSTRUCTOR:**

Name: Kenneth Kramer Metzker

Email: kmetzker@arts.ufl.edu

Phone:

Office Hours: By Appointment

#### **III. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The Music for Dance course will introduce students to the fundamental elements of music most closely connected to the practice of dance. Students will study music theory, music terminology, aural training, singing, rhythm, music embodiment, improvisation, music history and compositional approaches. Kenneth's expertise in music of the African Diaspora, as well as his training in classical percussion and piano, will make the course well rounded, exploring a variety of both Western and Non-Western musical styles and cultural influences as they relate to dance. Students will develop a deeper understanding of musicality and how it relates to their dance practice through class exercises, music-based compositional approaches to choreography, embodying music vocabulary and understanding how to communicate with collaborating musicians and composers. Students will develop listening skills and keep a journal throughout the entire course. Test quizzes, exercises, journaling and creating musical/dance compositions created from the material studied will provide students with an intimate understanding of music and how it relates to the world of dance.

#### **IV. LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

1. Communicate clearly about music, especially in relationship to dance, using a musically literate vocabulary.
2. Create a richer and more vital relationship to music when dancing; comment insightfully on the musicality expressed through choreography and by individual dancers.
3. Identify and describe important features of the formal organization of pieces of music from a variety of historical and stylistic sources.
4. Know the use of musical concepts and terminology and how they might affect movement.
5. Identify (aurally) forms of melodic and harmonic sonorities and specific emotions

that each might suggest.

6. Select music (for dance) with an awareness of the historical and cultural connotations delivered by the music of different styles.
7. Practice application of above outcomes in choreography and performance.

## **V. REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS:**

- “Ear Training for the Body: A Dancers Guide to Music.” By Katherine Teck (please purchase and have with you during class.)

- Other course readings, audio, and video files will be provided electronically or in class. - Please set up a free account with Spotify at [www.spotify.com](http://www.spotify.com).

## **VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES: Expectations:**

Student will

- Attend classes regularly, be on time and ready to work for the entire class period.
- Maintain a professional working attitude.
- Participate in all in class activities, engaging fully both mentally and physically.
- Strive to improve individual progress by demonstrating increased strength, flexibility and an increased awareness of body alignment, timing and spatial pathways.
- Observe dance class etiquette (cell phone use, dress code, lateness policy etc...)
- Strive to apply given corrections and concepts to movement.

### **Assignments:**

#### **Journal Entries**

Students will keep a journal during the course of the semester to document:

- 1) the learning process
- 2) important concepts and thoughts from class readings
- 3) creative exercises and processes explored in class

*Journals should be typed, but there are no style or length requirements. Entries should show thoughtfulness on the class readings, lectures, listening, and exercises and connect these ideas to their larger artistic practice and goals.*

#### **Quizzes**

Two quizzes will be administered throughout the semester. Each quiz will consist of short answer questions, listening identification, and a short essay related to the class readings. Quizzes are open note, but you are expected to take the quiz alone and do your own work.

#### **Performance reviews**

Students will be required to attend 2 performances: one related to dance and one purely a musical performance. For each performance, write a brief (1-2 pages) description/analysis of the performance.

Try to incorporate and interact with ideas and concepts from our class readings and discussions in your analysis. The paper is due at the first class meeting after the performance you attend.

### **Choreographic Studies**

Students will work to create short choreographies based on musical elements and styles studied throughout the course, incorporating a variety of approaches:

#### **Study #1: Meter and Rhythm**

Students will individually choreograph a 60-second piece that explores the rhythmic concepts covered in class. This should be choreographed to an excerpt of music that prominently features rhythm. (Suggested music TBD).

**Study #2: Applying compositional approaches to choreography.** In small groups, students will choose one stylistic period of music and create a 60-second choreography based on the compositional strategies/concepts of the time period.

### **Final Project**

Selecting music for choreography:

In groups, students will collaboratively choreograph a three-minute work applying musical compositional approaches to choreography. Students will then apply their knowledge of musical styles as well as concepts and theories about music selection to choose appropriate music for their choreography.

**Exams:** TBD

**Presentations:** N/A

**Attendance:**

**For Studio Courses**

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.
- Requirements / opportunities to make up missed material for unexcused absences is up to the instructor's discretion
- Due to the participatory nature of the course that includes in-class collaboration along with partner and ensemble work, 2 unexcused absences may result in automatic failure of the course.

**Tardy Policy: You are late after role has been taken/class has begun.**

- Points will be deducted for being late or leaving early for any reason.
- There will be a 5 minute grace period.
- 3 tardies for regular class meetings equal 1 unexcused absence.

### **Make-up Policy**

- Excused absences (those that can be documented) may be made-up in the following manner:
  - Non-Majors: Approved Performance Event/Written Assignment
  - <http://www.shcc.ufl.edu/excuse.shtml> (Infirmary)
  - <http://dso.ufl.edu/> (Dean of Students)
  - If unable to dance, you may 'actively' observe one time for full credit.
  - You will complete an observation paper due at the end of class.

Requirements / opportunities to make up missed material for unexcused absences is up to the instructor's discretion

**Injuries are special cases.** If an injury occurs see/contact me immediately regarding absences, make-ups or possible withdrawal from the class.

**Late assignments:** Unless otherwise indicated, all homework assignments are due in class on the date listed on the syllabus. An essay received after the due date is late.

### **Studio Rules of Conduct:**

In effort to keep our dance space a peaceful, safe and clean environment for our students we ask that you observe the following:

- No gum- this is also for safety reasons since we don't want dancers choking.
- No talking, food or quick pick-me-ups during class. However, you may keep water bottles inside the studio for hydration provided they have caps to prevent spills.
- Turn off all cell phones before entering the studio. Please make this a habit. All phone calls must take place outside of the studio and NEVER during class time. If you have an emergency situation you should inform the instructor prior to the start of class. Ringing cell phones, texting etc. are disruptive to classroom activity. Please be considerate.

Note: To help organize accommodations, students should inform the instructor by the end of the second week of classes of religious observances of their faith that will conflict with class attendance this semester. Any absence from class for the following reasons must be supported by official acceptable documentation to avoid a grade penalty: illness (doctor's note must be on official letterhead with address and phone number, noting the date and time of visit and diagnosis verifying that an absence from class is warranted and when the return to class activity is expected, doctor name and signature), serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate, court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena).

## VII. COURSE SCHEDULE AND TOPIC OUTLINE:

Class schedule is subject to modification, but not without prior notification.

Please note class material is sequential and comprehensive. Please take time to review movement sequences before and after class.

Week One	· Introduction · Intro to Music Theory/Rhythm
Week Two	· Intro to Harmony and Melody/Terminology
Week Three	· Music Theory/Rhythm/Melody/Terminology
Week Four	· Intro to Musical Form
Week Five	· Phrasing/Musical Sonorities/Form Structure
Week Six	· Musical Expression/Sonorities
Week Seven	· Quiz#1/ Review Material
Week Eight	· Choreographic study #1 due/ West African/Afro-Caribbean/South/Central American music
Week Nine	· Asian/Middle Eastern/Indian music
Week Ten	· American Folk Music
Week Eleven	· Jazz/Latin Jazz/Dixieland/New Orleans/Swing/
Week Twelve	· Choreographic Study #2

Week Thirteen	· Quiz#2/American Popular Music
Week Fourteen	· Final Project Presentations
Week Fifteen	· Final Project Presentations
Week Sixteen	<b>Finals Week</b> <b>No regular class.</b>

### Final Course Grade:

Your final grade is determined by your performance on a number of different tasks:

Quizzes	20%
Journal Entries	10%
Performance reviews	20%
Choreographic Studies	20%
Final Project	10%
Participation	20%
TOTAL	100%

Participation will be evaluated primarily on your performance in class including:

1. Work- the amount of effort a student gives to master new concepts.
2. Progress- the growth and development of physical and musical capabilities and understanding.
3. Attitude- a constructive, positive interest must be apparent toward the group and the material, with a willing, open approach to try new methods and ideas.
4. Discipline- the student's consistent commitment to performing the exercises and carrying out the assignments.
5. Achievement- the understanding and refinement of assignments. The total accomplishment made over the course of the semester.

**Letter grades translate to percentages as follows:**

### 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

## Semester Calendar

TBA

## University Policies

1. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [dso.ufl.edu/drc](http://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.

2. 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 [gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/](http://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 [ufl.bluera.com/ufl/](http://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at [gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/](http://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/).

### Semester Calendar:

#### January

**11 – Welcome Back Dance Area Meeting with Students & Dance faculty 6:00-7:30 PM via Zoom**

13-14 – Spring BFA Showcase Auditions 6:30 - 8:30pm (Zoom link TBA)

14-17 – DIAS Guest Residency with Ryan-Oliva Lundy

18 – No classes, Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

22 – Dance Program BFA auditions (online)

## **February**

4 – SoTD Town Hall 1-2:45 PM

22 – UnShowing #1 – tentative/subject to change and via Zoom

## **March**

1 – UnShowing #2 – tentative/subject to change and via Zoom

26-28 Dance 2021 (virtual/online)

31 – SoTD Town Hall 1-2:45 PM

## **April**

15-18 – Spring BFA Showcase (virtual/online)

21 – classes end

22-23 – Reading Days