

## DANCE ENSEMBLE – DAA 4685 SPRING 2021

### **Instructor of Record:**

Assistant Professor Elizabeth Johnson

[ejohnson@arts.ufl.edu](mailto:ejohnson@arts.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 here:** <http://arts.ufl.edu/syllabi/>

**Office:** Room 234, Nadine McGuire Theatre & Dance Pavilion

**Office Hours:** W 1-3 PM (Zoom link below), Fridays by appointment (please email)

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/95137949519?pwd=MG4waWlwdVA0dmlpUElyMXZRdkhJdz09> **Passcode: 320642**

**Office Phone:** 352-273-0522

### **Catalog Description:**

This course is designed to develop technical range and performance skills through the study and production of dance repertory within the experience of faculty repertory.

### **Course Description**

This course is designed to give you an experience that prepares you for the professional dance field. Credit can be current or retroactive. Dancers in my choreographic work are collaborators in original choreography or the reimagining of already existent choreography. They are expected to adapt to the physical and philosophical demands of that particular aesthetic and particular dance. Cast members collaborate and experiment in these areas: movement invention/vocabulary, theatrical expression (may include talking, singing, manipulation of props), and performance quality. This process culminates with the performance of a dance work in a UF Dance Program performance. For those earning credit through others' works, I will receive the grade from the choreographer with whom you are working.

### **Expectations and Grading Criteria**

- Please be prompt and on time to rehearsals warm up, review choreography, and be physically and mentally prepared to dance.
- Please conduct yourself in a professional and courteous manner which includes:
  - Limited conversation – all conversations should be related to the actual rehearsal.
  - Working only on material that is related to the choreography (no comp assignments or other choreographers' works).
  - Staying active and involved in the process—no lying down, sleeping, or isolating one's self from the group/class community. \*\*If you are not feeling well, need personal space, etc., only ask—all that is needed is clear communication.
- Please try not to miss rehearsal. Extreme exceptions, personal emergencies or any hint of sickness (fever, vomiting, flu) are completely excused. Try to notify me prior to rehearsal if possible.
- In order to perform the work, you must be present at all spacing and technical rehearsals on stage as well as on time for call during performance week. ← applicable in digital equivalents.
- **If you do miss rehearsal, please contact me immediately by phone or e-mail. I will provide you with my cell phone number.**

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- To expand the dancer's expressive and qualitative range of movement and performance.
- To develop performance qualities which include: musicality, dynamics, spatial clarity, technical specificity, etc.
- To foster the student's capacity to adapt to varying choreographers' approaches to the creative process.
- To provide the student with experiences that strengthen the sense of shared responsibility within a pre-professional creative environment.
- To transfer skills being learned in technique class to a rehearsal context.
- To gain experience and develop an understanding of how to work in an ensemble.
- To empower the person/dancer/ thinker/choreographer in each student.

### **DRESS POLICY:**

Attire in class should be neat, clean and allow for clear execution and observation of alignment and movement. Hair should be secured to allow for full and vigorous moving. Please do not wear watches or jewelry that might be harmful or inhibit movement.

### **Required Meetings, Audition, and Showings:**

#### **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)

19 – **Disaster & the Body event** with Michelle Gibson and the artists of Y No Habia Luz, time **TBD** (virtual/online)

21 – classes end

22-23 – Reading Days

### **Critical Response Appointments for Spring Semester TBA (expect during last 2 weeks of classes):**

BFA seniors graduating and all Dance majors: it is your responsibility to know your schedule. Groups, dates, and links will be announced through the Dance Area Headquarters Canvas site.

### **COURSE POLICIES**

#### **DURING THE PANDEMIC PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM PRIOR TO MISSING CLASS:**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScBfcz0c-D5jOI9dCV3KgzGOYX9WI91b7E-3fyfHmImA50TaA/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScBfcz0c-D5jOI9dCV3KgzGOYX9WI91b7E-3fyfHmImA50TaA/viewform?usp=sf_link)

#### **should you develop Covid symptoms, contact UF Screen, Test, & Protect immediately:**

<https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/screen-test-protect-2/frequently-asked-questions/covid-19-exposure-and-symptoms-who-do-i-call-if/>

We will have face-to-face instructional sessions to accomplish the student learning objectives of this course. In response to COVID-19, the following policies and requirements are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions.

- **You are required to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings.** Following and enforcing these policies and requirements are all of our responsibility. **Failure to do so will lead to a report to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.**
- This course has been assigned a physical classroom/space with enough capacity to maintain physical distancing (6 feet between individuals) requirements. Please utilize designated seats/spaces and maintain appropriate spacing between students. Please do not move desks or stations.
- Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks/spaces prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
- Follow your instructor's guidance on how to enter and exit the classroom. Practice physical distancing to the extent possible when entering and exiting the classroom.

- If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms ([Click here for guidance from the CDC on symptoms of coronavirus](#)), please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. [Click here for UF Health guidance on what to do if you have been exposed to or are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms](#).
- Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. [Find more information in the university attendance policies](#).

#### **To accommodate students who must be online:**

Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. **Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image.** Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. **As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.**

#### **SoTD Dance Attendance:**

##### **Dance Technique Class Attendance Guide**

- Mindful participation in each class meeting is the only way to meet the objectives of this course.
- Attendance is considered mandatory
- In the case of extended health issues, refer to the Injury and Illness Policy in the SoTD 2019-20 Handbook (SoTD website) and included in this syllabus.

##### **Dance Area Attendance Policy—Studio Courses**

As much as is safely possible] Students are expected to participate in in-person instruction. If a student is uncomfortable attending in-person, the student should elect courses that are delivered online only and plan to take the hybrid or face-to-face course in a future semester. In the case that the student does not have the option to take the class at a later time (i.e. a graduating senior), the student must make arrangements with the instructor to "attend" all class meetings synchronously, when available, or asynchronously if approved by the instructor. Barring the above circumstances, students are expected to be in attendance (either remotely or in-person, as assigned) daily and to be on time.

##### ***For classes that meet two times a week:***

Students can take 2 absences with no penalty; no documentation is required for the first 2 absences as they are automatically excused. 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. Opportunities to make up missed material for unexcused absences is up to the instructor's discretion and will be made available through virtual classes or online assignments.

- 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, 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)

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.

### **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/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

- 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.

### **Student on-line evaluation process**

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.ua.ufl.edu/students/](http://gatorevals.ua.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 <https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

### **UF POLICIES**

#### **University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities:**

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <https://disability.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.

#### **University Policy on Academic Misconduct:**

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 (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-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.

#### **Counseling and Wellness Center contact information:**

Web: [counseling.ufl.edu/](http://counseling.ufl.edu/) 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.

### **GETTING HELP**

If applicable: For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at: (352) 392-HELP (352-392-4357) - select option 2, <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/>

**Please take advantage of these services:**

**Campus Resources:**

- Health and Wellness U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit <https://umatter.ufl.edu/> to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit [counseling.ufl.edu/](https://counseling.ufl.edu/) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit <https://shcc.ufl.edu/>
- University Police Department: Visit <https://police.ufl.edu/> or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; <http://ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center>

**ADDITIONAL MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES:**

1. UF has an Equal Access Mental Health Clinic that has a Free Therapy Night every Monday night that UF is considered open. Here is the FB page through which one can book appointments as well: <https://www.facebook.com/equalaccessclinic/>

2. The UF School of Medicine Equal Access Clinic website is here and has the above mental health services as well as specialized Women's and LGBT medicine: <https://equalaccess.med.ufl.edu/specialty-clinics-classes/>

3. Alachua County Crisis Center web site:

<https://alachuacounty.us/depts/css/crisiscenter/pages/services.aspx>

Offers Crisis Counseling as well as a Mobile Response Unit that attends to severe mental health crises.

**Academic Resources**

- E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).
- Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services <https://career.ufl.edu/>
- Library Support: <https://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/> ask various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>
- Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>
- Student Complaints On-Campus: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/>
- On-Line Students Complaints: <https://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/>

**General Information**

**Student Injury and Illness Policy:**

The Dance Area of SoTD believes that dance student's physical and mental well-being is paramount to success in all arenas of their dance training, from class to the stage. In the case of injury, fostering a productive and holistic response insures a speedy and effective recovery.

**FIRST: Please contact the Dance Wellness Clinic through the Canvas site. The protocol for accessing appointments is here:**

[https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/414412/discussion\\_topics/2671475](https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/414412/discussion_topics/2671475)

**Also: email Kirsten [kcunha@ufl.edu](mailto:kcunha@ufl.edu) for assistance**

If the dance student becomes ill or injured to the degree that they cannot attend and participate in dance classes, SoTD sponsored rehearsals, or performances, the 5 steps of the dance student injury and illness policy are to be followed:

1. The student is required to see a health care professional immediately.
2. If the illness or injury prevents the student from participation in dance class, rehearsal, or

performance, the student is to request documentation from the health care professional that explicitly projects the duration of the injury, and/or the amount and type of activity recommended for the welfare of the student.

3. Following the appointment with the health care professional, the student is required to bring medical recommendations and related documentation to the attention of his or her instructor(s), choreographer(s), or director(s) as the basis for discussion.
4. Unless otherwise medically advised, the student is prohibited from active participation in all related UFdance activities, classes, events, performances, etc. The student may not personally select one activity as having a higher priority over another. The student is not to dance in any events, activities, performances or rehearsals if the student is not in dance class. If the infirmity culminates in a medical withdrawal, this is also a withdrawal from all performance related activities.
5. The student is never allowed to sacrifice classroom participation for the demands of a performance. The student will not be allowed to participate in a performance if they miss dance class due to an injury. The student is expected to follow the student injury and illness policy even if performances take place beyond the scope of SoTD, as with another UF, professional, or community performing group, etc.

### **Dance Program Spring 2021 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... Activities located outdoors on the UF campus also require masks in certain demarcated areas and 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.sciencemag.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, band-aids, 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 or limited 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.***