

UF School of Theater and Dance

DAA 3614 Dance Composition 3

I. COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: DAA 3614 Dance Composition 3

Semester & Year: Fall 2021

Meeting Days and Times: T/TH 12:50pm-2:45pm

Building and Room: G10

II. INSTRUCTOR:

Name: Augusto Soledade

Email: asoledade@ufl.edu

Phone: (352) 273-0506

Office Hours: T/Th from 3:00-4:30pm

III. 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, discover 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 voice. 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

IV. LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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.
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 co-creating a learning environment where everyone feels safe to experiment, speak and, very importantly, learn by trial and error.
5. Researching choreographers and dance works of interest to better situate yourself in your artistic “Family Tree” and “try on” various creative practices to what you are attracted or averse to.

V. REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS:

Reading/Viewing Assignments:

- Methods of Composition 2 (available on Canvas)
- Video Watching – Abstract on Netflix
- Dance Film Webinar : https://vimeo.com/416544253?fbclid=IwAR3OwODXzJ9uXrYtOoy2ZhULWY0xnkshxhKEuraAEI6q_m_jrKAwjAG40iM

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.
- Observe dance class etiquette (cell phone use, dress code, lateness policy etc...)

Assignments

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 our process as possible including ideas that surface as you engage in creating, successes and errors, development of study structure, etc.

Journal due by December 3rd, 2021 – no late journals accepted

Writing Responses

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

Dance Concert Attendance Assignment:

Attend at least two dance concerts this semester. You may choose two out of the following: BFA Showcase, Agbedidi, or any dance performance presented at the University Performing Arts

Center. Attentive Observation: as you watch the performance, pay close attention to approaches, cultural contexts and artistic choices brought about in the work and compare it to your experience in class. The objective is to understand the intricacies and complexities in art making. Avoid making judgement.

Performance Assignments: N/A

Exams: N/A

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 1	
Day 1 – 8/24	<p>Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Knowing Your Creative Self • 7 Principles in Composition – Where are these principles important/what context? • Understanding Evaluation Rubrics • What do you need? • Assignment: Methods of Composition 2 (reading)
Day 2 – 8/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in <p>Identifying principles in composition: video watching activity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i3JLbFvrZ3Q 2. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qN4jYgY_5W4&feature=emb_title 3. https://vimeo.com/370409777 4. https://vimeo.com/320322456 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methods of Composition 2 – discussion https://www.alvinaley.org/performances/repertory/mass • Assignment: Video Watching – Abstract on Netflix
Week 2	
Day 1 – 8/31	<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=2SMmL6klx-w Watch Chroma and identify principles in composition. • Giving Feedback Assignment: Dance Film Webinar https://vimeo.com/416544253?fbclid=IwAR30wODXzJ9uXtYtOoy2ZhULWY0xnksbXhKEuraAEI6q_m_jrKAwjAG4OIM
Day 2 – 9/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Visual Exploration: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/national-museum-of-modern-and-contemporary-art-korea?hl=en 2. https://www.cbbc.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"> 1. 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 – 9/07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Death of Cleopatra Study Showing: work in progress/peer feedback
Day 2 – 9/09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Death of Cleopatra Study Final Showing

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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? <p>Develop a 2-5 minute choreographic study based on the painting you selected</p>
Week 4	
Day 1 – 9/14	<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 – 9/16	<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 – 9/21	<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: music work TBA • Assignment: Find three distinct pieces of music and create artwork
Day 2 – 9/23	<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 provided score
Week 6	
Day 1 – 9/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Music Study 1 Showing: work in progress/peer feedback
Day 2 – 9/30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Music Study 1 Final Showing
Week 7	
Day 1 – 10/05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • <i>Individual Feedback: Music Study 1</i>

Day 2 – 10/07	<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
Week 8	
Day 1 – 10/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Music Study 2 Showing: work in progress
Day 2 – 10/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Music Study 2 Showing: work in progress/peer feedback
Week 9	
Day 1 – 10/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Music Study 2 Final Showing
Day 2 – 10/21	<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
Week 10	
Day 1 – 10/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Duet Study: work in progress
Day 2 – 10/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Duet Study Showing: work in progress/peer feedback
Week 11	
Day 1 – 11/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Duet Study Final Showing • Group Study Develop a 3-5 minute choreographic study Collaborate with group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pick a theme ○ Select music ○ Explore ○ Think outside the box ○ Making associations
Day 2 – 11/04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • <i>Individual Feedback: Duet Study</i> • Group Study

Week 12	
Day 1 – 11/09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Group Study work in progress
Day 2 – 11/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Group Study work in progress
Week 13	
Day 1 – 11/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Group Study Showing: work in progress
Day 2 – 11/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Group Study Showing: work in progress
Week 14	
Day 1 -11/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Group Study work in progress
Day 2 – 11/25	<i>Thanksgiving</i>
Week 15	
Day 1 – 11/30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Checking in Group Study work in progress
Day 1 – 12/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Checking in Group Study work in progress
Week 16	
Day 1 – 12/07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking in • Group Study Final Showing/Feedback *(there's a possibility that we do the final showing for this class in the last Unshowing)

Note: make study relatable to the performance space if study is not performed in the studio

VIII. GRADING CRITERIA:

Final Course Grade:

Your final grade is determined by completing a number of different tasks:

Solo Studies	30%
Duet Study	30%
Group Study	25%
Written Assignments	15%

Dance Concert Attendance	15%
TOTAL	100%

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

Monday, August 23

6:30pm-7:30pm Dance Welcome Meeting

Wednesday, August 25

6:30pm-8:30pm Faculty Audition

Thursday, August 26

6:30pm-8:30pm BFA Seniors Audition

Friday, September 24

12:00pm-3:00pm Dance Retreat

Tuesday, September 28

11:15am-12:30pm SoTD Town Hall (Zoom)

Monday, October 4

6:30pm-8:00pm Dance Open Conversation (Zoom)

Friday, October 15

9:00am – 4:00pm BFA Program Audition

Friday, October 29 and Saturday October, 30
All day Young Dancers Workshop

Wednesday, November 3
1:30pm-2:45pm SoTD Town Hall (Zoom)

Wednesday, November 3 through Sunday, November 7
11/3-11/6 - 7:00pm BFA Showcase
11/7 2:00pm

Monday, November 8
6:30pm-8:00pm Dance Open Conversation (Zoom)

Friday, November 12
12:00pm-3:00pm Dance retreat

Friday, December 3 through Sunday, December 5
12/3-12/4 7:00pm Agbedidi
12/5 2:00pm

University Policies

1. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, 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/. 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/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.