BFA Senior Project (Choreography) Syllabus
DAN 4959
Fall 2021
Meetings: Dates TBA
UnShowings: Select Mondays 6:30 G-6

II. INSTRUCTOR/Mentor

Name: Isa Garcia-Rose
Email: isa@ufl.edu
Phone: 352-294-0457
Office Hours: Wednesday 10:30-12:30pm & by appointment request

Senior Project (Choreographic) Summary

The dance program has provided the student with an exceptional and supportive opportunity/experience that requires them to combine her/his skills as a choreographer, producer, and writer to achieve success; a culmination of the training you have received in the program that has prepared you for this capstone course. The focus of the Senior Project is the creative process/research behind an original dance that will be adjudicated for inclusion in the fall showcase. The actual work is to be a *group piece* (usually four or more performers), with a running time of no more than *eight-minutes* (final performance time). You work *as a class* to produce the showcase simultaneously while you work on your creative project. (Please note that all works adjudicated for the showcase will be performed together in the venue established by the dance program/director.) Finally, you will articulate your creative research in a thesis-style paper. You will be assigned a mentor/advisor by the dance area.

The emphasis is on creative process/research. It is important to recognize that even with the best planning and creative determination, some projects may not be adjudicated (accepted) into the showcase. This does not indicate failure of the course. To the contrary, depending on how you utilize the situation and continue to contribute to the showcase and finish your writing process, it is an opportunity to grow and mature as an artist and scholar.

Objectives of the Senior Project

- The Senior is provided with the opportunity to create an original dance (group piece w/guidelines)
- The Senior is provided with the opportunity to collaborate within a group of your artistic peers to produce a showcase of quality and substance
- The Senior is provided with the opportunity to participate in the UnShowing process to receive feedback from the UF dance community
- The Senior is provided with the opportunity to work with their faculty

mentor(s) to help you explore the full potential of their choreographic voice
- The Senior is provided with the opportunity to finalize and articulate their creative process through the paper
-

Casting Guidelines and Responsibilities
- It is up to the choreographer to insure that your dancers are only in a total of three (3) dances per concert (not program).
- It is the choreographer's responsibility to inform/remind their cast of all UnShowing times, tech times, call times, show times, load-in and strike responsibilities, as well as rules for attendance of warm-up, notes, etc.
- Choreographer should also be sure their cast has a clear calendar for the performance, as we will not make individual adjustments to the performance order or schedule.

Evaluation

Points	Area	Supervisor
(deductions only)	Attendance	Director
20 pts	Creative Leadership	Mentor
20 pts	Producing Assignment	Director & SP Class
10 pts	Showcase Overall	Director
50 pts	Senior Project 'Thesis' Paper	Mentor
100 pts	Total	Grade submitted by Mentor

Attendance
Attendance will follow dance area attendance policy (please refer to modern syllabus for details). Unexcused absences are deductions on the total amount of points the student receives.

Creative Leadership
Points are given for the preparedness of the choreographer to implement her/his choreography, how well the concept was communicated to the dancers, and how well the choreographer guided their dance through the rehearsal process into performance. It can also reflect the quality of communication the choreographer had with their mentor.

Producing Assignment
Each person will be assigned a role in producing of your showcase. Even if you are working jointly with another senior, you are still responsible for the successful

completion of the assignment related to the successful running of the show. Ultimately everyone is responsible for getting the job done.

Assignments may include:
- Costumes
- Technology Czar
- Tech Czar
- Poster/PR
- Program
- Lobby
- Props

Showcase Overall
These are points given by the director for overall demeanor towards the fulfillment of the production through the beginning of the process through to strike. It can reflect the preparedness of the choreographer through the production process, such as techs, costuming deadlines, sound deadlines, etc.

Production Schedule (Schedule to be finalized prior to the start of techs):
   This listing does not include call times for cast/crew – TBA

Senior Project 'Thesis' Paper
   The Senior Project paper is the final phase of your Senior Project choreographic project; the articulation of your creative research. It is expected that you will use the following format in the writing of your Senior Project paper.

   Fall 2021 Paper Deadlines*:
   To be established with Senior Project enrollee.

RESEARCH PAPER REQUIRED FORMAT

Stay tuned for changes!

NOTE: USE MLA STYLE GUIDELINES TO WRITE PAPER
   *A GREAT and EASY-TO-USE site for **MLA** STYLE GUIDELINES:*
   http://content.easybib.com/citation-guides/mla-format/

MLA Formatting and Style Guide
   https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/

Please note for them that for the paper you will have additional requirements beyond MLA, including title page, acknowledgments. etc.

- **Title Page**, with title of paper, your name, date submitted, class name and number, and professor (no page number) See: http://content.easybib.com/citation-guides/mla-format/how-to-cite-a-scholarly-project-mla/

- **Dedication** (roman numeral ii)
- **Acknowledgements** (roman numeral iii)
- **Abstract** succinct overview of the paper (Write—or rewrite—*after* you have completed your paper) (roman numeral iv). An abstract summarizes the paper and is used by prospective readers to decide whether or not to read the entire text. Make it compelling and powerful reading (100-250 words maximum).
- **Table of Contents** (roman numeral v). Use exact title of section on left and 1st page number of the section on right: include page numbers for dedication, acknowledgments, abstract, and section headers (but do not cite page numbers for title page or Table of Contents.
- One-page **Introduction** to topic (pages 1 and 2)
  - *Problem and Purpose Statement: who or what are you proposing to discover, challenge, understand, illuminate. Purpose of paper and what you seek to achieve in this writing.*
  - *Rationale: what is important about this exploration? What contribution does it make to the field of dance?*
  - *Personal Statement: Why is the subject important to you? Is there a personal connection to the subject; or a connection you would like to make?*
- Two–page **Discussion of the Literature** and other resources you researched (written, visual, media) (pages 3 and 4)
  - Demonstrate your knowledge of what has been done before related to this topic.
- One-page describing the **Scope of Project** and its parameters (page 5)
  - What limits did you specifically impose to create a manageable project?
  - What significant events or discoveries occurred in the process to further define the scope of the project—for example, changed course, specifics of time management, process issues, translation, limited primary resources, limited secondary resources, limited geographical access).
- Two-page **Methodology** section describing the research process you undertook (pages 6 and 7)
  - Detail ideas and approaches showing WHAT you actually did.
  - You may include HOW you made unique connections across (or unique use of) your selected "literature" (written, visual, media, etc.) and questions it prompted.
- Four-page narrative on your **Inquiry** (pages 8, 9, 10 and 11)
  - This is the "body" of the paper where you unfold the

story/meaning/life of the research.
- o Explore and examine the themes that emerged in the work, the ideas within them.
- o This is where you will use your theory and data entries and other findings.
- One-page *Conclusion which is a reflection on the smaller and the larger picture of your work* (page 12)
  - o The critical findings, results, or conclusions of the research, including strengths and weaknesses.
  - o What further questions do you have or what directions for research
  - o What are the *larger* implications of your findings?
- Visual Resources (page number 13, etc.)
- Works Cited in **MLA** (Note you will use simple in-text citations as per **MLA**[1]; place extra explanatory notes in endnotes) (page numbers…)

(Depending on your approach to your creative research, as well as you GPA, it is possible that this Senior Project paper can be converted into a research paper that will put you in good stead for graduation with high or highest honors should your GPA warrant such recognition. Your Dance History paper could also be used. This usually requires adapting or reconfiguring a portion of your creative research into a focused research topic. Typically, the Senior Project paper, by itself, would not be acceptable for this level of consideration. High/Highest honors papers also require a faculty mentor, as well as a second reader.)

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

---

[1] For helpful information see the following:
http://cooperseng101.wordpress.com/syllabus-part-2-course-outline/mla-guidelines-for-quoting/

assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/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, 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:

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit 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/ 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 shcc.ufl.edu/.

University Police Department: Visit 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, ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center.

GETTING HELP:

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

Academic Resources
E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services career.ufl.edu/.

Library Support: 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. teachingcenter.ufl.edu/

Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/

Student Complaints On-Campus: sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor- code-student-conduct-code/

On-Line Students Complaints: distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/ /

NETIQUETTE: COMMUNICATION COURTESY: All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats.

COVID-19 Precautions
UF has increased in-person class offerings for the Fall 2021 semester and The School of Theatre + Dance (SoTD) welcomes more students back to campus. At the same time, COVID-19 cases are surging because of the new delta variant and the large numbers of people who are unvaccinated, setting new local and state records for hospitalizations. As a result, our methods for realizing classroom activities and productions will continue to look different. Below is a list of practices that the school is implementing to safely connect. The practices align with UF's Fall 2021 plan (https://coronavirus.ufl.edu/) and they will evolve as our community needs shift in response to the virus.

- **All people inside of UF facilities are expected to wear masks** in community spaces in buildings, including common areas in our office suites, when we are not in our individual offices or workspaces, **even if you are vaccinated**.
- **Your ONE.UF account must show a "Cleared for Campus"** status in order to attend in-person. I will check my roster before each class meeting.
- **Until Sept 10, this course will be offered in a synchronous hybrid modality (simultaneously on Zoom and in person).** You may attend via Zoom as much or as little as you want/need to until that date. After September 10th, we will reassess the need for this.

Students, Faculty, and Staff are trusted to foster healthy SoTD class and creative environments through adherence to the following guidelines:

- If you are not vaccinated, get vaccinated. If possible, **students should aim to be fully vaccinated but if unable, should strive to have at least one shot of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine no later than August 22.** Vaccines are readily available at no cost and have been demonstrated to be safe and effective against the COVID-19 virus. Visit this link for details on where to get your shot, including options that do not require an appointment: https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/vaccinations/vaccine-availability/. Students who receive the first dose of the vaccine wherever they are currently can still receive their second dose on campus.

- Students are welcome to use hand sanitizer or wash hands at the top of each class, rehearsal or production activity in shared spaces.
  - 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.
  - Participate in UF Health's Screen, Test, and Protect initiative by completing health screening questionnaires and by scheduling testing when prompted through One.UF.edu. Additional testing information is available at: https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/screen-test-protect-2/screen-test-protect-plans-spring-2021/.
  - Wipes and sanitation supplies will be available to sanitize individual props, costumes, chairs, ballet barres, music stands, tables, individual projects etc.
  - Dispose of personal trash in appropriate bags/containers.