

## **DANCE ENSEMBLE 1**

**Fall 2021**

DAA 4685/ 1 CREDIT

Tuesday / Thursday 5:00 – 7:00pm McGuire G-10

INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD:

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\*Email Policy: Use ONLY your UFL.EDU email account for e-mail correspondence related to class: your name & class must appear in the subject line of all correspondence.

Office: Nadine McGuire Theatre + Dance Pavilion 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

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Nadine McGuire Theatre & Dance Pavilion Hours posted on faculty office door 352-273-0516 Main Office

### **A NOTE ON THE DIFFICULT TIMES WE ARE IN**

As humans, we have all been negotiating a global pandemic for the past year and a half. Many people have lost family and friends, people important to them. Most everyone has been isolated in their homes, which for many can mean a loss of social support and engagement. For some this means they've actually been in a hostile environment. BE KIND TO EACH OTHER. This mean shaving patience not only with your peers but the SoTD staff & faculty as well. Negotiating trauma takes both support and accountability. I will expect you to fulfill course requirements, while being patient and sympathetic with the difficulty of the times: I ask for this from you in working with me, your peers, and yourselves, while we strive to do the same.”

For some resources on studying in unsupportive environments, please take a look at this resource list compiled by the UF Department of Psychology:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/11YAeLIZEGexvmxanpQjTOE4xw\\_wsMQgS4uwt7GohvM/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/11YAeLIZEGexvmxanpQjTOE4xw_wsMQgS4uwt7GohvM/edit)

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- To expand the dancer's expressive and qualitative range of movement and performance.
- To develop musicality, dynamics, clarity and articulation in time and space.
- To expose the student to fresh approaches to the creative process.
- To provide the student with experiences that reinforce their discipline and

strengthen their sense of responsibility within a pre-professional creative environment.

- To relate the student's work in technique class to a rehearsal situation.
- To gain experience and develop an understanding of how to work in an ensemble.
- To empower the person/dancer/ thinker/choreographer in each student.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is designed to develop technical range and performance skills through the study and production of dance repertory. Rehearsals will take place throughout the Fall 2021 semester and the work will culminate in AGBEDIDI 2021.

### **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. Here are just a few places to purchase dance attire:

**Discount Dance Supply:** [www.discountdance.com](http://www.discountdance.com)

**Target:** [www.target.com](http://www.target.com)

### **COURSE POLICIES:**

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

Dance Ensemble 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 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.

Handbook (SoTD website) and included in this syllabus.

Dance Ensemble Absence Policy

- Five (5) or more absences (excused or unexcused) result in automatic failure.
- All undocumented absences are unexcused: each unexcused absence = 5 point deduction. Excused absences may include those related to illness/injury which are

documented by a medical professional. Events related to family emergencies or professional obligations should be discussed with your instructor. (See Make-up Policy for more information on excused absences.)

- For your safety and the focus of the class, you may not join class if it has already started. You are late and counted absent; with instructor permission, you may observe.
- If you should leave class early, 3 points are deducted from your grade.
- If unable to dance but still attend, with instructor permission, you may 'actively' observe for full class credit, onetime. You will complete an assignment as assigned by the instructor due at the end of class.
- UF approved religious days are excused and do not need to be made-up. (Travel time not included.)

You are responsible for material covered during your absence.

- A MEDICAL WITHDRAWAL will not be supported without approved documentation. An Incomplete is only considered by UF Dance in extreme cases and is not available in technique classes.

In the UF Dance Program, three unexcused absences will reduce your grade one-letter grade (i.e., from B to C). Each subsequent unexcused absence lowers your grade by half letter grade (i.e., from C to C-). After five unexcused absences the student may not return to class and result in automatic failure of the course. A student with medical documentation may apply to UF for Medical Withdrawal.

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)

### **Required Performances and Event Dates**

Dates / times subject to change – please check dance bulletin board and /or contact appropriate box office. You will receive a voucher (coupon) at the beginning of the semester for assigned SoTD productions with instructions of how to use it to get discount tickets. Viewing of the SoTD plays is highly recommended, but not required. Non-majors please verify event schedule with instructor, as you may not be required for attendance at all events.

Aug 23	6:30-7:30p	Dance Area Welcome Meeting
Aug 25	6:30-8:30p	Dance 2022 Faculty Auditions
Aug 26	6:30-8:30p	Fall 2021 BFA Showcase Auditions
Sept 27	6:30-8:30p	UnShowing #1
Sept 28	11:15a-12:30p	SoTD Town Hall

Oct 4	6:30-8:30p	UnShowing #2
Oct 7	5-6p	Public review of a chapter from Assistant Professor Rachel Carrico's manuscript
Oct 13	4-5p	BFA Showcase Production Meeting
Oct 15	9a-4p	BFA Program Audition
Nov 3	1:30-2:45p	SoTD Town Hall
Nov 3-6	7:30p	BFA Showcase
Nov 7	1:30p + 4p	BFA Showcase
Nov 8	6:30-8:30p	Dance Open Conversation
Dec 3 & 4	7:30p	Agbedidi
Dec 5	2p	Agbedidi
Dec 6	6:30-8:30p	Final UnShowing

Performance Behavior/Decorum:

- Yes, please dress nice!
- No cell phones/texting at all, ever, never during a performance (unless the show requests it!)
- Represent the SoTD at the show!

**GRADING POLICY:**

Each participant will be required to sign a contract. This contract is a commitment of time and an agreement of responsibility. Your grade is based on your ability to uphold the terms of the agreement in accordance with the quality of your performance during the semester.

**JOURNALS:**

It is important for you to have a notebook or journal for documentation of your progress in the dance ensemble project and to jot down notes and feedback from the instructor. Bring your journal with you to every class. This is your personal book of which I will collect, evaluate, and offer feedback or suggestions. Use it as a diary, if you will, to connect your thoughts of the movement.

**EVALUATION**

1. Upholding the terms of the contract in accordance with the quality of your performance	30 points
2. Attendance	25 points
3. Journal	20 points

5. Professional Demeanor: attire, attitude, and work ethic	25 points
Total	100 points

Your overall score may be affected by your attendance record.

### Grading Scale:

#### Total: 100 points

A	93-100 points
A-	90-92
B+	86-89
B	83-85 points
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76 points
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66 points
D-	60-62
E	59 and below

### UF POLICIES:

**COURSE EVALUATIONS:** Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Click [here](#) for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner. 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 [here](#).

**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 specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Click [here](#) to read the Honor Code. 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.

## **UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. Click [here](#) to get started with the Disability Resource Center. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

**IN-CLASS RECORDING:** Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor. A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session. Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

## **COVID ADDENDUM**

In response to COVID-19, the following practices are in place to maintain your learning environment, to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions, and to further the health and safety of ourselves, our neighbors, and our loved ones.

- If you are not vaccinated, get vaccinated. 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

anappointment:<https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/vaccinations/vaccine-availability/>

- Students who receive the first dose of the vaccine somewhere off-campus and/or outside of Gainesville can still receive their second dose on campus.

- You are expected to wear approved face coverings a tall times during class and within buildings even if you are vaccinated. Please continue to follow healthy habits, including best practices like frequent hand washing. Following these practices is our responsibility as Gators.

  - Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.

  - Hand sanitizing stations will be located in every classroom.

- If you are sick, stay home and self-quarantine. Please visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website about next steps, retake the questionnaire and schedule your test for no sooner than 24 hours after your symptoms began. Please call your primary care provider if you are ill and need immediate care or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161 (or email [covid@shcc.ufl.edu](mailto:covid@shcc.ufl.edu)) to be evaluated for testing and to receive further instructions about returning to campus. UF Health Screen, Test & Protect offers guidance when you are sick, have been exposed to someone who has tested positive or have tested positive yourself. Visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website for more information.

  - 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.

  - If you are withheld from campus by the Department of Health through Screen, Test & Protect you are not permitted to use any on campus facilities. Students attempting to attend campus activities when withheld from campus will be referred to the Dean of Students Office.

- Continue to regularly visit [coronavirus.UFHealth.org](https://coronavirus.UFHealth.org) and [coronavirus.ufl.edu](https://coronavirus.ufl.edu) for up-to-date information about COVID-19 and vaccination.

## Contract

Our goal is to create a small performing ensemble designed to develop technical range and performance skills through the study and production of contemporary dance repertory within the company experience. I am interested in exploring the boundaries of movement and its potential for communication. I am dedicated to physically and imaginatively committing to training that reflects the standards of professional work.

Company Policy: As a member of Dance Ensemble I am willing and able to commit to the following conditions:

- I will be a member of the company through December 2021
- I will be present for EVERY scheduled rehearsal and performance.
- I will attend modern dance and ballet technique classes throughout the Fall 2021 academic term.



- I will be a passionate advocate and fearless ambassador for contemporary dance and theatre.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, understand the above policies. I will do my utmost to fulfill my commitment to this project. I will approach my participation as a job in which communication with my peers, directors, and collaborators is of the utmost importance. I will approach the job with an openness and: Be energetic and enthusiastic, be available and approachable, give information freely, be humorous, be fair, display interest, be decisive, be humble, be patient and calm, be tough, and make the most of this creative process of learning.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_