

BFA Senior Project (Choreography) Syllabus DAN 4959

Fall 2022

Meetings: Reach out to me via to set up regular meeting times

Instructor/Mentor: Rujeko Dumbutshena

Email: rdumbutshena@ufl.edu

Email Policy: Only your UFL.EDU email account for e-mail correspondence related to class

Office: Constans, Room 231

Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 1:00pm – 3:00pm and Mon & Wed 9:30am-11:30am

Office Phone: (352) 291- 294-9123

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/4774515279>

Meeting ID: 477 451 5279

BFA Senior Project Summary

The dance program has provided the student with an exceptional and supportive opportunity experience that requires them to combine your 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 and research behind an original dance that will be included in the fall showcase. The actual work should have a running time of no more than *eight-minutes and no less than four-minutes*. You work as a class to produce the showcase as you are working on your individual creative projects. You are required to articulate your creative research in a thesis-style paper.

Objectives of the Senior Project

- You provided with the opportunity to create an original dance
- You are provided with the opportunity to collaborate within a group of your artistic peers to produce a showcase of quality and substance
- You are provided with the opportunity to participate in the UnShowing process to receive feedback from the UF dance community
- You are provided with the opportunity to work with your faculty mentor(s) to help you explore the full potential of their choreographic voice
- You are provided with the opportunity to finalize and articulate your creative process through the paper

Casting Guidelines and Responsibilities

- As a choreographer you should ensure 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.

- All performing members of your cast are required to be UF students and enrolled in an approved UF SoTD dance course. You can petition for non-enrolled dancers to join your cast in a timely manner.
- 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.

<u>Points</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Supervisor</u>
Deductions only	Attendance	Director
20 points	Creative Leadership	Mentor
20 points	Production Assignment	Director and SP class
10 points	Showcase Overall	Director
50 points	Senior project thesis paper	Mentor
100 points	Total	Grades submitted by Mentor

Attendance

Follow dance area attendance policy. Unexcused absences are deductions on the total amount of points the student receives. Be sure to attend all BFA Showcase meetings before and after UnShowings for BFA Showcase. Be sure to attend all production meetings and technical rehearsals.

Creative Leadership

Points are given for the preparedness of the choreographer to implement their 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 their 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. It can also reflect one's communication skills, collaborative approach to producing, and general professionalism with your peers and faculty mentor(s).

A 93-100

A- 90-92

B+ 86-89

B 83-85

B- 80-82

C+ 77-79

C 73-76

C- 70-72

D+ 67-69

D 63-66

D- 60-62

E 59 and below

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.

RESEARCH PAPER REQUIRED FORMAT

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

This is a great online resource for MLA formatting:

<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 (start numeral 1)
 - *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) - Demonstrate your knowledge of what has been done before related to this topic.
- Two-page **Methodology** section describing the research process you undertook • Detail ideas and approaches showing WHAT you 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.
- Two-page **Outcomes, Reflections, and Future Directions** section, summarizing the most salient outcomes of your project and possible future directions of your research/project.
 - The critical findings, results, or conclusions of the research, including strengths and weaknesses.
 - What further questions do you have or what directions for research?
 - What are the *larger* implications of your findings?
- Optional: Visual Resources
- Works Cited in **MLA** (Note you will use simple in-text citations as per **MLA**; place extra explanatory notes in endnotes) (page numbers...)

(Depending on your approach to your creative research, as well as your 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.)

Fall 2022 Paper Deadlines:

- September 16 (Friday): Abstract and Introduction
- September 23 (Friday): Bibliography and Discussion of Literature. This bibliography should include no less than 5 sources; at least one should be dance-related (a work choreographed by a professional choreographer, a scholarly article about a dance-related subject, etc.) and connected to your studio/library research.
- October 14 (Friday): Methodology, Process and Conclusion.
- October 21 (Friday): First Draft.
- November 11 (Friday): Second Draft.
- November 18 (Friday): First Full Paper Draft.
- December 2 (Friday): Final Paper turned in electronic copy to mentor and Dance Coordinator.

**Advisor may discuss any alterations on deadlines with you due to extenuating circumstances. If there are changes to the final deadline, please contact your advisor*

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.
- Library Support: 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.
- Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
- Student Complaints On-Campus: Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.
- On-Line Students Complaints: View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS:

- U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit U Matter, We Care website to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website 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 the Student Health Care Center website.
- University Police Department: Visit UF Police Department website 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; Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website.

STUDENT 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. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at 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/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at [https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/public- results/](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:

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

ETIQUETTE: 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, 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/ or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
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- 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>

Academic Resources

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- 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.

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 othe 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 UF dance 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.

FALL DANCE CALENDAR

AUGUST

24 W – first day of classes + *Cabaret* Auditions, 5:30-11pm
25 R – SoTD Convocation, 4-5p
25 R – Dance Production auditions (*Agbedidi* + *Dance 2023* concerts), 6:30-8:30pm
25 R + 26 F – *Cabaret* Callback Auditions
26 F – Dance Area Welcome Meeting (w/improvisation) 10:40a-12:10p
26 F - Dance Area Meeting 1pm-2:30pm
29 M – BFA Showcase Auditions, 6:30-8pm

SEPTEMBER

2 F - Coordinators Meeting 1-2pm
5 M – no classes for Labor Day
9 F - Dance Area Meeting 1pm-2:30pm
16 F - Coordinators Meeting 1-2pm
18 SU and/or 25 SU – Dance Wellness Screening
23 F - Dance Area Meeting 1pm-2:30pm
26 M – BFA Showcase UnShowing, 6:30-8pm
29 R – M Oct 3 – DIAS Guest Artist Residency
30 F - Coordinators Meeting 1-2pm

OCTOBER

1 Sat - UF Health Street Night of Dance (Bo Diddley Plaza, downtown Gainesville), 4-6 pm
7 F - HOMECOMING, no classes
11 T - SoTD Town Hall Meeting 1-2:15pm
14 F - Coordinators Meeting 1-2pm
17 M – Dance Area Open Conversation, 6:30-8:30pm
21 F thru 30 SU – *Cabaret* Performances
21 BFA Program Audition (tentatively scheduled; waiting on confirmation from Production Area)
27 - [BodyVox @ UFPA](#), 7:30 pm
28 F – Friday master class with Health and Safety Committee orientation for Load-in / Strike
28 F - Coordinators Meeting 1-2pm
28 F + 29 SA – Young Dancers Workshop

NOVEMBER

2 W thru 6 SU – Fall BFA Showcase Performances 4 F - Dance Area Meeting 1pm-2:30pm
7 M – no classes for post-performance day of rest 11 F – no classes for Veterans' Day
14 M – Open UnShowing #3?
18 F - Dance Area Retreat 1pm-4pm
23 W thru 27 SU – no classes for Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

1 Th - [Chicago @ UFPA](#), 7:30 pm
2 F thru 4 SU – *Agbedidi*
2 F – TBD (please don't include on syllabi) BA Senior Project Showcase / Symposium, 10:40a-12:10p
2 F - Dance Area Meeting 1pm-2:30pm
5 M - no classes for post-performance day of rest

5 M - 6 T - Critical Response Appt's: First-semester BFA and BA students (including transfer students) and third-year BFA students

6 T – Senior CRA's and/ or Final UnShowing and Senior Circle, 6:30-8:30pm

7 W – last day of classes

7 W - Senior CRA's and/ or Final UnShowing and Senior Circle, 6:30-8:30pm