

DAA 1000 - Fundamentals of Dance

Fall, 2014

DAA 1000

Periods 6th and 7th periods

Meeting days: Tuesday & Thursday

Meeting times: 12:50pm to 2:45pm

Instructor: Isa Garcia-Rose

Location: O Connell Center

Office Hours: Fifteen minutes before or after class

Instructor Email: isa@ufl.edu

Catalog Description: Practice and principles of fundamentals and stylistic characteristics common to ballet, jazz and modern dance. (H) 3 credits

Fundamentals of Dance is designed to provide accessibility to the world of dance for all students, novice or pre-professional. Along with learning the rudiments of the dance techniques, with a focus on dance styles common to Western culture, you will discover the rich heritage, challenging discipline, fertile aesthetic, as well as your place in the vast spectrum of dance. There is truth in advertising – as once you are successful in this class, these fundamentals become the basis for achieving excellence in higher levels and making informed connections with how this art interacts with your life. The following objectives provide the direction for the course:

Objectives:

- To provide a student with the history, basic techniques, and contemporary references relevant to accessing a basic understanding of ballet, jazz and modern dance.
- Enhance the mind/body connection through the application of sound biomechanical principles as they relate to dance, such as practicing proper alignment, learning basic human anatomy, and learning of alternative approaches to movement study. This knowledge will be directly applied to the various styles of dance learned in class.
- Practice elements of performing and explore performance quality, discovering your own potential and personal style while developing your kinesthetic memory.
- Experience, discuss and write about live dance performances .

Dance Etiquette and Attire:

Dance is an art and requires personal discipline and motivation. Respect for other students and the instructor is of the utmost importance. When in class you will be attentive and active. Be aware of the appropriate times to talk and/or sit. Attire should be form fitting, allowing the line of the body to be seen. Leotards and tights (leggings, bike or jazz pants) are suitable. Form fitting warmers are recommended and should be removed after warm-up. Men **must** wear a **dance belt**. No shoes are required for this course. **No large jewelry, no chewing gum, no hats, and no loose hair**. Personal hygiene is expected and is its own reward. You may lose points for improper attire, hair or attitude.

Attendance Guide:

- Mindful participation 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 this will count as an absence.
- For extended health issues refer to the Injury and Illness Policy in the current SoTD Handbook (SoTD website)

Information on make-up work: Any make-up work requires proper and official documentation from professional sources and presented to the instructor in a timely fashion. To earn credit (amount of credit determined by the instructor) for an absence you must do two things:

- 1) Immediately after your return to class, turn in approved/legal documentation to instructor
- 2) Make-up the class with an approved assignment. All Make-up assignments for excused absences must be completed by the last day of classes of the semester.

There are no makeup classes for unexcused absences.

Attendance Policy

MANDATORY. Participation is the only way to meet the objectives of this class. This requires you to be in class on time in the proper attire and with your attention focused on dance. Once in the studio, you should be warming up and stretching to prepare yourself for class.

- You must be present for all scheduled classes, plus required concerts, auditions, and events.
- It is your responsibility to know your schedule. Check your UF email & the dance studio bulletin boards. The instructor will only respond to UF email (ufl.edu)
- Each unexcused absence will result in a loss of five points.
- You are responsible for all material covered in class during your absence. You are advised to ask other students for material missed in class. It is not the teacher responsibility to re-teach you when you are absent.
- Prolonged illness or injury may result in dropping the class. (An incomplete is rare.). • AN INCOMPLETE WILL NOT BE GIVEN WITHOUT MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION. If approved, College of Fine Arts Incomplete Contract must be signed by the Director, Instructor, and Student.
- You are tardy if you are not present for roll call. When late you must clear entry into class – it is at the instructors discretion whether you will be allowed to participate in class if you are more than ten minutes late. This is for your own safety.
- Three (3) points will be deducted for being late or leaving early (for any reason)
- Other classes that schedule events during this class will be considered an absence and are not excused. Field trips with school events must be documented by the school and documentation must be sent directly to me. UF approved religious days are excused and do not need to be made-up. (Travel time not included.) Student is still responsible for material covered during their absence.
- If unable to dance, with instructor permission, you may ‘actively’ observe one time for full credit.
- You will complete an observation paper due at the end of class. Check with instructor for instructions. You may not receive credit for attendance if you arrive ten minutes into the scheduled class time.
- You may not use this time for napping or "study hall", otherwise it will be considered an absence.
- Absences without proper documentation from exams result in a **zero**. If you miss the final exam you cannot pass this course.
- You may not pass the course with 5 or more absences (excused or unexcused)

Please use the following locations for UF resources for physical and mental health care:

<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)

Text: The DAA1000 Handbook was prepared especially for this class and will be available online without cost at: <http://www.arts.ufl.edu/students/syllabi.aspx> . Search for: DAA 1000 Fundamentals Handbook

Communication is very important. Please come to me with all questions and concerns throughout the semester. You can make an appointment or talk to me immediately before or after class about your progress or if you have any questions. If questions pertain to the information in this syllabus, I ask that you read your syllabus thoroughly before asking an intelligent question on clarification. You are encouraged to ask questions during class and if you need or want more feedback from the instructor, please do not be afraid to ask. Remember, unless you communicate and come to me directly, I will assume that you are satisfied and happy. I want you to have a great dance experience.

Assignments and Tests

TOTAL POINTS TO EARN = 100

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|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| • Harn Museum visit & Solo Evaluation | 10 points |
| • Written Tests (Two) | 40 points |
| • Compare and Contrast Paper | 10 points |
| • Midterm Evaluation | 15 points |
| • Final Evaluation | 15 points |
| • Final Project | 10 points |

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|----|---------------|
| 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 |

Academic Honesty

The academic community of students and faculty at the University of Florida strives to develop, sustain and protect an environment of honesty, trust and respect. Students are expected to pursue knowledge with integrity. Exhibiting honesty in academic pursuits and reporting violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines will encourage others to act with integrity. Violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines shall result in judicial action and a student being subject to the sanctions in paragraph XI of the Student Conduct Code. The conduct set forth hereinafter constitutes a violation of the Academic Honesty Guidelines (University of Florida Rule 6C1-4.017).

Students with Disabilities requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/> The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. The Disability

Resource Center strives to provide quality services to students with physical, learning, sensory or psychological disabilities, to educate them about their legal rights and responsibilities so that they can make informed decisions, and to foster a sense of empowerment so that they can engage in critical thinking and self-determination.

ASSIGNMENT AND TESTS – ALL PAPERS MUST BE HANDED IN AS A HARD COPY. NO EMAILED PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED!

The midterm evaluation is primarily for checking our communication of goals and your early degree of successful effort.
Tuesday, 10/14th

Written Tests: There will be two written tests based on reading assignments and in-class discussion. A) **Thursday, 10/16th**, B) **Thursday, 12/4th**

Technique Final: **Tuesday, 12/2nd**

The final technique evaluation will be done during regular classes. This is an exam based on your technical progress from mid semester to the end of the term.

Harn Museum Paragraph and Solo Due: **Thursday, 9/25th**

Take a trip to the Harn Museum on Hull Rd. and find an inspirational exhibit for your final project assignment. Submit a paragraph description (hard copy) of the artwork or exhibit you are using for your choreographic inspiration. Come up with a minute solo of how you feel the piece should be portrayed through movement.

Final Project: **Tuesday, 12/9th**

You will be placed into groups and you will work on choreography that will develop from your visit to the Harn Museum.

Attending Performances: Required to see:

BFA Fall Dance Showcase, November 5-9, McGuire Studio Theatre G-6

Agbedidi, November 20-23, Constans Theatre

After attending these events, write a two+ page, typed, double-spaced, no cover sheet, college level, compare and contrast paper on the concerts that you watched. Paper due one week after the last performance. Details to follow. **Staple** your ticket stubs for both concerts to the front sheet of your paper.

Important websites for upcoming performances:

UF Performing Arts: www.performingarts.ufl.edu/

UF College of Fine Arts main page: www.arts.ufl.edu

Reading: You are required to keep up with the reading of the text. Instructor will guide you on deadlines – begin by reading chapters 1 & 2. Material in the text will be continually referenced in class and we will also have lectures and discussions on each chapter.

Makeup Critique Papers for excused absences are **due one week after the show** (an approved dance performance, play or musical). If the show is at the end of the semester, it is due by the last day of the semester. You are to write a summary/review that is 2 pages, typed, double spaced, 12 pt. Please write “Makeup Paper” under your name, with the correct section number to your class, as well as the date of the event.

Ticket information for all Phillips Center for the Performing Arts events:

All ticket information including the specific dates that students can begin purchasing for each performance:

<http://performingarts.ufl.edu/students/students/>

Tickets must be purchased in person at the Phillips Center Box Office or the University Box

Office located at the O'Connell Center Gate 1, one ticket per UF student present with his/her own ID. (spouses of UF Students not eligible!) Box Office hours Tues.-Fri. 12:00-5:30pm & Sat. 10:00-2:00pm phone # 352-392-1653.

Ticket information for UF School of Theatre and Dance productions:

You will receive coupons for some SoTD productions, including plays that are not approved dance viewing. Consider these coupons a perk. A dance production coupon will also be included. Coupons are redeemed at University Box Office in front of Constans Theatre where regular student tickets may also be purchased. Be sure to bring your UFID.

Events (for make-ups with proper documentation)

(Dates/times subject to change – please check dance bulletin board and/or contact appropriate box office.)

Faculty Auditions, Wednesday August 27, 6:30-8:30, G-6
BFA Fall Dance Showcase Auditions, Thursday, August 28, G-6, 6:30-8:30
UnShowing #1, September 8, 6:30-8:30, G6
UnShowing #2, September 22, 6:30-8:30, G-6
UnShowing #3, October 6, 6:30-8:30, G-6
Faculty UnShowing, October 13, 6:30-8:00, G-6
UnShowing #4, October 20 6:30-finish Adjudication, G-6
UnShowing #5, October 27 6:30-9:30 Designer Showing, G-6
BFA Fall Dance Showcase, November 6-9, McGuire Studio Theatre G-6
Agbedidi, November 20-23, Constans Theatre
BA Senior Project UnShowing, November 24, 6:30, G-6
(Final) UnShowing #6, December 8 6:30-8:30, G-6

Other Event Options (PCPA = Phillips Center):

September 3 Clybourne Park (SoTD/Hipp play) opens Hippodrome
September 26 Cripple of Innishman (SoTD play) opens McGuire
October 24 Sweeney Todd (SoTD Musical) Constans
Friday/Saturday, October 3/5, 7:30/2:00, Camelot (Musical) PCPA
Tuesday, October 21, 7:30, Keigwin + Company PCPA
Friday, October 31, 7:30, Dance Alive National Ballet PCPA
Wednesday, November 5, 7:30, Les Ballets Jazz de Monreal PCPA