

# DAA 3614: Dance Composition III

Spring 2025

Tuesdays/Thursdays | 12:50 – 2:45 PM

Location: CON G006

Instructor of Record: Onye Ozuzu (she/her)

Email: [oozuzu@ufl.edu](mailto:oozuzu@ufl.edu)

Office Location: Room 205, Nadine McGuire Theatre + Dance Pavilion

Office Hours: MW 9:30-10:30 and by appointment (in-person or Zoom)

## Course Links

- Syllabi: [arts.ufl.edu/syllabi](https://arts.ufl.edu/syllabi)
- Lab Fees: [aa.ufl.edu/policies/material-and-supply-fees](https://aa.ufl.edu/policies/material-and-supply-fees)
- Canvas (E-Learning): [elearning.ufl.edu](https://elearning.ufl.edu)
- Email Policy: Use **only** your ufl.edu account for course-related emails. And communicate with me regarding this course through the CANVAS platform

*\*\*this syllabus is a plan, subject to change*

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## Course Description:

In this Dance Composition III course, I look forward to inviting you to delve rigorously into your current moment as a dance maker. Given your lived experience and your study of dance artistry (so far), you will craft some meaningful dances that crystallize what you are capable of as an art-maker and connect to your audiences. Rooted in procedure and experimentation, this course fosters the exploration of personal artistic voice while engaging with collaborative movement research. We will craft choreographic compositions that respond to our unique curiosities and the broader cultural context. Emphasis is placed on process design, collaboration, risk-taking, and the embodiment of ideas through dynamic physical inquiry. As the instructor/facilitator of this course, I will draw from my experiences making dances utilizing interdisciplinary practice, collaboration, and improvisation for and with communities in various contexts (community, gallery, stage, street, site...). Some information about my creative practices can be found on my website: [ozuzudances.com](http://ozuzudances.com)

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## Course Values and Mission:

We honor the body as a site of knowledge, we honor one another as unique creative producers and collaborators, and through intentionally crafted practice, we will learn to:

- Embrace conceptual frameworks (space, time, energy, body, being, score, ritual etc) as fundamental mechanisms of dance composition
- Cultivate process and interdisciplinary exploration in approaches to composing dances.
- Engage in feedback exchanges with peers and community, fostering a collaborative environment.
- Explore personal and collective cultural, historical, contemporary and futuristic positionality through movement and performance.

## Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, students will:

- Develop and apply choreographic principles to create original dance compositions.
- Experiment with traditional and nontraditional approaches to performance.
- Critically reflect on their creative processes through written and verbal articulation.
- Engage in collective inquiry, contributing to peer projects and receiving feedback constructively.

- Present a series of studies and at least one choreographic work that demonstrates growth and experimentation.

**Course Requirements:**

- Active participation in all class activities.
- Completion of choreographic studies and journals documenting creative process.
- Attendance and reflection on external dance performances.
- Final choreographic project to be presented informally and publicly.

**Required Materials:**

- Movement attire that allows for full range of motion.
- Journal or notebook for creative research. (can be digital or analog)
- Access to digital platforms for sharing media and documentation.

**Course Schedule – Spring 2026**

Week	Tuesday	Thursday
<b>Week 1</b> Jan 13 & 15	Course Introduction & Overview Assign <i>Choreographic Study 1</i>	Discussion: <i>Aesthetic</i>
<b>Week 2</b> Jan 20 & 22	In-Class Work on Study 1	In-Class Work on Study 1
<b>Week 3</b> Jan 27 & 29	<i>Choreographic Study 1</i> Showing	Study 1 Showing (continued)
<b>Week 4</b> Feb 3 & 5	Discussion: <i>Habit   Dream   Ritual</i> Assign <i>Choreographic Study 2</i>	In-Class Work on Study 2
<b>Week 5</b> Feb 10 & 12	In-Class Work on Study 2	In-Class Work on Study 2
<b>Week 6</b> Feb 17 & 19	<i>Choreographic Study 2</i> Showing <b>Dance Performance Review 1 Due</b>	Study 2 Showing (continued)
<b>Week 7</b> Feb 24 & 26	Discussion: <i>Legacy   Language   Lore</i> Assign <i>Choreographic Study 3</i>	In-Class Work on Study 3
<b>Week 8</b> Mar 3 & 5	In-Class Work on Study 3	<i>Choreographic Study 3</i> Showing
<b>Week 9</b> Mar 10 & 12	Study 3 Showing (continued)	Discussion: <i>Impossible Puzzles   Choreographic Thinking</i>
<b>Week 10</b> Mar 17 & 19	<b>Spring Break – No Class</b>	<b>Spring Break – No Class</b>
<b>Week 11</b> Mar 24 & 26	In-Class Work on Study 4 Assign <i>Choreographic Study 4</i>	In-Class Work on Study 4 <b>Dance Performance Review 2 Due</b>
<b>Week 12</b> Mar 31 & Apr 2	<i>Choreographic Study 4</i> Showing	Study 4 Showing (continued)
<b>Week 13</b> Apr 7 & 9	Assign <i>Choreographic Study 5</i> (online) Discussion: <i>Technology   Merch   Media</i>	In-Class Work on Study 5
<b>Week 14</b> Apr 14 & 16	<i>Choreographic Study 5</i> Showing	<i>Choreographic Study 5</i> Showing <b>Dance Performance Review 3 Due</b>

Week	Tuesday	Thursday
<b>Week 15</b> Apr 21 & 22	<b>Last Day of Class</b> <b>Informal Performance Showing</b>	

#### Important Notes:

- **Choreographic Study Showings:** These are in-class presentations where students showcase their progress and engage in peer feedback and review.
- **Dance Performance Reviews:** Students are required to attend performances and submit a written reviews by the specified due dates (details will be posted on Canvas)

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#### Grading Breakdown:

- Participation and Attendance: 30%
- Feedback/Review Assignments 30%
- Choreographic Studies: 30%
- Performance Reviews 10%

#### Letter Grades:

A = 95–100 | A– = 90–94

B+ = 87–89 | B = 83–86 | B– = 80–82

C+ = 77–79 | C = 73–76 | C– = 70–72

D+ = 67–69 | D = 63–66 | F = below 63

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#### Required & Recommended Materials

**Required:** All readings/viewings (TBA, available on Canvas). A journal for on-going note-taking and assigned writing

**Recommended:** long-sleeved T-shirt, water bottle, device for accessing digital materials.

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#### Studio Procedures

- **Attire:** Clothing that allows free movement; long pants, long sleeves, and knee pads recommended. Avoid jewelry that poses risk.
- **Water & Food:** Bring water; eat before/after class (no food or gum in class).
- **Device Policy:** Studio time is screen-free unless devices are part of classwork. Notify instructor if you must be reachable.
- **Punctuality:** Arrive on time and stay for the full class. Chronic tardiness or early departure will require a meeting.

## Attendance Policy

- **Allowed:** 2 absences (no documentation required).
- **On 3rd absence:** Meeting required with instructor/area faculty; if unexcused, results in **-5%** final grade deduction.
- **Subsequent unexcused absences:** Additional **-5%** per absence.
- **Excused absences** require documentation and include illness (with official doctor's note), family emergencies, curricular requirements, military service, severe weather, official university activities, or court obligations.

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## 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. Students can complete evaluations in three ways:
  1. The email they receive from GatorEvals,
  2. Their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or
  3. The central portal at <https://my-ufl.bluera.com/>
    - a. Guidance on how to provide constructive feedback is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.
- **Academic Misconduct / Honor Code:** SCCR Honor & Conduct Code | [Academic Integrity @ UF \(CTE\)](#)
- **Accommodations:** [Disability Resource Center – Get Started](#)
- **In-Class Recording Policy:** Recording permitted only for specific purposes; publishing or recording non-lecture content is prohibited. See UF policy documents.

## Academic Resources

- **E-learning Tech Support:** 352-392-4357 | [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu)
- **Career Connections Center:** [career.ufl.edu](http://career.ufl.edu)
- **Library Support:** [Ask a Librarian](#); [Library Support Services for Undergrads](#)
- **Teaching Center (CTE):** [teach.ufl.edu](http://teach.ufl.edu)
- **Writing Studio:** [writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio](http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio)
- **Student Complaints:** SCCR Honor & Conduct Code
- **Distance Learning Complaints:** (Refer to SCCR or academic department; no direct URL found)

## Health & Wellness Resources

- **U Matter, We Care:** [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) | 352-392-1575
- **Counseling & Wellness Center:** [counseling.ufl.edu](http://counseling.ufl.edu)
- **Student Health Care Center:** [shcc.ufl.edu](http://shcc.ufl.edu)
- **University Police Department:** [police.ufl.edu](http://police.ufl.edu) | 352-392-1111 / 911
- **UF Health ER / Trauma Center:** 352-733-0111 | 1515 SW Archer Road
- **GatorWell Health Promotion Services:** [gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu](http://gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu)

**DANCE CALENDAR – AY 25-26**  
**SPRING 2026**

**January**

12 First Day of Classes / Welcome Meeting @ 6:30pm in G6  
13 *Spring Into Dance* Auditions @ 6:30pm-9:30pm in G6  
13-19 Shakia Barron Residency  
16 Drop/Add Deadline  
19 No Classes  
21 Dance Alive's *Swan Lake* at UFPA  
26 Spring Senior UnShowing 6:30pm  
29 Andrea Ward (Ric Rose Alumni Award) 8:45 am lecture ballet combined & 10:40 am CAADDP 3  
30 Andrea Ward Master Class 10:40 am BAs & BFAs & 6 pm Ric Rose Alumni Award Presentation  
(Faculty, staff, and All Majors attending)

**February**

2 Spring Senior UnShowing / 6:30pm  
6 BFA Dance Area Auditions  
7 Harn SoundMoves, 1pm @ the Harn  
12 Harn Museum Africa Night 6:30p  
13 Open Conversation during FMP, 10:40a-12:10p  
6-15 F-Punk Junkies at SoTD  
17 Cirque FLIP Fabrique – BLIZZARD, 7:30pm at UFPA  
18-22 BFA Senior Concert  
21 Dance Alive's *Romeo and Juliet*, 7:30pm at UFPA  
23 DARK DAY – No Dance Major classes all day  
TINA – The Tina Turner Musical, 7:30pm at UFPA  
25-Mar 1 ACDA Regional Conference at Brenau University

**March**

3-6 Rachel Tavernier Dunham Technique Residency  
• March 4 @ 12:50: Combine Dance History + Kinesiology  
• March 5 @ 10:40: Afro-Brazilian + other classes TBD  
• March 6 @ 10:40: Friday Movement Practice  
10-11 *bang bang* in the Squiteri Theater, 7:30pm at UFPA  
15-22 ***Spring Break / No Classes***  
24 Sa Dance Company – RISE, 7:30pm at UFPA  
27 Midpoint Presentations during FMP, 10:30a-12:45p

**April**

9 Harn Museum night with Choreographer-in-Residence project  
10 Critical Response Appointments/CRAs, 9:30a-4:30pm IN PERSON (with first-years, year 1 transfers, + sophomores)  
16-19 *Spring into Dance*  
20 DARK DAY – No Dance major classes all day  
The Music Man, 7:30pm at UFPA  
21 CBP + CAADDP Class Culture Sharings (during class periods)  
22 Last Day of Classes  
CDP Class Culture Sharing (during class period)  
Final UnShowing (creative classes; BA symposium; research presentations; WIPs; celebrations)  
@ 6:30pm in G6  
23-24 Reading Days

### **REQUIRED EVENTS**

- Monday, Jan 12 @ 6:30pm – Welcome Meeting in G6
- Monday, Jan 26 @ 6:30pm – Senior UnShowing in G6 + G10
- Wednesday, Feb 18 – Sunday, Feb 22, various times – BFA Concert in G6
- Friday, March 27, 10:40a-12:35p – Dance Area Midpoint Presentations in G6 (dance majors only)
- Friday, Apr 10, 9:30a-4:30p – Critical Response Appointments IN PERSON in G11 + G10 (first year dance majors, first year transfer dance majors, and sophomore dance majors)
- Thursday, Apr 16 – Sunday, Apr 19, various times – *Spring into Dance* in the Black Box
- Tuesday, Apr 22 - Last Day of Classes CDP Class Culture Sharing (during class period)
- Wednesday, Apr 22 @ 6:30pm – Final UnShowing in G6