

Broadway Dance Styles 2

class: DAA 2581L

location: CON G10

time: Mon/Wed 8:45am - 10:25am

instructor: Andrew Cao (he/him/his)

email: andrewcao@ufl.edu

phone: 352-273-0597

office: McCarty C 305

office hours: Mon & Wed, 10:25am - 11:15am (and by appointment)

Course Overview:

Focusing on material from approximately the year 2000 to the present, students will learn original Broadway and other musical theatre choreography. Important choreographers will be examined, celebrated, and sometimes criticized for their impact on the industry and the world. This class involves a variety of dance styles and techniques, a heavy physical conditioning element, and will mimic professional rehearsal/performance standards designed to help students develop the rigorous work ethic necessary for professional performance careers.

Course Objectives:

- improve overall dance technique and ability
- increase strength, health, flexibility, and confidence
- expand knowledge of and familiar with the musical theatre dance repertoire
- learn to pick up choreography quicker
- demystify professional dance auditions and represent yourself to the best of your ability when auditioning
- recognize a choreographer's style, know which shows he/she is famous for, and understand the cultural, historical, and societal impact of their work.

Dance Attire and Class Etiquette

SHOES: Classes will involve a variety of combinations encompassing many different styles. Those pursuing this as a profession should consider adding the following shoes to their arsenal.

*If you already have dance shoes but are worried they're not the right heel height or whatever, no worries. The info below is merely a guide. Please get in touch with me if you have any questions!



- 1) Character heel.
Industry standard heel height is 2.5"



- 2) Jazz shoe/slipper



* Color is up to you!



Dancers are welcome to wear whatever shoes in which they feel most comfortable!



- 1) Character shoe
- 2) Jazz shoe/slipper



* Color is up to you!

* For me, it is always okay for you to wear tennis shoes, sneakers, or dance in bare/socked feet. Just make sure whatever shoe you choose to wear is not your outside/street shoe as no outside/street shoes are allowed in the dance studios.

CLOTHES: Form-fitting clothes are probably most beneficial for dancers to clearly see the lines and shapes they make while they move. Many dancers choose to wear heavier/looser/baggier clothes at the start of class and shed layers as their body begins to warm up.

FOOD: Although no food is allowed in the dance studios, I encourage you to bring healthy snacks to refuel before/after class and even during water breaks.

WATER: Hydration is key to your body performing the way you want it to. Invest in a re-useable water bottle to bring with you into the studio. Drink water all day long.

CELL PHONES: You may take video of the choreo we learn to help you practice on your own, but you may absolutely NOT share any video taken in class publicly.

A note about Physical Touch...

The nature of our work as dancers involves an intimate relationship with our bodies and sometimes the bodies of dancers around us. Partnering, weight-sharing, and other forms of body-to-body contact will occasionally be a part of the material we're studying. In addition, although I will always attempt to offer corrections and guidance verbally, there may come a time when the use of a physical correction will be helpful to aid with positioning, alignment, or execution of a particular movement. If you are uncomfortable with ANY of the above, no problem. Feel free to contact me however you're most comfortable so you and I can come up with a solution together.

Content Warning

It is possible that some of the material we cover in class may be unsettling or difficult for students. You are always welcome to step away for a moment, without penalty, should we cover material or explore something that affects you in this way. Please feel free to communicate concerns or considerations of which you wish me to be aware at any time throughout the semester.

Schedule

Daily schedule will depend on the technical needs of the class as well as the speed at which they are comfortably able to move through material.

| | |
|---------|---|
| Week 1 | <i>Choreographer study, warm-up, technique exercises, and combination</i> |
| Week 2 | <i>Choreographer study, warm-up, technique exercises, and combination</i> |
| Week 3 | <i>Choreographer study, warm-up, technique exercises, and combination</i> |
| Week 4 | <i>Choreographer study, warm-up, technique exercises, and combination</i> |
| Week 5 | <i>Choreographer study, warm-up, technique exercises, and combination</i> |
| Week 6 | <i>Choreographer study, warm-up, technique exercises, and combination</i> |
| Week 7 | <i>Choreographer study, warm-up, technique exercises, and combination</i> Mid-Term Evaluation provided |
| Week 8 | <i>Choreographer study, warm-up, technique exercises, and combination</i> |
| Week 9 | <i>Choreographer study, warm-up, technique exercises, and combination</i> |
| Week 10 | <i>Choreographer study, warm-up, technique exercises, and combination</i> |
| Week 11 | <i>Choreographer study, warm-up, technique exercises, and combination</i> |
| Week 12 | <i>Choreographer study, warm-up, technique exercises, and combination</i> |
| Week 13 | <i>Choreographer study, warm-up, technique exercises, and combination</i> |
| Week 14 | Final Presentation Review & Prep |
| Week 15 | Final Presentations |

Mid-Term Check-In: Half-way through the semester, students will be given a summary of their attendance and be notified if their "Daily Classroom Participation" grades are on track to negatively affect their final grade. Please see the next page for a complete "Daily Classroom Participation" breakdown.

Grading

Semester grade will be based on a

100 point scale

| Letter Grade | | GPA Equivalency |
|-------------------|--------|-----------------|
| A | 100-94 | 4.0 |
| A- | 93-90 | 3.67 |
| B+ | 89-87 | 3.33 |
| B | 86-84 | 3.00 |
| B- | 83-80 | 2.67 |
| C+ | 79-77 | 2.33 |
| C | 76-74 | 2.00 |
| C- | 73-70 | 1.67 |
| D+ | 69-67 | 1.33 |
| D | 66-64 | 1.00 |
| D- | 63-60 | .67 |
| E, I, NG, S-U, WF | 59-0 | 0.00 |

Current UF grading policies can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

Attendance: 40 Points.

If you are nursing an injury, please let me know. You can observe class without penalty.

| Absences | Total Deduction from Semester Grade |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | Ok! |
| 2 | Ok! |
| 3 | -3 (conference with me) |
| 4 | -10 |
| 5 | -20 |
| 6 | -30 |
| 7 | automatic failure |

| Late | Total Deduction from Semester Grade |
|------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | Ok! |
| 2 | Ok! |
| 3 | Ok! |
| 4 | -5 (conference with me) |
| 5 | -10 |
| 6 | -15 |
| 7 | -20 |

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/

Any absence from class for the following reasons must be supported by official acceptable documentation to avoid a grade penalty:

- Illness—doctor's note must be on official letterhead with address and phone number, noting the date and time of visit and diagnosis verifying that an absence from class is warranted, doctor name and signature
- Serious family emergencies
- Special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, professional conferences)
- Military obligation
- Severe weather conditions
- Participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate
- Court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena)

Daily Classroom Performance: 40 points

The categories below are each worth 8 points.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Attitude | Student is positive, optimistic, |
| Motivation | Student is focused, pushes self to increase technique, strength, and flexibility, and demonstrates the overall desire to improve as a dancer... |
| Preparation | Student is wearing proper attire, has learned the material we covered in the previous class, is well-rested/hydrated/fed, and ready to approach the work like a professional... |
| Execution of Combos | Student is choreographically accurate, rhythmically precise, and displays an understanding of the proper style... |
| Direction & Correction | Student applies direction and corrections to the best of their ability... |
| | 8 Points = Always |
| | 6 Points = Most of the time |
| | 4 Points = Sometimes |
| | 2 Points = Rarely |
| | 0 Points = Never |

Final Presentation: 20 Points.

This will be a showing during one of our last classes. We'll choose material that we learned throughout the semester and connect it all together through a structured performance. We will spend time in class reviewing and preparing this material before the final presentation date. Grading for the final presentation will be broken down as follows. Each of the following categories are worth 5 points.

| | |
|---|---|
| <u>Preparation:</u> | Student displays confident familiarity with the choreographic structure and is ready to perform at a professionally reliable level... |
| <u>Choreographic Accuracy:</u> | Student is choreographically accurate, rhythmically precise, and displays an understanding of the proper style... |
| <u>Attitude, Effort, and Energy:</u> | Student is positive, enthusiastic, supportive of other students, and commits 100% of their energy... |
| <u>Growth & Improvement:</u> | Student demonstrates evidence of growth and improvement as compared to the start of the semester... |
| | 5 points = throughout the entire performance |
| | 4 points = throughout most of the performance |
| | 3 points = throughout some of the performance |
| | 2 points = throughout very little of the performance |
| | 1 points = throughout none of the performance |
| | 0 points = (student did not show up to participate) |

University Policies

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: <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/> 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.

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

<https://gatorevals.aa.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

<https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>

Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at

<https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>

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: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

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 Policy on Course Syllabi Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: Contact Uf Helpdesk (helpdesk.ufl.edu) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

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

Library Support (cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask): Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center (teachingcenter.ufl.edu): Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio (writing.ufl.edu/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 (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-%20code-student-conduct-code/>)

On-Line Students Complaints: View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process (<https://distance.ufl.edu/getting-help/student-complaint-process/>)

Campus Resources

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, 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 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 the 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, FL 32608; Visit ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center

GatorWell Health Promotion Services: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the <https://gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu/> or call 352-273-4450.