

**BA Senior Project (Thesis) Syllabus**  
**DAN 4959 Section 3493**  
**Spring 2025**  
**Meetings: Dates TBA**  
**UnShowings: Check Calendar Spring 2025**

**II. INSTRUCTOR/Mentor**

Name: Isa García-Rose  
Email: isa@ufl.edu  
Phone: 352-294-0457  
Office Hours: T/TH 11:00-12:30pm & by appointment request  
Zoom Link: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/3724118694>  
Meeting ID: 372 411 8694  
Office: Nadine McGuire Theatre & Dance Pavilion 206

**BA Senior Project Description**

*Senior Project (SP)* is the capstone course for all BA dance students. The *SP* is an original research initiative, which culminates in a written paper, determined by the student in consultation with a dance faculty member and subject to approval by the dance area. The project is to innovatively merge the student's academic and dance interests. Take advantage of the open structure to the BA *Senior Project*, as it provides you with an unequaled flexibility to explore research areas. For example, the *SP* may serve you as a touchstone for post-graduation research, become a notable highlight in your resume, potentially publishable, and innovatively further the field of dance.

The paper may be supplemented by a presentation, but a presentation is not required. Please read further for more information on optional BA presentations.

***BA Senior Project Summary***

The year before you will enroll in Senior Project (typically the final semester of your third year):

- ✓✓ **Select an advisor from the dance faculty** (and a co-advisor from outside the dance faculty, as you may decide).
- ✓✓ **Establish and declare your research topic.**
- ✓✓ **NOTE: You are required to establish and declare your research topic** by the last two

semesters before graduation (typically by the end of your final semester of your third year). If there are any issues with your topic, your dance faculty advisor will guide you through. Work with your advisor to complete your *Senior Project* registration form with complete information regarding topic and method of evaluation before submitting to Undergraduate Advisor.

- ✓✓ **Choose fall or spring semester of senior year to register for SP**  
You are required to register for SP in fall or spring semester only (not both) and should be agreed upon with your advisor.

The semester that you enroll in Senior Project

- ✓✓ **Follow the BA Senior Project syllabus**  
Available on the college website, the syllabus contains all deadlines and the evaluative process for final grading.
- ✓✓ **For research that uses human subjects**  
This requires specific paper work and must follow university protocols and requires additional time. Please see: <http://irb.ufl.edu/index/humansrch.html>
- ✓✓ **If applicable, arrange presentation with your advisor** **Senior Project 'Thesis' Paper**

The Senior Project paper is the final phase of your Senior Project and the articulation of your research. It is expected that you will use the following format in the writing of your Senior Project paper.

#### **Spring 2025 Paper Deadlines\*:**

**By Thursday, Jan. 23, 2025:** Please have emailed about how your paper/idea is shaping up. All related assignments (complete outline, abstract draft and finalized bibliography) will be turned in to your Senior Project advisor.

**Thursday, Feb. 13, 2025:** Organizational Outline due by 5:00PM.

**Friday, March 14, 2025:** First draft due by 5:00PM. Notify me should you need a short extension.

**Friday, April 18, 2025:** Second/final after mentor edits draft due by 5:00PM.

**Third draft:** If your advisor needs further edits, this would be accomplished during a timeline established between you and your advisor.

**Date of Final Draft TBD after feedback and editing incorporated. To be completed by graduation!**

\*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.

#### **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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 actually 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...)

## BA Paper with Presentation - Guidelines

The BA students' *Senior Projects* have potential for presentation in diverse public fora. A presentation may be a choreographed work or work-in-progress, teaching demonstration, documentary-style film, PowerPoint presentation, or other. While **a presentation is not required**, the dance area will support you as resources allow. **A presentation does not replace the paper. Please note that a choreographed dance, done for its own sake, would not be approved as a viable BA Senior Project.**

**Please also note that** there is no SoTD budget available for BA *Senior Projects*. If you do decide to include a presentation as a part of your grade, this presentation should be executed as professionally as possible, given the limited resources, and reflect the highest standards for academic/creative research.

Students with a viable presentation related to their research paper may have several options for exhibition:

- An alternate location associated with another college/program—such as the Harn Museum Nights, the Harn Museum of Dance, or other.

□ Presentation through an existing group with another venue for presentation, such as the Center for Arts in Medicine (AIM), the VISA talent show, a UF student dance company, other UF Student Government approved organizations, etc.

□ A regularly scheduled *UnShowing*. Please note that *UnShowings* do not receive technical support (lights, costumes, etc.). Showing/Presentation is limited to 12 minutes and should require minimal set-up. You may petition for a more in depth/longer presentation.

□ Other outlets/venues that you identify.

**Examples of previous successful BA presentations** (in conjunction with their research paper):

- >> PowerPoint presentation of creative work linked with Veteran causes and concerns.
- >> Documentary film using Laban Movement Analysis as a toolkit for women with Lymphedema.
- >> Dance Film – creative and technical study.
- >> Presentation related to a University Scholars award.
- >> Creative work exploring and exhibiting the choreographer’s concept of collaboration.

## Evaluation:

The general criteria for BA assessment will apply to the overall project and written paper. The BA Senior Project should be a clear and articulate integration of the student’s areas of interest and studies in Dance as well as other major, minor, and certificate studies.

## Grading Rubric

	<b>Exemplary = A/A-</b>	<b>Satisfactory = B/B-C+/C</b>	<b>Unsatisfactory = C-and below</b>
<p><b>Content</b></p> <p>Develops competency in the terminology, concepts, methodologies, and theories of dance studies and knowledge of varied applications of dance.</p>	<p>Commands an exceptional disciplinary fluency to freshly interpret and advance knowledge.</p>	<p>Develops adequate disciplinary competency to effectively interpret knowledge.</p>	<p>Student fails to develop effective disciplinary competency.</p>
<p><b>Critical Thinking</b></p> <p>Analyzes and fosters dance studies inquiry in correlation with diverse creative, historical, social, cultural perspectives, and/or other disciplinary perspectives.</p>	<p>Demonstrates exemplary ability to recognize, probe, and develop relationships between dance and varied disciplines.</p>	<p>Demonstrates ability to recognize, probe, and develop relationships between dance and varied disciplines.</p>	<p>Fails to demonstrate ability to probe and develop relationships between dance and varied disciplines.</p>
<p><b>Communication</b></p> <p>Develops and articulates in writing and/or practice applications of dance studies.</p>	<p>Innovatively applies dance studies and communicates analyses with exceptional effectiveness.</p>	<p>Realizes a solid level of application and effectively</p>	<p>Does not realize a solid level of dance studies application and analyses.</p>

		communicates analyses.	
--	--	------------------------	--

### **Evaluation**

<b>Points</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>
15 pts	Outline	Mentor
20 pts	First Draft	Mentor
20 pts	Second/Final	Mentor
15 pts	Content	Mentor
15 pts	Critical Thinking	Mentor
15 pts	Communication	Mentor
<i>100 pts</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Grade submitted by Mentor</i>

### **Honors Thesis**

Depending on your approach to your quantitative, qualitative, and/or 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.

### **Attendance**

Attendance will follow dance area attendance policy (please refer to technique syllabus for details). Unexcused absences are deductions on the total amount of points the student receives.

#### Student on-line evaluation process

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.aa.ufl.edu/students/](http://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 [ufl.bluera.com/ufl/](http://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.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.

Netiquette: 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](mailto: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/](http://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 <https://shcc.ufl.edu/>
- 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

- E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).
- 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 of the 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.

## **Spring 2025 Dance Calendar**

[Link](#) to production calendar

TBD: Critical Response Appointments for 3<sup>rd</sup> years and graduating Seniors

### **January**

13 – First day of classes

    Welcome Back Meeting G-6, 6:30p

14 – Auditions for Prof. Onye Ozuzu's new work for *Spring Into Dance*, 5-7p, G-6

20 – NO CLASSES, MLK DAY

21 – Master Class with Cirque Kalabanté, 11:15a, G-6

    UFPA: Cirque Kalabanté, 7:30p, Phillips Center

22 – Possible ACDA adjudication showing, 6:30p in G-6 (open to all)

24 – BFA auditions for UF regular admission – all day G-6 and varied SoTD spaces

27 – UnShowing and ACDA adjudication for BFA Showcase choreographers only, 6:30-8:30p, G-6

30 – Ric Rose Alumni Award: Lecture with Guest Artist Juliana Azoubel 8:45-10:15a, G-6

    Ric Rose Alumni Award: Guest Masterclass with Juliana Azoubel during CAADDP classes, G-6

31 – Ric Rose Alumni Award: Master Class with Guest Artist Juliana Azoubel 10:40-12:35a, G-6

    Ric Rose Alumni Award presentation 6:00 to 8:00p, G-6

### **February**

7 – *BFA Dance Showcase* Load In, G-6

    SoTD Macbeth – opening night (runs through 16<sup>th</sup>)

8 – UFPA: Dance Alive, *Dangerous Liaisons*, 7:30p, Phillips Center

9-11 – *BFA Dance Showcase*, spacing rehearsals, G-6

11-13 – UFPA: Riverdance, 7:30p, Phillips Center

13 - Museum Nights: Arts Across Africa, Harn 6-9pm

12-14 & 16 – *BFA Dance Showcase*, Tech rehearsals G-6

17 (Prog A) & 19 (Prog B) – *BFA Dance Dress* rehearsals, 7:30-10:30p, G-6

19 & 21 – *BFA Dance Showcase*, Prog A 7:30-9:00p, G-6

21 – UFPA: Niyaz presents The Fourth Light Project, 7:30p, Phillips Center

20 & 22 – *BFA Dance Showcase*, Prog B 7:30-9:00p, G-6

23 – *BFA Dance Showcase*, Prog A 1:30-3:00p, Prog B 4:00-5:30pm, Strike 5:30-7:30p, G-6

    UFPA: Sun Country Dance Theatre presents 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Youth Concert featuring

*Hansel and Gretel*, 2:30p, Phillips Center

24 – DARK DAY for Dance Majors—no technique classes

### **March**

3 – BA Spring Social and Info Session

6-9 – American College Dance Association (ACDA), regional conference at College of Charleston, SC

7 – SoTD *The Importance of Being Earnest* – opening night (runs through 14<sup>th</sup>)

11 – UFPA: The Peking Acrobats, 7:30p, Phillips Center

15-23 – SPRING BREAK

31 – *Spring Into Dance* spacing rehearsals begin, 6:30-10:30p, Black Box Theatre

### **April**

1 – UFPA: *The Great Gatsby Ballet* by the World Ballet Company, 7p, Phillips Center

1-3 – *Spring Into Dance* spacing rehearsals continue, 6:30-10:30p, Black Box Theatre

4 – *Spring Into Dance* Crew Orientation and Watch, 6-9:30p



5 – *Harn Museum of Dance*, tech rehearsal 9a-noon, performance 1-3p  
UFGA: Dance Alive, *Romeo and Juliet*, 7:30p, Phillips Center  
6-7 – *Spring Into Dance* Tech rehearsals and production meeting/notes, 6:30-11p, Black Box Theatre  
8-9 – *Spring Into Dance* Dress rehearsals and production meeting/notes, 7:30-11p, Black Box Theatre  
10-13 – *Spring Into Dance* performances, 7:30p Th-Sat, 2p Sun, Black Box Theatre (Strike Sunday)  
14 – DARK DAY for Dance majors—no technique classes  
17-18 – SoTD Staged Reading *The Conference of the Birds*, 7:30p, Black Box Theatre  
19 – UFGA: Limón Dance Company, 7:30p, Phillips Center  
21 – FINAL UNSHOWING, 6:30p-8:30p, G-6, format TBD  
23 – Last day of classes  
24-25 – Reading Days  
26-30 – Finals

**May**

1-2 – Finals  
2-4 – Commencement