

General Information

Section: 1000 (11538)

Meeting day/time: Tuesday/Thursday, Period 6-7 (12:50 -2:45)

Location: O'Connell Center Dance Studio Room 2205

Instructor: Meredith Farnum

Email: preferred email through Canvas Inbox or mfarnum@arts.ufl.edu

Office: Yon Hall

Office Hours: *Email me or speak with me before/after class to schedule a live or virtual appointment.*

Office Phone: 352-294-0458 / SOTD (School of Theatre and Dance) Main Office: 352-273-0500



Syllabi are posted at COTA website under: *Student & Parents:* <http://arts.ufl.edu/syllabi/>

Lab Fees can be located at: <http://aa.ufl.edu/policies/material-and-supply-fees/>

Canvas (e-learning): <http://elearning.ufl.edu>

Course Materials: available on Canvas

Catalog Description

Practice and principles of fundamentals and stylistic characteristics common to dance styles from what is considered the western canon such as ballet, concert jazz, and modern as well as other popular, commercial, and social dance forms.

(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 principles of the dance techniques, you will discover the rich heritage, challenging discipline, and diverse aesthetics 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 Contemporary Dance Practices, Contemporary Ballet Practices, and Contemporary African and African Diasporic Dance Practices.
- 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 and appropriate for movement.
- Hair needs to be pulled back neatly and away from face.
- Warmers should be form-fitting.
- No oversized clothing.
- Your ankles should be visible.
- Knee pads are encouraged.
- No large jewelry, including all non-stud earrings, necklaces & watches.
- No chewing gum.

Attendance Guide:

SOTD Dance Attendance:

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies.

- Mindful participation is the only way to meet the objectives of this course.
- Attendance, which is mandatory, means that when you enter the classroom or virtual space, 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 please check in with the instructor.
- 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 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.

Makeup classes for unexcused absences are not available.

Attendance Policy:

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.

For classes that meet two times a week:

- Students can take **2** absences with **no documentation** with **no penalty**.
- If the third absence is unexcused, it will result in 5% deduction from the **final grade**.

- Excused or unexcused, on the third absence, a meeting is required with the instructor and/or area faculty to assess the student's continued participation in the course.
- If the fourth absence and all subsequent absences are unexcused, each will result in an additional 5% deduction from the **final grade**.
- Requirements / opportunities to make up missed material is up to the instructor's discretion.
- Due to the participatory nature of the course that includes in-class collaboration along with partner and ensemble work, **4** unexcused absences may result in automatic failure of the course.

UF Attendance Policies

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

- Students are responsible for satisfying all academic objectives as defined by the instructor. Absences count from the first-class meeting.
- In general, acceptable reasons for absence from or failure to participate in class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays, and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition, or debate. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) must be excused. Other reasons also may be approved.
- You cannot participate in classes unless you are registered officially or approved to audit with evidence of having paid audit fees. The Office of the University Registrar provides official class rolls to instructors.
- If you do not participate in at least one of the first two class meetings of a course or laboratory in which you are registered, and you have not contacted the department to indicate your intent, you can be dropped from the course. You must not assume that you will be dropped, however.
- The university recognizes the right of the individual professor to make attendance mandatory. After due warning, professors can prohibit further attendance and subsequently assign a failing grade for excessive absences.

Please use the following locations for UF (University of Florida) 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)

Student online evaluation process

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>

Communication is especially 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 = 1000

Participation (including attire, positive attitude, etc.)	200 points
Technical and Artistic Progression	100 points
Discussion Posts and Responses (on Canvas) 5 @ 40 points each (30 pts initial post, 10 pts response post)	200 points
Museum Paper	50 points
Midterm Project (in class)	100 points
Final Project Presentation	200 points
Final Project Paper	150 points
Total points	1000

Grade Scale

Percentage	Points	Grade	Grade Points
93 – 100%	930 - 1000	A	4.00
90 – 92.99%	900 - 929	A-	3.67
87 – 89.99%	870 - 899	B+	3.33
82 – 86.99%	820 - 869	B	3.00
79 – 81.99%	790 - 819	B-	2.67
76 – 78.99%	760 - 789	C+	2.33
70 – 75.99%	700 - 759	C	2.00
67 – 69.99%	670 - 699	C-	1.67
64 – 66.99%	640 - 669	D+	1.33
59 – 63.99%	590 - 639	D	1.00
56 – 58.99%	560 - 589	D-	0.67
55% or below	550 or below	E	0.00

IMPORTANT DATES:

Week 1: readings	Module 1: Welcome to DAA1000 and Elements of Dance	Modules page on Canvas
Jan 14 & 16	Introduction to Somatic Practices	In class
Jan 21 – Feb 20 (W2-6)	Somatic and Contemporary Dance Practices	In class
Week 2: readings	Module 2	On Canvas
Jan 20	Martin Luther King holiday	No classes
	Visit the Harn Museum in small groups or individually	Before week 5
Jan 21 & 23	Module 2 Discussion Post and Responses	Assignment
Week 3: readings	Module 3	On Canvas
Jan 28 & 30	Module 3 Discussion Post and Responses	Assignment
Week 4: readings	Module 4	On Canvas

Feb 4 & 6	Module 4 Discussion Post and Responses	Assignment
Week 5: readings	Module 5	On Canvas
Feb 11 & 13	Module 5 Discussion Post and Responses	Assignment
Week 6: readings	Module 6	On Canvas
Feb 18 & 20	Module 6 Discussion Post and Responses	Assignment
Feb 18	Midterm Presentation	In class
Feb 20	Museum Paper Due	Assignment
Feb 25 – Mar 13 (W7-9)	Contemporary Ballet Practices	In class
Week 7: readings	Module 7	On Canvas
Week 8: readings	Module 8	On Canvas
Week 9: readings	Module 9	On Canvas
Week 10	Spring Break	No classes
Mar 25 – Apr 10 (W11-13)	Contemporary African and African Diasporic Dance Practices	In class
Week 11- 12	Review Module 7 – 9 Module 10 – Final Project Prompts Select Final Project groups	On Canvas and in class
Apr 15 – 17 (W14)	Work in class on group projects / complete group pieces and clean	In class
Apr 17	Final Project Performance	In class
Apr 22	Final Project Reflection due	Assignment

***ALL ABOVE DATES ARE SUBJECT TO VARIATION.

Reading is required to keep up with the course. Material will be continually referenced in class and discussions for each module. Reference the syllabus and Canvas for more details.

ASSIGNMENT AND TESTS

Technical and Artistic Progression (100 points) An ongoing in-class observation primarily for checking our communication goals and your degree of successful effort. Absences could affect this grade.

Discussion Post (30 points each for 150 points): On the discussion board on Canvas, each week you will be given prompts that reference the readings for the modules. You will watch the video posted by the instructor on the discussion and then write an initial post based on the prompts. Your post should reflect your understanding of the concepts and terminology presented in the module. (minimum 100 words)

Discussion Response (10 points each for a total of 50 points) You will read and view all the discussion posts. You will reply to one post of your choice. In your response you need to reference statements made by your fellow student as well as compare and contrast to your own post

Museum Paper (50 points) You will take a trip to the Harn Museum or The Museum of Natural History on Hull Rd. to find an inspirational exhibition for your midterm movement project. Submit a page description, including artist and title, (in Canvas) of the artwork or exhibition you are using for your choreographic inspiration. The choreography will be presented as part of your midterm evaluation.

In-class Project (Mid-term) (100 points) Based on discussions and related assignments, the instructor will inform the class of the details of this project, which will be worked on in-class. This project will provide you with the basics on how the class will proceed with the final project

Final Project (200 points) Each student will choose one of the dance techniques discussed in Modules 6 & 7 to create a movement study that will relate to the historical context of the selected technique. Submissions can be via video on the Discussion Board or presented live in-class. Each student must include at least a one-page reflection paper. Detailed instructions are on the Modules page.

From the above selection, the student may create a solo or work collaboratively to choreograph a 1.5 to 2-minute composition. It is up to you to choose your own group of dancers to work with. If you need assistance, let me know. There will be time in class available for working on projects, but also be prepared to meet outside of class if needed. The time spent in class working on your project is part of participation/attire and will affect your final grade. Absences are discouraged during this time and will affect your final project grade. If working with others, then this project is about everyone in the group. Work Together! Make sure you exchange contact information with other members in your group. Additional information will be provided in class. This is your final performance for this class. Costumes and/or props can be included (if needed). Have FUN and be creative. This is your opportunity.

Final Project Evaluation: In-class work – 50 points
Choreography and performance elements – 50 points
Written analysis – handed in at time of performance – 25 points
Performance – 75 points

Final Project Reflection (150 points) Also, every dancer must hand in at least one page typed, double space journal on their final project experience. See the final project instructions for details.

The assignments in this course are designed to help you develop writing, analytical, and critical thinking skills. As a course requirement it is expected that you will perform work for this class without the assistance of any artificial intelligence (AI) technology such as ChatGPT and Grammarly. **Therefore, if you submit assignments that have utilized an AI generator (in whole or part) you will be treated as having engaged in academic dishonesty.**

In an effort to be abundantly clear, while AI technology is new and constantly evolving, please know that using ChatGPT or any other AI text generator to assist in writing your papers, or completing other written assignments, is construed as plagiarism and will be treated as such. Those found to have engaged in such academic misconduct may be subject to any additional sanctions listed in the student code. (see Section 3a, 3e, 3f, & 3h of [Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code](#) as well as the definition of entity)

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: ACADEMIC honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the [UF Student Honor Code](#): 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. 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 in this class.

COUNSELING AND WELLNESS CENTER CONTACT INFORMATION:

<https://counseling.ufl.edu> , 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.

<http://teach.ufl.edu/docs/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>

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](#).

<https://shcc.ufl.edu/forms-records/excuse-notes/> (excuse note policy)

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](#).

ADDITIONAL MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES:

1. UF has an Equal Access Mental Health Clinic that has a Free Therapy Night every Monday night that UF is considered open. Here is the FB page through which one can book appointments as well: <https://www.facebook.com/equalaccessclinic/>

2. The UF School of Medicine Equal Access Clinic website is here and has the above mental health services as well as specialized Women’s and LGBT medicine:

<https://equalaccess.med.ufl.edu/specialty-clinics-classes/>

3. Alachua County Crisis Center web site:

<https://alachuacounty.us/depts/css/crisiscenter/pages/services.aspx>

Offers Crisis Counseling as well as a Mobile Response Unit that attends severe mental health crises.

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: Numerous ways to receive assistance with respect to using 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.](#)

Dean of Students: [Areas and Service](#)

UF Online: [One Stop](#)