

CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN AND AFRICAN DIASPORIC DANCE PRACTICES 2: JAZZ FALL 2023

DAA 2342 Section 1342 & 134U, Class # 28604 & #29176
Tuesday/Thursday 12:50 PM - 2:45 PM

INSTRUCTOR: Meredith Farnum mfarnum@arts.ufl.edu *

*Email Policy: Preferred email correspondence through CANVAS. Please include your name & class in the subject line or within the body of all correspondence.

Syllabi are posted at CFA 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>

Office: Nadine McGuire Theatre & Dance Pavilion, Room T212

Office Hours: Hours are posted on faculty office doors

Hours for Meredith before and after class or by appointment. *Please email me to schedule an appointment.*

Office Phone: Meredith: 352-294-0458 / SoTD Main Office: 352-273-0500

College of the Arts (COTA) Information

School of Theatre and Dance (SoTD) Information

Important Academic Dates:

- **First day of classes:** Wed. 8/23 (**Add/Drop:** 8/23 – 8/25, 8/28 - 8/29)
- **SoTD Fall Convocation:** TBA
- **Labor Day holiday:** Mon. 9/4 (No classes, UF offices closed)
- **Homecoming:** 10/6 & 10/7 (No classes)
- **Veterans Day holiday:** Fri. 11/10 (No classes, UF offices closed)
- **Thanksgiving break:** Wed. 11/22 (No classes, UF offices OPEN), Thurs. 11/23 – Fri. 11/25 (No classes, UF offices CLOSED)
- **Last day Fall 2022 classes:** Wed. 12/6
- **Reading Days:** 12/7 & 12/8, **Finals:** 12/9 – 12/15

REQUIRED READING:

Articles and handouts posted in Canvas modules

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Intermediate level classes in jazz combining technique, style and movement skills. Prerequisite: audition.

Credits: 2; can be repeated with change in content up to 6 credits. Prerequisite: DAA 1000 with minimum grade of C, or audition.

The purpose of this course is to continue to develop Jazz technique and to develop a “thinking body” through active participation and personal discovery. Drawing on a variety of influences, this class will emphasize moving with an ease in the joints and developing a grounded neutral body with an increased range of movement. There will be a focus of musical time and rhythms. We will focus on understanding and demonstrating the aesthetic attributes and styles of Jazz dance rooted in the history of Jazz evolution originating from African dance and music influences. We will become familiar with the vocabulary and terminology associated with Jazz dance. We will also focus on each individual student regarding style and performance quality.

OBJECTIVES:

With successful completion of this course you will be able to demonstrate correct body alignment during floor, center, and locomotor exercises as well as perform intermediate combinations and recognize aesthetic attributes of Jazz dance. We will concentrate on developing a technical proficiency, increased range of motion, and musicality of the dancer. We will explore warm-up, center practice and traveling combinations.



Please Note: Our work in the studios is designed to be challenging; physically, intellectually, and emotionally. Dance classes often involve touching. Physical contact may range from simple touch to correcting alignment. Students may also be asked to experiment with exercises that involve weight exchange. If you have a related medical consideration or touch is uncomfortable or triggers trauma, please notify the instructor at the start of the semester via e-mail or personal meeting.

DRESS POLICY:

- Attire should be form-fitting and appropriate for movement. Jazz shoes may be used for across the floor and choreography portion of class. Socks recommended for warmup.
- Hair should be pulled back neatly and away from face.
- No warmers unless they are form-fitting. All warmers should be removed following warm-up.
- Knee pads are encouraged.
- No oversized clothing.
- Your ankles should be visible.
- No large jewelry, including all non-stud earrings, necklaces & watches.
- No chewing gum.

COURSE POLICIES:

ATTENDANCE

For classes that meet two times a week:

- Students can take 2 absences with no documentation and 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 for unexcused absences is up to the instructor's discretion and may be made available through virtual classes or online assignments. **Communication is important.**
- Tardy Policy: You are late after role has been taken/class has begun. Points will be deducted for being late or leaving early for any reason. There will be a 5-minute grace period. Three tardies for regular class meetings equal 1 unexcused absence.

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.

Note: Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

- 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)

To help organize accommodations, students should inform the instructor by the end of the second week of classes of religious observances of their faith that may conflict with class attendance this semester.

MAKE-UP POLICY:

Dance Technique Class – Makeup Policy

- You are responsible for all material covered during any absence
- There are no makeup options for unexcused absences
- Absences from Written Exams, Quizzes, Mid-Terms, and/or Finals may only be made up with approved documentation
- To earn credit (amount of credit determined by the instructor) for an excused absence you must do two things:
 - 1) Immediately after your return to class, turn in approved/legal documentation to instructor. If you need the original documentation, the instructor will accept copies.
 - 2) Make-up the class with an approved assignment submitted on the required date. If the assignment is to attend another class as a make-up, it must be the same technical level, or lower; student must request permission of that instructor.

UF Absence Policy The requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies. Please click the following link for details: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

STUDENT ONLINE EVALUATION PROCESS

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://gatorevals.aa.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. The instructor is the only person that views your written comments. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>

EVALUATION

Event attendance	20 points	See information below about Required Performance and Event Participation. (assignment information is located on Canvas)
Discussion	10 points	Assignment on Canvas and will relate to readings/audio/videos. Initial post due 9/5, responses due 9/7
Research Project	20 points	Thursday, September 28 (work in studio) Tuesday, October 3 (research presentation) Topic to be assigned in class relating to significant events and/or participants in the history of jazz dance. Students will research topic and create a movement study. Presentations will be a performance of the movement study along with a brief overview of the assigned topic. Additional details given in class and on Canvas.
Midterm Evaluation	20 points	Thursday, October 19 In Class evaluation of student's understanding and progress relating to the material presented thus far in studio practice. May include warm-up, across the floor and center combinations. Instructor will provide individual feedback.
Final Project	30 points	Tuesday, December 5 Performance project will be presented representing the culmination of movement studied throughout the semester demonstrating student's discovery of personal style and performance quality. May be a solo, duet or trio. Presentation may be submitted through a virtual format.

Your overall score may be affected by your attendance record.

EACH STUDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MONITORING HER/HIS OWN PROGRESS

Grading Scale:

Percentage	Grade	Grade Points
93 – 100%	A	4.00
90 – 92.99%	A-	3.67
87 – 89.99%	B+	3.33
82 – 86.99%	B	3.00
79 – 81.99%	B-	2.67
76 – 78.99%	C+	2.33
70 – 75.99%	C	2.00
67 – 69.99%	C-	1.67
64 – 66.99%	D+	1.33
59 – 63.99%	D	1.00
56 – 58.99%	D-	0.67
55% or below	E	0.00

Week 1	Introduction: review syllabus, icebreakers, introduction of warmup sequence and across the floor movements.
Week 2	Continued development of warm-up with focus on isolations, inward/outward rotations, upper/lower body coordination as well as introduction of conditioning and flexibility practices (dos & don'ts)
Week 3	Warmup, conditioning, flexibility, across the floor. Introduction of center combination (theatrical jazz). Discussion Post due on 9/5, responses due 9/7.
Week 4	Warmup, conditioning, flexibility, across the floor. Continued work on center combination (theatrical jazz).
Week 5	Warmup, conditioning, flexibility, across the floor. Continued work on center combination (theatrical jazz).
Week 6	Warmup, conditioning, flexibility, across the floor. Introduction of center combination (lyrical) on Tuesday. Work in studio on Research Presentation on 9/28.
Week 7	Warmup, conditioning, flexibility, across the floor. Continued work on center combination (lyrical) Present Research in class on 10/3.
Week 8	Warmup, conditioning, flexibility, across the floor. Continued work on center combination (lyrical)
Week 9	Warmup, conditioning, flexibility, across the floor. Continued work on center combination (lyrical) Midterm Evaluation in class on 10/19.
Week 10	Warmup, conditioning, flexibility, across the floor. Introduction of center combination (contemporary)
Week 11	Warmup, conditioning, flexibility, across the floor. Continued work on center combination with (contemporary)
Week 12	Warmup, conditioning, flexibility, across the floor. Continued work on center combination with (contemporary)
Week 13	Warmup, conditioning, flexibility, across the floor. Continued work on center combination with (contemporary)

Week 14	Warmup, conditioning, flexibility, across the floor. Begin working on group projects.
Week 15	Warmup, conditioning, flexibility, across the floor. Continue working on group projects.
Week 16	Final presentations. Due 12/5

***Disclaimer:** This syllabus represents current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected. Any changes in technique exam dates due to unseen circumstances will be announced in class and posted on the dance board in a timely fashion.

Required Performance and Event Participation

To help you to “think outside the box,” you must venture outside the studio!

BFA/BA Majors: In addition to attending all classes, attendance is required at the all the following events plus 1 outside professional show. Your instructor will provide guidelines as to proof of viewing which will be produced within one week after viewing production. Depending on your technique schedule, you may use these same events/performances for other technique classes, as well.

Non-Majors: Required - *Agbedidi* and one outside professional show. Your instructor will provide guidelines as to proof of viewing that will be produced within one week after viewing production. Depending on your technique schedule, you may use these same events/performances for other technique classes, as well.

Required Performance and Event Dates

Dates/times subject to change – please check dance bulletin board and/or contact appropriate box office. You will receive a voucher (coupon) at the beginning of the semester for assigned SoTD productions with instructions of how to use it to get discount tickets. Viewing of SoTD plays is highly recommended, but not required. Non-majors, please verify event schedule with instructor, as you may not be required for attendance at all events.

Fall 23 Dance Calendar

August

- 23 – Classes begin
- 24 – 4:00-5:00pm SoTD Convocation (Black Box?)
- 24 – 5:30-6:30pm G-6 Agbedidi 2023 Auditions
- 28 – 6:30 – 8:30 pm BFA choreographer audition

September

- 14 – 12:50 – 2:20 pm G-06 – Chad Gaspard Lecture/Dance Class (Ric Rose Alumni Award)
- 15 – 10:40 – 12:25 pm G-06 – Chad Gaspard Friday Master Class (Ric Rose Alumni Award)

October

6 – Homecoming (no classes)
15 – 7:30pm Nobuntu @ UFPA - OUTSIDE PERFORMANCE
20 – 9am – 4:30pm – BFA Program Auditions
23 – 6:30 8:30pm Unshowing #1 (tentative)
26 – 8:00pm - Limon Dance Company - OUTSIDE PERFORMANCE at Santa Fe College
27 – Young Dancers Workshop - 7:30p Showcase A - OUTSIDE PERFORMANCE at Santa Fe in the evening
27 – 7:30pm DANB - *Swan Lake* @ UFPA - OUTSIDE PERFORMANCE
28 – Young Dancers Workshop - 7:30p Showcase B - OUTSIDE PERFORMANCE at Santa Fe in the evening
30 - 6:30 8:30pm Unshowing #2 (tentative)

November

1 – 7:30pm Ndlovu Youth Choir @ UFPA - OUTSIDE PERFORMANCE
10 – Veterans Day (no classes)
13 – 17 – CRAs (1st Years, 3rd Years and 1st Semester Transfers) (Tentative)
22 – 26 – Thanksgiving Break

December

1 – 7:30pm – Agbedidi Concert, SOTD – Studio G-6
2 – 7:30pm Agbedidi Concert, SOTD – Studio G-6
3 – 2pm – Agbedidi Concert, SOTD – Studio G-6
6 – CLASSES END
7-8 – Reading Days
11 – CRA – Graduating Senior (Tentative)
9-15 – FINAL EXAMS

Call or Check the following for updated information:

Tickets will be available to reserve on the SoTD Events Page:

<http://arts.ufl.edu/academics/theatre-and-dance/current-season/>

- UF Performing Arts (Phillips Center) #: (352) 392-2787 <http://performingarts.ufl.edu/events/>
- SFC Fine Arts Hall Theatre (352) 395-4181 <http://www.sfcollege.edu/finearts/?section=calendar>

BFA/BA Dance Majors are **required** to attend CRA (when scheduled) with the dance faculty. Do not make travel plans at this time— grade points will be deducted. It is your responsibility to know your schedule. Check your (UF) email, the dance studio bulletin boards, Dance Area Headquarters Canvas page and Canvas calendar regularly.

UF POLICIES:

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students requesting accommodation for disabilities 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. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking

the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

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 at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php>.

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://sfrc.ufl.edu/courses/distance/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](#).

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: 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.

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

EVALUATIONS AND GRADING:

Midterm evaluation and final project: You will be observed by the instructor and perhaps other members of the dance faculty. Grades will be assigned based on the technical proficiencies listed above. For the BFA major, application of your technique work to concert/performance work will be factored into your technique grade.

GUIDING CONCEPTS

These following general concepts are applied to all areas of technical development and used by faculty to assess student progress:

“Self Awareness and Ensemble Skills

The student demonstrates an ability to retain an awareness of self while integrating their movement into spatial relationships with other persons and groups. The student should also demonstrate clarity in three-dimensional movements and an ability to sustain directionality in exercises and in phrases of substantial length.

Transitional Skills (Continuity of Flow)

Exercises should be performed with an understanding and dynamic use of different types of phrasing. Students should demonstrate an ability to sequence a variety of movements into an extended phrase: recognizing and moving through transitions and demonstrating follow-through of movement impulses as appropriate.

Performance Quality (Dynamic Awareness)

Each instructor will provide the class with specific movement and performance goals that delineate for the student: suitable use of energy, range of dynamics and movement qualities, the images or mind-set to evoke expressive and/or stylistic qualities and functional details

DANCER WELLNESS GUIDELINES

Mission

The Dance Wellness Program provides the artists, performers, and dancers with the utmost quality health care. Through collaborative efforts of the healthcare team, dance students shall receive holistic care including prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation for injuries and illnesses sustained as part of the Dance program. The Dance Medicine program is dedicated to creating an inclusive environment that promotes overall wellness for the student as both a performing artist and person.

Please visit the Dance Wellness Clinic Canvas page for more information. If you do not have access to the Canvas page, please check with your instructor.