Dance Ensemble 1 — DAA 4685

Syllabus

Fall 2013 Tuesday & Thursday 2:45-4:30pm
Nadine McGuire Theatre & Dance Pavilion G10
Instructor: Tiffany Rhynard
Choreography and Concept: ‘One House, One World’
Office Hours: By appointment
Email: trhynard@ufl.edu

Your name & class must appear in the subject line of all correspondence. ONLY use your UFL email account. www.arts.ufl.edu/theatreanddance

Course Information:
• Co-requisites: DAA 2104
• Number of Credits: 1

Objectives:
• To expand the dancer’s expressive and qualitative range of movement and performance.
• To develop musicality, dynamics, clarity and articulation in time and space.
• To expose the student to fresh approaches to the creative process.
• To provide the student with experiences that reinforce their discipline and strengthen their sense of responsibility within a pre-professional creative environment.
• To relate the student’s work in technique class to a rehearsal situation.
• To gain experience and develop an understanding of how to work in an ensemble.
• To empower the person/dancer/thinker/choreographer in each student.

Class Description:
This course is designed to develop technical range and performance skills through the study and production of dance repertory within the experience of the Ensemble 1 Repertory Project.

Dress Policy:
• Attire suitable for movement.
• NO oversized clothing.
• Your ankles must be visible.
• Hair needs to be confined and out of the dancer’s face.
• No large jewelry, including all non-stud earrings, necklaces & watches.
• KNEE PADS and LONG DANCE PANTS should be in your dance bag or locker EVERY class.
• No gum chewing PLEASE.

Students not in compliance with the above requirements will be considered absent from class.
UF Dance Attendance policy:

- Participation is the only way to meet the objectives of this course.
- Attendance is MANDATORY.
- INCOMPLETE grades will not be given without medical documentation. If approved, the Director, Instructor, and Student must sign a CFA Incomplete Contract.
- Five (5) points per un-excused absence will be deducted from your grade.
- If you are not present when attendance is taken you will be considered absent.
- If you are late, you may NOT join in if class has already started. To receive partial credit, one time you may observe and complete a written assignment as assigned by the instructor due at the end of class.
- If you leave early, 3 points will be deducted from your grade.
- If unable to dance, with instructor permission, one time you may ‘actively’ observe for full credit. You will complete a written assignment as assigned by the instructor due at the end of class.
- If you are consistently late or absent you will be ineligible to participate in performance opportunities.
- If you miss warm up, you will not perform.
- UF approved religious days are excused and do not need to be made-up. (Travel time not included.) You are still responsible for material covered during their absence.
- There are NO makeup classes.

In the UF Dance Program, three unexcused absences will reduce your grade one letter grade (i.e., from B to C). Each subsequent unexcused absence lowers your grade by half letter grade (i.e., from C to C-). After five unexcused absences the student may not return to class and result in automatic failure of the course. A student with medical documentation may apply to UF for medical withdrawal. An Incomplete is only considered by UF Dance in extreme cases and is not available in technique classes. Please use the following locations for UF resources for physical and mental health care: http://shcc.ufl.edu/ (Student Health Care Center)
http://shcc.ufl.edu/formsrecords/excuse-notes/ (excuse note policy)
http://dso.ufl.edu/ (Dean of Students)

- Students are responsible for remembering and maintaining ownership of rehearsal material and for being open and responsive to changes, revisions and criticisms.
- Students must assume a professional demeanor during creative periods; this includes attentiveness, energy, willingness to help other dancers and concern for her/his instrument, which includes being properly warmed up before each rehearsal.
- It is your responsibility to know your schedule. Check your email & the dance studio bulletin boards.
Important Dates:

October 26-November 3 ➔ UF Dance Showcase
Note: tech rehearsals will start Saturday, Oct 26. Plan to be available during the weekend and then every evening that week and through the show.

November 14-16 ➔ Tour to Valencia College
Note: We will travel as a group to Valencia College in Orlando to participate in their dance program concert.

Unshowings: on the following Mondays 6:30-9:00 p.m.
September 9, September 23, October 7, October 14, October 21

Artistic Biography

Tiffany Rhynard is a social activist, filmmaker, choreographer, and teacher. She is the artistic director of Big APE, an experimental dance company exploring the intersection between human behavior and performance. Rhynard made the transition to dance from visual art during her undergraduate tenure at UNC Greensboro where she received her BA in Dance. She holds an MFA in Choreography from the Ohio State University. As a performer, Rhynard has worked with various choreographers including Chavasse Dance and Performance Group, Brosseau Danceworks, X Factor, Laura Dean Dancers and Musicians, Gerri Houlihan, and John Gamble Dance Theater. Her choreography has been presented extensively in venues nationwide and internationally at Hotel Pupik in Scheifling, Austria and at Ponderosa in Stolzenhagen, Germany. Her video works have been screened at film/video festivals including the Dance for the Camera Film and Video Festival in Salt Lake City and Dancing for the Camera at the American Dance Festival. In addition to creating dances for the camera, Rhynard produces documentary films focused on issues of social justice with her production company Awkward Girl Productions. She has taught at Peace College, North Carolina Governor’s School, Ohio State University, State University of New York at Potsdam, and spent six years as Artist in Residence at Middlebury College. She travels for residency and free-lance work but currently lives in Gainesville, Florida.

www.bigapedance.com
Grading Policy:
Each participant will be required to sign a contract. This contract is a commitment of time and an agreement of responsibility. Your grade is based on your ability to uphold the terms of the agreement in accordance with the quality of your performance during the semester.

EACH STUDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MONITORING HER/HIS OWN PROGRESS
Special Accommodations: Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. Please Note: The 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 and/or relaxation massage. Students may also be asked to experiment with exercises that involve weight exchange. If this makes you uncomfortable, please notify the instructor. Honesty and Integrity: As a member of the University of Florida community, we expect you to hold yourself and your peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. If you need, or would like more feedback from the instructors, please do not be afraid to ask. You are welcome and encouraged to make an appointment during the semester to discuss your progress or any other question you may have. This is your education and you have a right to expect the fullest experience that can be provided for you. Please remember that unless you come to me personally with a problem, it will be assumed that you are happy and content with your circumstances.

The schedule and procedures in this course are subject to change.

Grade percentages:
- 50 points: Upholding the terms of the contract in accordance with the quality of your performance.
- 25 points: Attendance
- 25 points: Professional demeanor: attire, attitude, and work ethic.

A 95-100 points
A- 90-94
B+ 86-89
B 83-86 points
B- 80-82
C+ 77-79
C 73-76 points
C- 70-72
D+ 67-69
D 63-66 points
D- 60-62
E 59 and below
Contract

Our goal is to create a small performing ensemble designed to develop technical range and performance skills through the study and production of contemporary dance repertory within the company experience. I am interested in exploring the boundaries of movement and its potential for communication. I am dedicated to physically and imaginatively committing to training that reflects the standards of professional work.

I advocate:
Accessibility
Interdisciplinary explorations
Responsibility
Collaboration
Audience education and growth
Expanding creative and aesthetic choices
Taking artistic risks
Dance as a vehicle for expression
The beauty of the human spirit in motion

Company Policy:
As a member of the Ensemble One Repertory Project 2013 I am willing and able to commit to the following conditions:
• I will be a member of the company through April 2014.
• I will be present for EVERY scheduled rehearsal and performance.
• I will attend modern dance and ballet technique classes throughout the 2013/2014 academic year.
• I will be a passionate advocate and fearless ambassador for contemporary dance & theatre.

I ______________________, understand the above policies. I will do my utmost to fulfill my commitment to this project. I will approach my participation as a job in which communication with my peers, directors and collaborators is of the utmost importance. I will approach the job with an openness and: Be energetic and enthusiastic, be available and approachable, give information freely, be humorous, be fair, display interest, be decisive, be humble, be patient and calm, be tough, and make the most of this process of learning.

Signed: ______________________ Date: ______________________
WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

I, ____________________________, in consideration for educational benefits to be derived from participation in the University of Florida School of Theatre & Ensemble One Repertory Project during the 2011-2012 academic year hereby RELEASE, WAIVE, DISCHARGE AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE the University of Florida, the Board of Regents of the State of Florida, the State of Florida, their officers, servants, agents, or employees (hereinafter referred to as “RELEASEES”) from any and all liability, claims, demands, actions and causes of action whatsoever arising out of or related to any loss, damage, or injury, including death, that may be sustained by me, or to any property belonging to me, WHETHER CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or otherwise, while traveling to/from the activity, while participating in such activity, or while in, on or upon the premises where the activity is being conducted.

I am fully aware of the risks and hazards connected with participating in such activity, including the risk of injuries which can cause death, and I hereby elect to voluntarily participate in said activity, and to enter the above-named premises and engage in such activity, knowing that the activity may be hazardous to me and my property. I VOLUNTARILY ASSUME FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY RISKS OF LOSS, PROPERTY DAMAGE, OR PERSONAL INJURY, INCLUDING DEATH, that may be sustained by me, or any loss or damage to property owned by me, as a result of being engaged in such activity, WHETHER CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF RELEASEES or otherwise.

I further hereby AGREE TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS the RELEASEES from any loss, liability, damage, or costs, including court costs and attorney’s fees, that may incur due to my participation in said activity WHETHER CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF RELEASEES or otherwise. It is my express intent that this Release and Hold Harmless Agreement shall bind the members of my family and spouse, if I am alive, and my heirs, assigns, and personal representative, if I am deceased, and shall be deemed as a RELEASEE, WAIVER, DISCHARGE AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE the above-named RELEASEES. I hereby further agree that this Waiver of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida.

IN SIGNING THIS WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT, I ACKNOWLEDGE AND REPRESENT THAT I have read and understand the foregoing provisions and the attached established University of Florida student conduct code violations and the University of Florida Student Conduct Code; that violation by me of the policies, laws, and codes described above is grounds for disciplinary action up to and including termination or expulsion in accordance with applicable University of Florida and/or Board of Regents rules; that disciplinary action against me by the University of Florida does not preclude the possibility of criminal charges against me; that I sign this AGREEMENT voluntarily as my own free act and deed; no oral representations, statements, or inducement, apart from the foregoing written agreement, have been made; I am at least eighteen (18) years of age and fully competent; and I execute this Release for full, adequate, and complete consideration fully intending to be bound by same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal on this ___ day of _______.

WITNESS: ____________________________ ____________________________

Participant’s Signature

WITNESS: ____________________________