UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA SCHOOL OF THEATRE AND DANCE  
FUNDAMENTALS OF DANCE TECHNIQUE-DAA 1000  
SPRING 2014  

Instructor: Angela McDonough-DiFiore  
amcdonough@ufl.edu  
Office Hours: By appointment only  
DAA 1000, Section 1C17, M/W, 3 Credits  
Building SOC, Room 2450, Period 4-5 (10:40am-12:10pm)  

Catalog Description:  
Practice and principles of fundamentals and stylistic characteristics common to ballet, jazz, and modern dance.  

Objectives:  
● To provide a student, that has a limited or no previous dance background, with the basic techniques and history of ballet, modern and jazz.  
● Enhance your mind/body connection by practicing proper body alignment and learning the different principles of dance, creating a "thinking body", while gaining knowledge of the basic anatomy of the human body that directly relates to movement.  
● Concentration on practicing elements of performance quality, and discovering one's own potential and personal style, while developing your kinesthetic memory.  
● Experience, discuss and write about one live dance performance  

Attire:  
● Leotards and tights, or unitards, all form fitting garments. You may prefer a T-shirt and jazz pants, as long as they are completely form fitting. No shorts and no midriff or cut off tops. Men must wear a dance belt.  
● Please see the instructor if you have any questions regarding attire.  
● Form fitting "warmers" must be removed after the warm-up  
● NO extra shorts, baggy shirts, baggy pants, sweat pants, hats etc.  
● NO large jewelry, or watches  
● NO Gum  
● Hair must be swept away from the face and secured  
● You may want to bring a towel and a bottle of water to class with you.  
● Inappropriate attire or failure to dress for class will result in a deduction of 5 points from your grade  

Dance Etiquette:  
● Dance is an art and requires personal discipline and motivation. Respect for other students and the instructor is of the utmost importance.  
● Be aware of the appropriate times to talk and or sit.  
● Personal hygiene is expected and is its own reward.  
● Please do not text, check messages or make phone calls during breaks in class.
• Silence your cell phones completely before class begins.
• Be encouraging to others!

Attendance:
Attendance is mandatory. Participation is the only way to meet the objectives of this course. This means you are required to be on time, dressed in the proper attire, and attentive for the duration of the class time. It is highly encouraged that you actually arrive early to warm-up, prepare and focus for the class. The following attendance policy insures the integrity of the objectives of the course.
• Attendance is mandatory. You must be present for all scheduled classes, plus required concerts and events.
• There are no makeup classes. Each unexcused absence deducts 5 points from your grade.
• You are responsible for any material that you miss when you are absent.
• Excused absences are medical/and or family emergencies, UF school events/trips and UF approved religious holidays. and the instructor must receive appropriate and legit documentation within one week of the absence.
• Absences from a technique or written exam will result in a technique or test grade of zero.
• It is your responsibility to know your schedule. Plan ahead to see Dance 2014 (February 20-February 28, 2014 TBA) and the BFA Dance Showcase (April 10-April 13, 2014 TBA) You will be responsible for seeing either the A or B program for both concerts. Please keep your ticket stubs to turn in for credit.
• Three times tardy will make an absence. When late you must clear your entry into class with the instructor. You are late after the role has been taken/ class begun. You may not be permitted to join the class or observe if you are 15 minutes late or more.
• It is your responsibility to sign in before every class! The sign in sheet will be located at the front of the classroom in SOC 2450 every class meeting.
• Leaving class early requires the instructor's consent before class or it will count as an absence.
• If you are injured, see the instructor immediately.
• If you are unable to move, injured or sick you may "actively" observe class and complete a short observation assignment (due at the end of class). Class observation is not a time to do other homework, read, text, work on your laptop etc. You are only allowed 2 observation days unless you have a doctor's note stating otherwise.
• Prolonged illness or injury may result in dropping the course. Incomplete grades are rare, and only given with medical documentation. If approved, CFA Incomplete contract must be signed by the Director, Instructor, and Student.

Evaluation :
Attendance/ Attire Mandatory as explained above
Effort/Participation/progress 40 points
Technique exam/ technique final (20 points each) 40 points
2 written tests (25 points each) 50 points
Harn Museum visit Solo 20 points
Final Group Project 20 points
Performance Observation papers 30 points (15 points each)
Total=200

Grade Scale:
A =186-200 Points
A-=180-185 Points
B+=175-179 Points
B =166-174 Points
B-=160-165 Points
C+=155-159 Points
C =146-154 Points
C-=140-145 Points
D+=135-139 Points
D =126-134 Points

Important Dates and Deadlines:
Classes Begin Monday January 6, 2014
Drop and Add period Monday January 6, 2014-January 10, 2014
Technique Exam: Wednesday February 5, 2014
The technique exam is primarily for checking our communication of goals and your early
degree of successful effort.
Written Tests: #1 Wednesday February 12, 2014 , Test #2 Wednesday March 26, 2014
There will be two written tests based on reading assignments and in class discussion. #1
is chapters 1-4 and #2 is chapters 5 and 6. The readings are found in the Dance
Fundamentals Handbook.
Technique Final: Wednesday April 16, 2014
The final technique evaluation will be done during regular classes. This is an exam based
on your technical progress from mid semester to the end of the term.
Harn Museum Visit (TBA): Wednesday February 26, 2014 (solo showings)
Take a trip to the UF Harn museum at your leisure, on Hull Rd. and find an inspirational
piece of art for your one minute solo and group final project assignment. Write a paragraph
description of the artwork or exhibit you are using for your choreographic inspiration. Make
a one minute solo about how you feel the piece should be portrayed through movement.
Final Projects: Wednesday April 23, 2014 (group showings)
You will be placed into groups and you will work on choreography that will develop from
your visit to the UF Harn Museum. Each member of the group will collaborate on the final
choreography. The pieces will be 3-5 minutes, music of your choice, costumes of your choice and very well rehearsed. We will solidify the details at Midterm time, once we form our groups.

**Work Days for group project Final: TBA during April 2014**

**Performance Observation Papers Due April 18, 2014**

Attend Dance 2014 (A or B program) and the BFA Dance Showcase (A or B program) and write a two page, typed, double spaced, no cover sheet, college level, summary of what you observed (2 papers, one for each concert). Email the final observation papers and scanned tickets to amcdonough@ufl.edu by 12 Midnight April 23, 2014. You may turn the ticket stubs in to me in person during class, but please email the final papers.

**NO CLASSES: Monday January 20, 2014 Martin Luther King Day**

**CLASSES END: April 23, 2014**

**Communication:**

Obviously communication is very important! Please come to me with all questions and concerns at any time throughout the semester. You may make an appointment to speak with me before or after class regarding your progress or any questions you have regarding Dance Fundamentals. Email me at amcdonough@ufl.edu to schedule an appointment. You are encouraged to ask questions during class and if you need more feedback from the instructor, please do not be afraid to ask. Remember, unless you communicate to me directly, I will have to assume that you are satisfied, happy and clear about all materials presented. I want you to have a great dance experience.

**Text:**

The DAA 1000 Handbook was prepared especially for this course and is available FREE online. The link is: http://www.arts.ufl.edu/theatreanddance/downloads/syllabi.aspx Scroll to: Syllabi and click on DAA 1000 Fundamentals of Dance Handbook

Please bring a notebook and pen/ pencil to each class meeting. Please check the bulletin board outside of class for announcements.

See UF College of Fine Arts main page: www.arts.ufl.edu

* All items on this syllabus are subject to change during the course of the Spring 2012 semester.

**Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation.

**Academic Honesty Guidelines: The academic community of students and faculty at the University of Florida strives to develop, sustain and protect an environment of honesty, trust and respect. Students are expected to pursue knowledge with integrity. Exhibiting honesty in academic pursuits and reporting violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines will
encourage others to act with integrity. Violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines shall result in judicial action and a student being subject to the sanctions in paragraph XI of the Student Conduct Code. The conduct set forth hereinafter constitutes a violation of the Academic Honesty Guidelines (University of Florida Rule 6C1-4.017).**