BASIC MODERN
DAA 2104 / 7838  2 CREDITS
Monday/Wednesday/Friday  10:40 – 12:35

INSTRUCTORS OF RECORD:
ADVANCED: Kristin O’Neal  koneal@ufl.edu*
INTERMEDIATE: Tiffany Rhynard  trhynard@ufl.edu*
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BASIC: Tzveta Kassabova  tzveta@ufl.edu*

Offices: Nadine McGuire Theatre & Dance Pavilion
Office Hours: Hours posted on faculty office doors
             (Hours for Tiffany and Isa by appointment only)
Office Phone: 352-273-0500  Main Office

*Email Policy: Use ONLY your UFL.EDU email account for e-mail correspondence related to class: your name & class must appear in the subject line of all correspondence.

Syllabi are posted at CFA website under Student Life:
http://www.arts.ufl.edu/students/syllabi.aspx

RECOMMENDED READING:
The New York Times / Arts Section / Current Events

COURSE DESCRIPTION  Experience in beginning level technique, readings, observations and movement exploration.  Credits: 2; can be repeated with change in content up to 6 credits. Prereq: DAA 1000 with minimum grade of C, or audition.

GUIDELINES FOR LEVEL PROGRESSION IN MODERN DANCE TECHNIQUE:
Student progression in modern dance technique –
Classes maximize each instructor’s unique professional orientation to guide you in the dance program’s intentionally eclectic approach to contemporary dance. Using the objectives stated in this syllabus, the dance program assesses student progress through three levels of modern dance technique: basic, intermediate, and advanced. You are graded and considered for the next level according to your achievement of the criteria as determined by your instructor.

Course Objectives for Modern Technique
SoTD’s modern technique curriculum is designed to focus the intellectual and physical abilities of students—majors, minors, and non-majors—to embrace the demands of the 21st century artist. Each of the three levels builds the required historical, aesthetic, and biomechanical foundations for graduating as a major in our dance degree programs. Likewise, the minor or non-major must recognize
the classes as a pre-professional training ground by meeting the objectives at the appropriate level. When every student brings into every class their discipline and motivation, they will be ready to meet and greet the following goals common to each respective level of technique:

**BASIC MODERN COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- Learn what contemporary dance is and experience it personally.
- Understand the major traditional aesthetic premises and development of contemporary dance.
- Develop an informed view of the interaction of art and society in the 20th/21st Century.
- Develop basic level technique and performance skills.
- Learn how to develop strength, stretch, and range of mobility.
- Learn the essentials of core strength, musicality, and spatial awareness.
- Learn the fundamentals of improvisation and contact improvisation.
- Approach all training, practice and performance from an anatomically correct standpoint.
- Explore the expressive and qualitative range of movement and performance.
- Develop musicality, dynamics, clarity, and articulation in time and space.
- Empower the person/dancer/thinker/choreographer within.
- Experience creative processes & production of contemporary dance.

**COURSE POLICIES:**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Dance Technique Class Attendance Guide:**

- Mindful participation in each class meeting is the only way to meet the objectives of this course.
- Attendance, which is mandatory, means that when you enter the classroom, 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 you are marked absent.
- In the case of extended health issues, refer to the Injury and Illness Policy in the SoTD 2013-14 Handbook (SoTD website) and included in this syllabus.

**Dance Technique Class Absence Policy**

- Five (5) or more absences (excused or unexcused) result in automatic failure.
- All undocumented absences are unexcused: each unexcused absence = 5 point deduction. Excused absences may include those related to illness/injury which are documented by a medical professional. Events related to family emergencies or professional obligations should be discussed with your instructor.
- For your safety and the focus of the class, you may not join class if it has already started. You are late and counted absent; with instructor permission, you may observe.
- If you should leave class early, 3 points are deducted from your grade.
- If unable to dance but still attend, with instructor permission, you may ‘actively’ observe for full class credit, onetime. You will complete an assignment as assigned by the instructor due at the end
• UF approved religious days are excused and do not need to be made-up. (Travel time not included.)
You are responsible for material covered during your absence.
• A MEDICAL WITHDRAWAL will not be supported without approved documentation. An Incomplete
is only considered by UF Dance in extreme cases and is not available in technique classes.

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.
  2) Make-up the class with an approved assignment submitted or completed on the
    required date as determined by the instructor. If the assignment is to attend another
    class as a make-up, it must be the same technical level, or lower and the student must
    request permission of that instructor. (Some instructors do not allow this.)

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.

Please consult the following sites for UF’s physical and mental health resources:

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)

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://teach.ufl.edu/docs/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf]
GETTING HELP:

If applicable: For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Sakai, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Other resources are available at http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability resources
- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support

GRADING POLICIES:

1. Continuous Assessment 25 points

   These following areas are used by faculty to assess student progress throughout the semester:
   
   - Self-awareness—the student demonstrates an ability to retain an awareness of self while integrating their movement into spatial relationships with other persons and groups.
   - Transitional Skills—demonstrates an understanding and dynamic use of different types of phrasing with 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—observable growth as a performing artist both in class and on stage.
   - Creative Risk-taking—student dares to explore new territory.
   - Overall Improvement—student demonstrates a clear positive progression throughout the semester.

2. Event attendance 15 points

3. PROOF OF ACHIEVING TECHNICAL APTITUDE
   
   Midterm Evaluations 25 points In Class Wednesday February 26, 2014
   
   - PLACEMENT AND ALIGNMENT
   - CORE SUPPORT AND CONDITIONING
   - SPATIAL AWARENESS AND FULL BODY INTEGRATION
   - RHYTHMIC CLARITY/MUSICALITY
   - PROFESSIONALISM
     (all categories are outlined at the end of syllabus)

4. PROOF OF ACHIEVING TECHNICAL APTITUDE
   
   Final Evaluations 25 points In Class Wednesday April 16, 2014
   
   - PLACEMENT AND ALIGNMENT
   - CORE SUPPORT AND CONDITIONING
   - SPATIAL AWARENESS AND FULL BODY INTEGRATION
   - RHYTHMIC CLARITY/MUSICALITY
• PROFESSIONALISM
(all categories are outlined at the end of syllabus)

5. Community in Motion 10 points
Majors (BFA/BA) = 10 hours, Non-Majors = 5 hours
Status report after hours are completed via e-learning. Last day to submit: April 23. Include specific details about the assignments. (If e-learning is not available, please submit via e-mail.) (requirement outlined at the end of syllabus)

GRADING SCALE:
Total: 100 points
A 93-100 points
A- 90-92
B+ 86-89
B 83-85 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

Your overall score may be affected by your attendance record.

TECHNIQUE MID-TERM: Wednesday February 26, 2014*
TECHNIQUE FINAL: Wednesday April 16, 2014*

*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 following events plus 2 outside professional shows. You will provide either a ticket stub or a review to your current instructor 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 = Spring Dance Showcase auditions, “Fall” Spring Dance
Concert, two of the UnShowings, two (different) BFA Showcase Performances, one outside professional show. You will provide either a ticket stub or a review to your current instructor within one week after viewing production. Depending on your technique schedule, you may use these same events/performances for other technique classes, as well.

Important Box Office Changes: The (McGuire) University Box Office will open 45 minutes prior to the opening of each Constans Theatre or McGuire Black Box production. All primary box office activity will now be handled at the Stephen C. O’Connell Center (Gate 1) Hours: Tuesday thru Friday Noon- 5:00, Saturday 10:00am-2:00pm (No Mondays)

Performance Behavior/Decorum:
- Yes, please dress nice!
- No cell phones/texting at all, ever, never during a performance (unless the show requests it!)
- Represent the SoTD at the show!

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 and BA Majors, please verify event schedule with instructor, as you may not be required for attendance at all events.

Spring Dance Showcase Auditions, Thursday, January 9, G-6, 6:30
(No Classes MLK, Jr Day January 13)
January 24, UF BFA Dance Audition 9:00-4:00, McGuire Pavilion
UnShowing #1, Monday January 27, G-6, 6:30-9:00
UnShowing #2, Monday February 10, G-6, 6:30-9:00
Spring Dance Concert, Fall, Directed by Tzveta Kassabova February 20-28
UnShowing #3, Monday February 24, G-6, 6:30-9:00
(No Classes Spring Break March 3-7)
UnShowing #4, Monday March 17, G-6, 6:30-9:00
UnShowing #5, Monday March 24, G-6, 6:30-9:00 (Adjudication)
UnShowing #6, Monday March 31, G-6, 6:30-9:00 (Designer Showing)
April 10-13 UF SoTD Spring Dance Showcase McGuire Studio Theatre G6 Times and Programs TBA
April 12 National Water Dance Project directed by Kristin O’Neal
Final UnShowing, Monday April 21, G-6, 6:30-9:00

Other Event Options (PCPA = Phillips Center):
January 30 Hobson’s Choice (SoTD play) opens
February 1 Complexions Ballet, PCPA 7:30
February 8  National Dance Company of Siberia, PCPA 7:30
February 18  Pilobolus, PCPA 7:30
March 14  Tribes (SoTD play) opens
March 28  Perestroika (SoTD play) opens
April 17 & 19  The Silk Thread (CFA Opera) PCPA

**Mid-Term In-Class Exam Schedule:**
**TECHNIQUE MID-TERM:**  Wednesday February 26, 2014

**Final In-Class Exam Schedule:**
**TECHNIQUE FINAL:**  Wednesday April 16, 2014

ALL BFA/BA Dance Majors are required to attend an end-of-year Conference with the dance faculty during Reading Days (the two days following end of classes). 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 regularly.

**Dress Policy:**
- Attire which is form fitting & suitable for movement
- No oversized clothing
- No gym shorts
- Your ankles must be visible
- Hair needs to be confined and out of the dancer's face (no hats)
- No large jewelry, including all non-stud earrings, necklaces & watches
- KNEE PADS should be in your dance bag or locker EVERY class
- No chewing gum

**Students not in compliance with the above requirements will be considered absent from class or points deducted at instructor’s discretion.**

**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 and/or relaxation massage. Students may also be asked to experiment with exercises that involve weight exchange. If you have a related medical consideration or touch makes you uncomfortable, it is your responsibility to notify the instructor at the start of the semester.

**ESSENTIALS OF ACHIEVING TECHNICAL APTITUDE**
Advancement to a higher level is based on two determining factors:
1) Successful fulfillment of the criteria for technical development as outlined below and as determined by the dance faculty.
2) A grade of “A-“ or better.

These aspects of technical development are divided into five (5) categories and are the basis both for grading and for any consideration toward promotion to a higher modern dance technique levels:

- PLACEMENT AND ALIGNMENT
- CORE SUPPORT AND CONDITIONING
- SPATIAL AWARENESS AND FULL BODY INTEGRATION
- RHYTHMIC CLARITY/MUSICALITY
- PROFESSIONALISM

**PLACEMENT AND ALIGNMENT**

*A priority is placed on alignment, which includes an awareness and integration of skeletal structure in shaping the body in place and in motion, as to increase the efficiency of movement, but reduce, if not eliminate, the potential for injury. This intrinsic understanding should be evident in all exercises, improvisations, and phrase work.*

- **Excellent /Advanced**
  Consistently maintains alignment of torso/spine, pelvis, & limbs while stationary and moving. Articulates limbs with excellent precision and clarity.

- **Good/Sufficient**
  Demonstrates a consistent application of principles of alignment. Demonstrates consistent clarity during articulation of limbs.

- **Limited/Deficient**
  Demonstration of correct personal alignment is not observable. Precision and clarity not demonstrated during exercises or movement through space.

- **Unsatisfactory**
  Fails to demonstrate an understanding of basics of alignment and body fundamentals.

**CORE SUPPORT AND CONDITIONING**
Coupled with developing a proper sense of alignment and placement as applied to dance (and life) is a separate and equal area referred to as Core Support/Strength. It is necessary to list it as its own category to emphasize its importance to movement and promote awareness of its connection to the safely of the individual as they move through various positions and through all levels and into space. Development of strength to safely perform movements that require weight bearing on arms, including inverted movements. Conditioning is included in this section in insure that strength is not over emphasized and that the student finds a personal practice that enforces this aspect of their training.

- **Excellent /Advanced**
  Connects core and whole body conditioning to how the whole body moves through space and consistently moves with power and control through space and all levels.

- **Good/Sufficient**
  Demonstrates movements competently with an adequate application of core support. Overall body strength and conditioning is adequate, with room for improvement.

- **Limited/Deficient**
  Work in class indicates weakness in core strength and movement control. Demonstrates limited power to safely propel self through space.

- **Unsatisfactory**
  Demonstrates lack of sufficient core support, conditioning and total body strength. Lacks power and control to safely propel self through space.

**SPATIAL AWARENESS AND FULL BODY INTEGRATION**

*Necessary to the training of a contemporary dancer is the understanding of the movement of the body as a unit, and in relation to specific body parts (upper and lower body halves, and right and left body halves in motion), as well as a sense of spatial awareness.*

- **Excellent /Advanced**
  Student consistently moves through space with full commitment and knowledge of level and direction changes Demonstrates highly refined understanding of movement of body parts in relation to personal center of gravity. Integration of body in motion through space is clear and precise.

- **Good/Sufficient**
Demonstrates a development towards the sensitivity to moving the body as a whole unit and an ability to experiment with the body in motion through time and space. Continues to demonstrate a developing understanding of the relationship between body parts and center of gravity.

- **Limited/Deficient**
  Demonstrates limited awareness of the connection between strength of center and total body movement; minimal ability to integrate the body in movement.

- **Unsatisfactory**
  Demonstrates lack of understanding of the concept of full body integration, as well as an adequate understanding of spatial awareness. Demonstrates a lack of understanding of the connection between upper body and lower body, and between body halves.

**RHYTHMIC CLARITY / MUSICALITY**

A student’s progress through the technique sequence should also yield both a practical and intrinsic understanding of how rhythm and musicality are applied to an exercise, a phrase, and dance performance. Musicality is the ability to perform movement phrases informed by music and imagined sound. Rhythmic clarity is the ability to understand the relationship of the moving body to time.

- **Excellent /Advanced**
  Student consistently moves with knowledge of beat/meter, accents, tempo, and rhythmic patterning. Student demonstrates an intrinsic understanding of how the music and movement are united. Consistent awareness of sound demonstrated through accurate response to instructions and to musical cueing.

- **Good/Sufficient**
  Student is consciously working towards the application of beat/meter, accents, tempo, and rhythmic patterning and applies these musical basics to exercises, phrases, and repertoire. Generally appears to sense music deeply and to allow the nature of the music to affect the interpretation of movement phrases.

- **Limited/Deficient**
  Inconsistently demonstrates beat/meter, accents, tempo, and rhythmic patterning. Insufficiently developed sense of internal timing or a passive approach to dance phrasing. Student may show depend on other
dancers, instructor counting, or obvious musical cues, rather than intrinsic musical responses.

- **Unsatisfactory**
  Student rarely moves with using beat/meter, accents, tempo, and rhythmic patterning; or fails to invest in developing skills in this area.

**PROFESSIONALISM**
The student consistently demonstrates an attitude that is teachable, mature, attentive, supportive, open, and welcomes and integrates corrections. The importance of attendance is emphasized and part of the final grading process, as noted in the syllabus.

- **Excellent /Advanced**
  Student shows a high level of a mature and professional approach to all aspects of course work.

- **Good/Sufficient**
  Student shows a consistent and growing awareness of the profession through classroom behavior and peer interaction.

- **Limited/Deficient**
  Student demonstrates limited interest or ability in understanding and expressing a professional attitude. May resist corrections and/or what is being taught. Fails to heed instruction and/or demonstrates other behaviors unbecoming a professional dancer.

- **Unsatisfactory**
  Student rarely demonstrates an attitude that is teachable, mature, attentive, supportive, open, and does not integrate corrections.

**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.

**Community In Motion Project:**

As a member of the UF School of Theatre & Dance community, you will take part in one or more of the following projects and complete a minimum of 10 hours of work that will be documented and submitted via email to the following instructor. Non-majors are responsible for a minimum of five (5) hours:

- BFA Dance Major Audition: Friday, January 24
- Work related to Spring Dance Showcase: April 10-13
- Video taping a show
- Contributions to Splendor (SoTD Fundraiser)
- Your duties may include assisting faculty with organization, production, or as a community liaison.

**EACH STUDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MONITORING HER/ HIS OWN PROGRESS**

**Evaluations:**

Midterm and Final evaluations occur during the class. You will be observed by the instructor and perhaps other members of the dance faculty, and grades will be assigned based on the technical proficiencies listed above. If there is rotation in the instructors, all participating instructors will contribute to your grade. For the BFA major, application of your technique work to concert/performance work will be factored into your technique grade.
**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.
If involved in a SoTD produced production (with or without credit), there is required attendance at the production’s Strike (as stated in the current SoTD Production Handbook):

**Strike**

- Strike is the restoring of the stage to its original condition. This mainly consists of the breakdown of technical components of the production.
- Strike typically takes place immediately following the final performance of the production.
- Strike is run by the Technical Director or Scenic Studio Supervisor.
- Safety is of the utmost importance! Proper footwear and clothing must be worn. Additional Safety Equipment may be required depending on the task.
- The Strike requires the presence of all undergraduate performers involved in the show and crew, Props Master, Master Electrician, and Technical Director or Scenic Studio Supervisor.
- Only the Technical Director, Master Electrician and Costume Supervisor can release anyone from Strike.
- Additionally, all cast members and crew must sign out with the Stage Manager.
- All undergraduate students involved in the production are REQUIRED to attend.
- Graduate Actors are released after 1 hour of participation at Strike due to their GTA responsibilities. Grad Actors must sign out with the Stage Manager before leaving.
- Only the Technical Director may approve an absence from Strike. Under extenuating circumstances may a student be “excused” from or permitted to leave early from Strike. If the student is “excused” from a REQUIRED strike or leaves early from Strike, the Strike must be “made up” by one of the 3 following options:
  
  - The student must participate in two Strikes within the current academic semester.
    
    --or--
  
  - The student must participate in one strike and serve 6 hours in the shop within the current academic semester.
    
    --or--
  
  - The student must serve 12 hours in the shop within the current academic semester.

- If a student does not adhere to the above penalties for missing Strike or leaving early from Strike, or if the students misses or leaves Strike early without approval of the Technical Director the student will be:
  
  - Ineligible for Theatre and Dance Scholarships.
Ineligible to be cast in School of Theatre and Dance productions for the upcoming semester.
Ineligible to register for classes.
If enrolled in any section of P&P the student’s grade will be lowered.
If enrolled in Senior Project the student’s grade will be lowered.
If enrolled in Dancers for Choreographers or Dance Ensemble the student’s grade will be lowered.
If enrolled in West African Dance or World Dance (Agbedidi) the student’s grade will be lowered.

Instructor Biographies:

Originally from Springfield, Ohio, Kristin O’Neal acquired an MFA in dance from Hollins University/ADF (Roanoke, VA) and a BFA degree from Wright State University (Dayton, OH). Kristin moved to South Florida in 1993 where she performed with South Florida greats, Gerri Houlihan and Dale Andree’s Mary Street Dance Theatre, as well as other local artists, Joanne Barrett, Pablo Cano, Bill Doolin, Demetrius Klein, Katherine Kramer, Elana Lanczi, Nikki Rollason and Clifton Childree among others. From 1997-2005, Kristin served as the Dance Coordinator of Broward Community College where she implemented a shared artist-in-residence program in partnership with the Art & Culture Center of Hollywood that continues to serve the dance program and the Broward county community today. Kristin has received commissions/honorariums for her choreography and collaborations from producers like the Miami Light Project, Philadelphia Fringe Festival, Florida Dance Festival, MamLuft & Company (Cincinnati, OH), Emory University (Atlanta, GA) and Moving Current Dance Collective (Tampa, FL). Kristin served as co-director to Moving Current Dance Collective 2009-2011. Her work has been shown around Florida as well as New York City venues WOW Café’ Theatre and the Joyce/Soho (A.W.A.R.D. Show 2008!). Kristin has served on the dance faculty at the University of Florida since 2008 and enjoys leading contact improvisation jams for the local Gainesville community. Kristin is closely connected with the Bates Dance Festival (Lewiston, ME) where she manages the box office, assists in programming and works as liaison to the visiting and international artists in residence. Kristin also performs with Greg Catellier of Catellier Dance Projects (Atlanta, GA).

Tzveta Kassabova is a Bulgarian born independent choreographer, costume designer and installation artist named the ‘top 25 to watch’ for 2012 by Dance Magazine. At different times she has been a gymnast, physicist, and meteorologist. As a dancer, Tzveta has been part of Ed Tyler, PearsonWidrig DanceTheater and David Dorfman Dance companies, and has performed in works of Mark Haim, Nancy Bannon, Maurice Fraga, Zoltan Nagy, Joshua Bisset, Netta Yerushalmy, and Colleen Thomas, among others. Her work as a choreographer has been presented at CSPAC(MD), Dance Place(DC), Kennedy Center(DC), Test!0 (Croatia), NBU(Bulgaria), Judson Church(NYC), Dixon Place(NYC), Mulberry Street Theater(NYC), Artomatic(DC), Reston Community Center (VA). She received five Metro D.C. Dance Awards (2008, 2011), the Prince George’s Arts Council grant (2009 and 2012) and Maryland State Arts Council Award (2010 and 2011). She holds three Masters degrees. Tzveta believes that dance is a visual art form. She has always been fascinated by the concept of space, and is constantly trying to address it, both in her choreography and design.

www.tzvetakassabova.com
**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. Her choreography and films have been presented in venues nationwide and internationally. Rhynard produces documentary films focused on issues of social justice with her production company *Sisters Unite*. Having taught at various colleges, universities and studios, she currently works as a freelance artist. [www.bigapedance.com](http://www.bigapedance.com)

Born in Cuba, **Ms. Isa Garcia-Rose** spent many years in Spain before settling in Miami, Florida. She studied with and became a member of Ballet Concierto performing in Giselle, Swan Lake, La Bayadere, Serenade, Nutcracker, and Les Sylphides. Ms. Garcia-Rose joined Dance Alive National Ballet in 1989 and performed with them until 2011. With them she has performed various Balanchine pieces, 'Titania' in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, various roles in Nutcracker, 'Ophelia' in *Hamlet*, 'LadyBug' in *LadyBug: Action Hero*, and other contemporary roles. A graduate of the University of Florida with a BFA in Dance, Ms. Garcia-Rose received her MFA from Florida State University. Ms. Garcia-Rose has been a faculty member of the University of Florida School of Theatre and Dance teaching classical ballet and modern dance technique. She has created works for the students and has presented pieces at the Florida Dance Festival amongst other venues. Ms. Garcia-Rose spent the 1994-1995 season as a member of the Demetrius Klein Dance Company before rejoining Dance Alive National Ballet. Ms. Garcia-Rose taught classical ballet full time at Florida State University Spring 2007. Ms. Garcia-Rose is certified in Stott Pilates mat and reformer. She has taught master classes in Alabama as well as in other festivals including the Florida Dance Festival in Miami.