DAA 3615: Dance Composition IV

SYLLABUS
Spring 2014 Tuesday & Thursday 12:50-2:20, Mondays 6:30-10:00pm UnShowinds as scheduled
McGuire Theatre & Dance Pavilion, G10

Spring Dance Showcase Auditions are: Thursday January 9 @6:30pm
Spring Dance Showcase is: April 10-13, 2014

Instructor: Tzveta Kassabova
Office: McGuire Theatre & Dance Pavilion, Room 230/236
Office Hours: By appointment
Email: tzveta@ufl.edu

Course Objectives:
Exploring dance in its many forms, we will uncover new processes in choreography/composition and performance. Particular attention will be given to developing a sensitivity and sensibility to the elements of space and time. In the work we do, the focus will be on nurturing each emerging artist’s voice, and supporting you in learning how to listen to that “yes” when body, mind, and heart are alive and in agreement with each other. In particulars the course is designed to enable you to practice your directing skills as a choreographer by working all semester with a “company” of students with whom you will complete assignments outside of class. This is an opportunity to tumble and fall to break and break apart, to go in and come out. To proclaim and disdain, to agree and disagree, to push against and move towards. Classes will center on each choreographer approach to process, structure, movement, and also on finding the link between ideas and images – to the actual creation and presentation of a dance work. Students will work with a company of three to seven dancers to explore the possibilities ingrained within trios, quartets & small group forms. The product of these investigations will be presented in the Spring Dance Showcase at the end of the semester following an adjudication process. Not all works are automatically included in the Spring Dance Showcase. The class will provide a supportive environment to experiment, tap into our creativity/individuality, to speak/explore with childlike freedom, to risk and fail, yet better again as Beckett said.

• To further explore processes of finding movement and identifying individual vocabulary.
• To further understand space, structure, matter and form.
• To explore different choreographic styles.
• To explore the relativity of time, space and interactions.
• To discover directing approaches and problem solving.
• To investigate trio, quartet and quintet forms.
• To develop a work from its seed idea and through the production process.
• To recognize the limitless potential that dance making has as a life-enriching form
• To witness and analyze different creative processes and works
• To work on broadening our idea of art

Required/Recommended Reading & Resources:
Articles will be assigned in class from various sources copies will be provided
**Dress Policy:**
Have danceable, warm clothes available at all times including knee pads and long pants.
No large jewelry. No gum.

**Attendance policy:**
Attendance is MANDATORY! Participation is the only way to meet the objectives of this course. You must be present for all scheduled classes, rehearsals, labs, field trips and performances. If you are not present when attendance is taken, you are late and you will be considered absent. Assignments cannot be shown or submitted late unless excused by the instructor. Excuses must be requested in writing prior to the assignment due date. There are NO MAKEUP CLASSES. It is your responsibility to know your schedule. Check your email and the dance studio bulletin boards.

**You need to keep a ‘sparks’ journal**
Your Journal/Notebook/Computer should be with you every class. You will email the ‘sparks’ journal to the instructor every Saturday by 11pm. You need to present two original idea, image or thinking process every other Tuesday. Your name and class number should be in the subject line. You need to spend at least 10 minutes a day working individually in a studio (outside of any classes or rehearsals), please reflect on your accomplishments once a week in your sparks journal.

**In addition to attending all classes, attendance is required at the following events:**
**Spring Dance Showcase Auditions, Thursday Jan. 9th, G-6, 6:30**
**Fall DANCE 2014  Black Box, Feb. 20-28**

UnShowing #1, Monday January 27th, G-6, 6:30-9:00
UnShowing #2, Monday February 10th, G-6, 6:30-9:00
UnShowing #3, Monday February 24th, G-6, 6:30-9:00
UnShowing #4, Monday March 17th, G-6, 6:30-9:00
UnShowing #5, Monday March 24th, G-6, 6:30-9:00 (Adjudication)
UnShowing #6, Monday March 31th, G-6, 6:30-9:00 (Designer Showing)
UnShowing #7, Monday April 21th, G-6, 6:30-9:00 (Final UnSowing)

**Spring Dance Showcase Production Meeting, March 26 4-4:30pm**
**Spring DANCE SHOWCASE, Studio G-6, April 10-13  Times and Programs TBA**

*As a class we will divide production responsibilities for the Spring Dance Showcase.*
**Attending Performances**

Attendance at a minimum of three additional performances/events is required: One gallery exhibit, one music performance and one other media event. Event absences count as a class absence. (Email a one-paragraph response to the instructor the Monday following each event.)

**Movie Nights**

You are required to watch all 5 listed films - you can watch them on your own or come to a movie night.

- **January 21**  
  Rivers and Tides: Andy Goldsworthy  
  Thomas Riedelsheimer  90m
- **February 4**  
  Fanny and Alexander 188 m  
  Ingmar Bergman
- **March 11**  
  Departures 130 m  
  Yojiro Takita
- **April 1**  
  Dogville 177 m  
  Lars von Trier
- **April 22**  
  Talk to her 105m  
  Pedro Almodovar

(subject to change)
**Grading Policy:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Growth and Development</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Continuous assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attitude &amp; Improvement</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Class &amp; Lab Discussions</td>
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<td>2. Compositions</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>3. International Contemporary Choreographer</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>April 17, 22</td>
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<td>presentation</td>
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<td>3. Individual ‘spark’ Journal</td>
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<td>You will email the instructor every Saturday by 11pm, and as requested.</td>
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<td>Your name and class must be in the subject line of the email.</td>
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<td>4. Written Assignments</td>
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<td>Production Calendar, Press Release, &amp; Program</td>
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<td>See information below</td>
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<td>Copy, An Artist Statement</td>
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<td>An Application</td>
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<td>5. Production Assignments</td>
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<td>6. Films+three things about</td>
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Your overall score will be modified by:
- 3 points per unexcused absence
- 5 points per missed composition showing
+ 1 point per each additional performance viewed, to a maximum of 5 points
(Emailed 1 page response paper required the first Monday after performance)

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>A 95-100 points</td>
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<td>A- 90-94</td>
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<td>B+ 86-89</td>
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<td>B 83-86 points</td>
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<td>B- 80-82</td>
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<td>C+ 77-79</td>
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<td>C 73-76 points</td>
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<td>C- 70-72</td>
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<td>D+ 67-69</td>
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<td>D 63-66 points</td>
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<td>D- 60-62</td>
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<td>E 59 and below</td>
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The schedule and procedures in this course are subject to change.

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.

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 us personally with a problem, it will be assumed that you are happy and content with your circumstances.

**Compositions:**

**General Guidelines**

In-progress studies may be shown in person or on video.
Final showings must be shown with the full cast on the dates listed above.
You may dance in ONLY ONE other choreographer’s study.
All aspects of the study should have been considered and designed- including not only the physical dance, but also the visual design, auditory design and staged presentation.

**Production Calendar**

You must create and complete a production calendar with all related due dates.
Due: January 30th, 2014
Casting, Rehearsal Dates, Music Rights, Costumes, Program copies, Photo call, Videotaping, Mandatory showings, Press release, Videotaping, Lobby Display, Other production issues

**Press Release**

Written about your own particular work to publicize it for the BFA Spring Showcase
Due: March 25, 2014

**Program Copy**

For the BFA Spring Showcase.
Due: April 3, 2014

**An Artist Statement**

Due: April 3, 2014

**An Application**

Application to a performance venue, conference... with the work you are creating this semester
Selection deadline: March 11, 2014
Submission deadline: April 24, 2014