DAA 3612 Improvisation/Composition
Monday/Wednesday 9:30-10:50
Fall 2023

NOTE:
This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the Instructor.
A new syllabus will be issued by the Instructor should major changes occur.

Judi Siegfried	**Office: T212 ph.407-823-0852**	**Office Hours:**
Lecturer Dance Coordinator	**E-mail: judi.siegfried@ucf.edu Dance@ucf.edu**	**Monday/Wednesday 12:30-2:00p.m. Tuesday/Thursday 9:00a.m.11:00a.m.**

Student Learning Outcomes

Course Description

Theory and practice of dance composition
Prerequisite(s): DAA 2100C, Dance minor, Junior/ Senior standing or department consent.

Objectives

The primary focus of this course is the study and application of the basic principles of DANCE COMPOSITION as it relates to Concert Dance. The course will include daily movement/improvisation sessions, several choreographic study assignments (one of which will double as a midterm and one of which will double as a final choreographed project), an extensive journal that is based on these sessions and assignments, classroom discussions and final Project.

Textbooks

1. The Intimate Act of Choreography, by Blom & Chaplin (optional)
2. Please have a designated notebook for notes and handouts. Handouts will be posted on Webcourses for student to print out or copy

Grading

1. Attendance - because of the nature of this course, **attendance and participating is mandatory**. Each assignment is worth missed lowers grade by 25Pts. **Four times late or observing class not participating is the same as an missed assignment. THERE ARE NO MAKE-UPS FOR MISSED CLASSES. To get partial credit for the missed day assignments must be completed. If you feel you are going to miss more than allotted time you must drop the course.**
2. Movement/Improvisation Session. Nearly every class. Be prepared.
3. Monthly Choreographic Studies. Group Choreography, Solo/Self Study, Choreography on classmates, these will be assigned and graded Acceptable or Unacceptable (similar to pass/fail)
4. Student receives up to15 points per choreographic study towards attendance/Participation.
5. Journal complete with performance reflections, choreographic studies, and Improv. Sessions.
6. There must be a conclusion after every reflection written in the completed journal

Evaluation

1. Participation/ Observations/Involvement– 10%
2. Weekly/Daily Chorographic studies/Assignments –40 %
3. Leading class warm-up – 10%
4. Midterm Choreographic Study – 20%
5. Final chorographic Project/Journal – 30%

	Excellent	Satisfactory	Poor
Attendance	The student is physically present each class and has not missed more than one class time	The student is physically present in class some of the time	The student has missed more than four of the classes
Commitment to class	Student is fully committed to class time exercises	Student is mostly committed to class time exercises	Student is not committed to class time exercises
Timely completion of assignments	Student completes and demonstrates assignments on time	Student completes and demonstrates some of the assignments on time	Student never completes or demonstrates assignments on time
Demonstration of learning	Student demonstrates an increase in confidence to describe their embodied experience(to teacher or to fellow students in group work)	Student is sometimes able to verbally describe their embodied experience(to teacher or to fellow students in group work)	Student is unable to verbally describe their embodied experience(to teacher or to fellow students in group work)
Contribution	Student consistently contributes to class discussions	Student occasionally contributes to class discussions	Student never contributes to class discussions
Openness	Student brings an open mind and positive attitude to course work.	Student struggles to maintain an open mind but maintains a positive attitude.	Student is not open minded and brings a negative attitude to coursework.

The grading scale will be:

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	95%
A-	90%
B+	89%
B	85%
B-	80%
C+	79%
C	75%
C-	70%
D+	69%
D	65%
D-	60%
F	59% and below

Please come to class a few minutes early to warm up. **No one over 10 minutes late may participate in class.** If over 10 minutes late is considered a tardy, **3 times late is an absent.** Please observe class and **a written critique of the class must be turned in at the end of that class as well as an entry in the journal** to receive credit for attendance.

Attire/Dress Code

Because of the nature of the course you are required to wear non-restricting clothing, appropriate dancewear is desired. Sometime movement studies will call for shoes and sometimes they won't. Get in the habit of bringing along dance shoes i.e. ballet or jazz shoes just in case. Jeans are not allowed. Hats/caps, jewelry, perfume, and body lotion or oils, can hinder partner work and/or aggravate allergies. Please wear deodorant and use proper hygiene!

Journal

Due (Mon) November 27th If your final is performed on the (Wed)29th

Due (Wed) November 29th If your final is performed on (Mon)Dec 4th

A computerized/typewritten journal of the Movement/Improvisation sessions and Choreographic Studies must be kept. HANDWRITTEN WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Entries must be made at a rate of at least one page per week for a total of **at least** 13 pages when due DATED at least an entry weekly. You are given much latitude as to the content of your journal. It should, however, contain **dated entries** and include your personal feelings and thoughtful comments as to the movement/improvisation experiences and choreographic assignments for that specific class. Your writings must be thought-out and articulate. The journal must have a **conclusion at the end** (don't just stop at 13 pages).

You may feel compelled to write a lot about one assignment/experience and not as much about another. This is fine. You may find, too, that you are particularly fond of one of your classmate's work and not too fond of another's. This topic is fine too—as long as you explain. You may also find that you have determined the time in which you are most creative. Writings on this topic are also appropriate. You will more than likely notice likes, dislikes, and frustrations associated with new methods. These writings are also fine. Because of your busy schedules, sometimes you will find that you are not able to write during a particular week. This is fine as long as you make up for it the following week. Write about topics that you want to write about. All papers will be double-spaced and stapled. Use a size 12pt. font double spaced. Journals are due at or before class time on November 29th ..

LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!

Other thoughts for the journal but not limited to:

Movements/themes
Use of Space, Levels, Direction,
Choreographer's intentions
Success or failure of the choreographer's intentions
Political/Commercial/PersonalArtistic nature
Inspired thoughts/memories

Observe appropriate rules of punctuation, grammar, spelling, and proper use of works cited as in MLA Handboo

Important Dates

- September 4 (Mon) Labor Day (no class)
- October 9-11 (Mon/Wed) Mid-term (Duo/Trio with final content)
- October 14 (Sat) Auditions for Dance Concert
- October 14 (Sat) Auditions to cast final Project and Auditions for Dance Concert (all day)
- November 10(Fri) Veterans Day (no class)
- November 22-26 – Thanksgiving Break (no class)
- November 27/29 (Mon/Wed) – Journals Due(Hard copy)
- November 29 (Wed) – Final Choreographic Project (Regular class time) Will need to be available
- December 4 (Mon) - Final Choreographic Project 10:00am-12:50pm) both days no exceptions

Dance Concert dates will be at UCF Celebrates the Arts

Several pieces from the improv/Comp will be chosen to perform at UCF Celebrates the Arts

If your piece should be selected to perform at Trinity Prep at the UCF Spring Dance Concert

Tentitive Dates (we don't have actual dates yet)

- January 24-28 1st design meeting week with tech,management/costumes/lighting (music to turn in) with all choreographers(15min slots will be scheduled)
- February 15th (Thurs evening) Showing of all pieces from Improv comp Jazz IIIand/or Ballet III and Tap III, guest and alumni choreographers for Stage management/costumers/lighting
- February 19 -23 design meeting with tech,management/costumes/lighting Costume fittings will be scheduled
- March 10th (Sun)Final Showing of completed pieces for Tech crews (with costumes)
- March 11th -15th Tech week
- March16th March 17th Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon Performance

Safety Statement

Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise during class, everyone needs to work together. Students should be aware of their surroundings and familiar with some basic safety and security concepts.

- In case of an emergency, dial 911 for assistance.
- Every UCF classroom contains an emergency procedure guide posted on a wall near the door. Students should make a note of the guide's physical location and review the online version at http://emergency.ucf.edu/emergency_guide.html.
- Students should know the evacuation routes from each of their classrooms and have a plan for finding safety in case of an emergency.
- If there is a medical emergency during class, students may need to access a first-aid kit or AED (Automated External Defibrillator). To learn where those are located, see http://www.ehs.ucf.edu/workplacesafety.html (click on link from menu on left).

Students needing special accommodations

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need disability-related access in this course should contact the professor as soon as possible. Students should also connect with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) <http://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/> (Ferrell Commons 185, sas@ucf.edu, phone 407-823-2371). Through Student Accessibility Services, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential access and accommodations that might be reasonable. Determining reasonable access and accommodations requires consideration of the course design, course learning objectives and the individual academic and course barriers experienced by the student.

Academic Integrity

- Students should familiarize themselves with UCF's Rules of Conduct at <http://osc.sdes.ucf.edu/process/roc>. According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," students are prohibited from engaging in
- Unauthorized assistance: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercise unless specifically authorized by the instructor of record. The unauthorized possession of examination or course-related material also constitutes cheating.
- Communication to another through written, visual, electronic, or oral means: The presentation of material which has not been studied or learned, but rather was obtained through someone else's efforts and used as part of an examination, course assignment, or project.
- Commercial Use of Academic Material: Selling of course material to another person, student, and/or uploading course material to a third-party vendor without authorization or without the express written permission of the university and the instructor. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, Instructor's PowerPoints, course syllabi, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, homework, study guides, handouts, etc.
- Falsifying or misrepresenting the student's own academic work.
- Plagiarism: Using or appropriating another's work without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own.
- Multiple Submissions: Submitting the same academic work for credit more than once without the express written permission of the instructor.
- Helping another violate academic behavior standards.

For more information about Academic Integrity, consult the International Center for Academic Integrity <http://academicintegrity.org>.

For more information about plagiarism and misuse of sources, see "Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: The WPA Statement on Best Practices" <http://wpacouncil.org/node/9>.

Responses to Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, or Cheating

Students should also familiarize themselves with the procedures for academic misconduct in UCF's student handbook, *The Golden Rule* <http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/docs/goldenrule.pdf>. UCF faculty members have a responsibility for students' education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and when necessary respond to academic misconduct. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, suspension or expulsion from the university, and/or a "Z Designation" on a student's official transcript indicating academic dishonesty, where the final grade for this course will be preceded by the letter Z. For more information about the Z Designation, see <http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/zgrade>.

Make-Up Assignments for Authorized University Events or Co-curricular Activities

Students who represent the university in an authorized event or activity (for example, student-athletes) and who are unable to meet a course deadline due to a conflict with that event must provide the instructor with documentation in advance to arrange a make-up. No penalty will be applied. For more information, see the UCF policy at <http://policies.ucf.edu/documents/4-401.1MakeupAssignmentsForAuthorizedUniversityEventsOrCocurricularActivities.pdf>

Religious Observances

Students must notify their instructor in advance if they intend to miss class for a religious observance. For more information, see the UCF policy at <http://regulations.ucf.edu/chapter5/documents/5.020ReligiousObservancesFINALOct17.pdf>.

Deployed Active Duty Military Students

Students who are deployed active duty military and/or National Guard personnel and require accommodation should contact their instructors as soon as possible after the semester begins and/or after they receive notification of deployment to make related arrangements