

UF School of Theater and Dance

I. COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: DAN 4905 Independent Study

Semester & Year: Spring 2026

Meeting Days and Times: TBD

Building and Room: Nadine McGuire – Room 245

II. INSTRUCTOR:

Name: Augusto Soledade

Email: asoledade@ufl.edu

Phone: (352) 273-0506

Office Hours: T/Th from 1pm-3pm or by appointment

III. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This independent study provides individualized mentorship in professional development for dance artists. Students pursue self-directed goals related to performance, choreography, teaching, studio ownership, community engagement, graduate study, or interdisciplinary practice. Emphasis is placed on professional writing, digital portfolio development, grant preparation, ethical practice, and long-term career sustainability.

IV. Learning Outcomes

- Design a personalized professional development plan
- Produce professional documents tailored to individual career goals
- Develop or refine a dance reel and website
- Demonstrate foundational knowledge of contracts, artist rights, and professional ethics
- Prepare grant proposals and project budgets where applicable
- Strengthen networking, communication, and audition readiness skills
- Demonstrate self-directed learning, reflection, and accountability

V. Structure of the Independent Study

Students will meet with the instructor a minimum of three times during the semester (beginning, midpoint, and end). Additional meetings may be scheduled as needed. Between meetings, students complete independent work aligned with proposed course schedule.

VI. Focus Areas

- Performance career preparation
- Grant Writing and Nonprofit Structure
- Teaching Career Foundation
- Dance studio ownership and management
- Graduate school preparation (MFA, MA)
- Community-based dance practice
- Dance film and digital media

Assignments

- CV & Resume
- Artist Statement
- Mission Statement
- Cover Letter
- Grant Application
- Project Budget
- Dance Reel
- Website

VII. REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS:

No Book Required.

Suggested Reading List: material will be posted on Canvas

- Artist Bio Tips*
- Artist Resume Tips*
- Cover Letter Tips*
- Other reading material TBA

*material provided by the Creative Capital Artist Workshop and shared by permission from Creative Capital.

Recommended Bibliography

1. The Cycle – Michael Kiser, Brett Egan: https://www.amazon.com/Cycle-Practical-Approach-Managing-Organizations/dp/1611684005/ref=pd_sbs_14_t_0/135-5981261-1808727?encoding=UTF8&pd_rd_i=1611684005&pd_rd_r=5f4ef7cb-c570-494e-b980-1fdd9302ea57&pd_rd_w=DD5CK&pd_rd_wg=4Yb1o&pf_rd_p=5cfcfe89-300f-47d2-b1ad-a4e27203a02a&pf_rd_r=ZEEHXHPSKC63DK8GQNSG&psc=1&refRID=ZEEHXHPSKC63DK8GQNSG
2. The Art of the Turn Around: Creating and Maintaining Healthy Arts Organizations – Michael Kiser: https://www.amazon.com/Art-Turnaround-Creating-Maintaining-Organizations/dp/1584657359/ref=pd_sbs_14_1/135-5981261-1808727?encoding=UTF8&pd_rd_i=1584657359&pd_rd_r=8f038fe1-d158-4aba-b970-d5c476267e2c&pd_rd_w=EvkCQ&pd_rd_wg=Oo3Ph&pf_rd_p=bdd201df-734f-454e-883c-73b0d8ccd4c3&pf_rd_r=W36TM0VPNJYCWHGFD2KX&psc=1&refRID=W36TM0VPNJYCWHGFD2KX

VIII. GRADING CRITERIA:

Final Course Grade:

Your final grade is based on the completion of the different assignments:

Course Assignments	100%
TOTAL	100%

Letter grades translate to percentages as follows:

Percentage	Final Grade
95 and above	A
90-94	A-

87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D
Below 63	F

Semester Calendar

The updated semester calendar will be posted on Canvas.

University Policies

Information about university-wide policies and resources can be found [here](#).

Final Note

This independent study emphasizes autonomy, responsibility, and professional readiness. Students are expected to engage with discipline, initiative, and curiosity.