UF School of Theater and Dance

I. COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: DAN 4959 Senior Project

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. SENIOR PROJECT (CHOREOGRAPHIC) DESCRIPTION

The dance program has provided the student with an exceptional and supportive opportunity/experience that requires them to combine her/his skills as a choreographer, producer, and writer to achieve success; a culmination of the training you have received in the program that has prepared you for this capstone course.

IV. OBJECTIVES OF THE SENIOR PROJECT

- The Senior is provided with the opportunity to create an original dance (group piece w/guidelines).
- The Senior is provided with the opportunity to collaborate within a group of your artistic peers to produce a showcase of quality and substance.
- The Senior is provided with the opportunity to participate in the showing and feedback process to receive feedback from faculty mentors and peers.
- The Senior is provided with the opportunity to work with a faculty mentor to help you explore the full potential of your choreographic voice.
- The Senior is provided with the opportunity to finalize and articulate your creative process through the final paper.

Expectations:

- As your mentor, I would like to attend one rehearsal before your next UnShowing. Please apprise me of your adapted Spring rehearsal schedule. If not possible, I want to attend one nearly immediately after.
- I am available to discuss any questions about feedback and any other aspects of the work (music, costuming, props, sound, etc.) as needed.
- As soon as you get your tech schedule, please let me know so I can arrange to be there if needed. I am happy to help with lighting process and ideas.

V. ASSESSMENT

Spring Semester – SP mentor is responsible for 60/100 points

Points	Area	Supervisor
(deductions only)	Attendance	Coordinator
20	Choreographic Project Completion	Mentor
40 pts	Senior Project Paper	Mentor
40	Showcase Overall	Coordinator
100 pts	Total	Grade submitted by Coordinator

A	95-100
A-	90-94
B+	86-89
B	83-85
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
E	59 and below

Consider the following to write paper:

	SATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY
CONTENT	Papers exhibit at least some evidence of ideas that respond to the topic with complexity, critically evaluating and synthesizing sources, and provide at least an adequate discussion with basic understanding of sources.	Papers either include a central idea(s) that is unclear or off-topic or provide only minimal or inadequate discussion of ideas. Papers may also lack sufficient or appropriate sources.
ORGANIZATION AND COHERENCE	Documents and paragraphs exhibit at least some identifiable structure for topics, including a clear thesis statement but may require readers to work to follow progression of ideas.	Documents and paragraphs lack clearly identifiable organization, may lack any coherent sense of logic in associating and organizing ideas, and may also lack transitions and coherence to guide the reader.

ARGUMENT AND SUPPORT	Documents use persuasive and confident presentation of ideas, strongly supported with evidence. At the weak end of the Satisfactory range, documents may provide only generalized discussion of ideas or may provide adequate discussion but rely on weak support for arguments.	Documents make only weak generalizations, providing little or no support, as in summaries or narratives that fail to provide critical analysis.
STYLE	Documents use a writing style with word choice appropriate to the context, genre, and discipline. Sentences should display complexity and logical sentence structure. At a minimum, documents will display a less precise use of vocabulary and an uneven use of sentence structure or a writing style that occasionally veers away from word choice or tone appropriate to the context, genre, and discipline.	Documents rely on word usage that is inappropriate for the context, genre, or discipline. Sentences may be overly long or short with awkward construction. Documents may also use words incorrectly.
MECHANICS	Papers will feature correct or error-free presentation of ideas. At the weak end of the Satisfactory range, papers may contain some spelling, punctuation, or grammatical errors that remain unobtrusive so they do not muddy the paper's argument or points.	Papers contain so many mechanical or grammatical errors that they impede the reader's understanding or severely undermine the writer's credibility.

Attendance

Attendance at cohort meetings is expected. Absences will affect your grade but also possibly perceptions of your professionalism and collegiality. Showcase Director is responsible for this grade.

Choreographic Process/Project

Points are given for the preparedness of the choreographer to implement her/his choreography, how well the concept was communicated to the dancers, and how well the choreographer guided their dance through the rehearsal process into performance.

Choreography Assessment Rubric

Category	Criteria	1	2	3	4	5
Structure	Choreographic structure is coherent.	Unclear, fragmented	Some logic, weak transitions	Clear overall structure	Intentional and fluid	Sophisticated and seamless

Structure	Choreographic idea is clearly articulated.	Idea unclear	Idea inconsistent	Idea readable	Idea sustained	Idea deeply embedded
Structure	Principles of composition are used.	Little awareness	Limited use	Functional application	Thoughtful variety	Masterful composition
Artistry	Performers are engaged in execution.	Disengaged	Inconsistent focus	Committed	Strong presence	Exceptional embodiment
Artistry	Movement invention is evident.	Repetitive	Limited originality	Adequate invention	Clear originality	Distinct choreographic voice
Artistry	Choreography is engaging and nuanced.	Flat dynamics	Limited nuance	Maintains interest	Layered and expressive	Deeply compelling

Senior Project 'Thesis' Paper

The Senior Project paper is the final phase of your Senior Project, is the articulation of your research, and should include the following:

- Abstract
- Introduction
- Review of Literature
- Methodology
- Conclusion: Outcomes, Reflections, and Future Directions

Spring 2026 Paper Deadlines*:

February 6 – Abstract and Introduction are due by 11:59pm.

March 6 – Review of Literature is due by 11:59pm

March 27 – First Draft of paper is due by 11:59pm

April 22 – Final Draft of paper is due by 11:59pm

Thesis Paper Evaluation Rubric

Category	Criteria	1	2	3	4	5
Content	Paper shows adequate level of research.	Minimal or insufficient research	Limited research, weak sources	Adequate and relevant research	Strong, well-integrated research	Extensive, rigorous, and critical research
Content	Paper clearly describes how research supports choreographic work.	No clear connection	Connection unclear or vague	Clear relationship described	Research meaningfully informs choreography	Research is deeply integrated and critically applied
Content	Paper presents student's ideas, perspectives, and points of view.	Ideas unclear or absent	Ideas minimally developed	Ideas clearly stated	Ideas thoughtfully articulated	Sophisticated, original, and reflective voice
Format	Paper presents sections as determined in Research Paper Format.	Sections missing or incorrect	Some sections incomplete	All required sections present	Sections well-organized	Structure enhances clarity and flow
Format	Paper follows MLA writing style.	MLA not followed	Major MLA errors	Mostly correct MLA	Consistent MLA formatting	Flawless MLA execution
Format	Paper uses adequate grammar and punctuation.	Frequent errors	Recurring errors	Minor errors	Clear and polished writing	Exceptionally precise and professional writing

Semester Calendar

The updated semester calendar will be posted on Canvas.

University Policies

Information about university-wide policies and resources can be found here.