DAN 4959 – Section 3495 | SENIOR PROJECT — SPRING 2025

Instructor of Record:	Alex Springer (pronouns he/him)
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Syllabi can be found here http://arts.ufl.edu/syllabi/
Lab Fees can be located at http://aa.ufl.edu/policies/material-and-supply-fees/
Canvas (e-learning): http://elearning.ufl.edu
Email Policy: Use ONLY your UFL.EDU email account for e-mail correspondence related to class.

Showcase Coordinator: Dr. Rachel Carrico, in collaboration with the BFA Senior Project participants.

SENIOR PROJECT (CHOREOGRAPHIC) SUMMARY

The dance program provides you with an exceptional and supportive opportunity and experience that requires you to combine your skills as a choreographer, producer, and writer to achieve success. It is a culmination of the education you have received in the program that has prepared you for this capstone course. The focus of the Senior Project is the creative process/research behind an original dance that will be featured in the Spring showcase. The actual dance work should have a running time of no more than _eight (8) minutes_ and no less than _four (4) minutes_. You work _as a class_ to produce the showcase simultaneously while you work on your creative project. Finally, you will articulate your creative research in a thesis-style paper.

OBJECTIVES OF THE SENIOR PROJECT: Thesis Choreography + Paper

You are provided the opportunity to:
- create an original dance
- collaborate within a group of your artistic peers to produce a showcase of quality and substance
- participate in a works-in-progress UnShowings to receive feedback from the UF dance community
- work with their faculty mentor(s) to help you explore the full potential of their choreographic voice
- finalize and articulate their creative process through the paper

EXPECTATIONS + GRADING PROCEDURES

Attendance
You are expected to:
- Attend meetings with your mentor
- Attend meetings scheduled for production of the concert with the concert coordinator
- Attend ALL required rehearsals, UnShowings, and events associated with the Senior Concert

Choreographic Process / Project
Points are given for the preparedness of the choreographer to implement their choreography, how well the concept is communicated to the dancers, and how well the choreographer guides their dance through the rehearsal process into performance.

Producing Assignment
Each person will be assigned a role to support the production of your showcase. Even if you are working jointly with another senior, you are still responsible for the successful completion of the assignment related to the successful running of the show. Ultimately everyone is responsible for getting the show up and running. Assignments may include: Technology, Tech, Poster/PR, Program Copy, Props, etc. You are expected to:
- Communicate clearly and effectively with your peers and the concert director.
- Practice professional collaboration and communication with Design and Stage Management faculty, staff, and students.

Mentorship Expectations
Rehearsal visits and meetings to be determined by you and your mentor.

Evaluation:

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

LETTER GRADES

A = 93-100 / A- = 90-92 / 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   [Link to the university grades and grading policies](#)

SENIOR PROJECT THESIS PAPER

The Senior Project paper is a coinciding component of your Senior Project and the articulation of your research. It is expected that you will use the following format in the writing of your Senior Project paper.

RESEARCH PAPER REQUIRED FORMAT:

(1) **FORMATTING AND STYLE**
   ⇒ Use MLA Formatting and Style Guide
   ⇒ A GREAT and EASY-TO-USE site for MLA STYLE GUIDELINES: http://content.easybib.com/citation-guides/mla-format/
   ⇒ MLA Formatting and Style Guide: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/

(2) **REQUIRED COMPONENTS**
   ⇒ **Title Page**: with title of paper, your name, date submitted, class name and number, and professor (no page number) See: http://content.easybib.com/citation-guides/mla-format/how-to-cite-a-scholarly-project-mla/
   ⇒ **Dedication** (roman numeral ii) (optional)
   ⇒ **Acknowledgements** (roman numeral iii): whose help, support, or guidance helped you complete this project? Acknowledge those people here.
   ⇒ **Abstract**: succinct overview of the paper (Write—or rewrite—after you have completed your paper) (roman numeral iv). An abstract summarizes the paper and is used by prospective readers to decide whether or not to read the entire text. Make it compelling and powerful reading (100-250 words maximum).
   ⇒ **Table of Contents** (roman numeral v). Use exact title of section on left and 1st page number of the section on right: include page numbers for dedication, acknowledgments, abstract, and section headers (but do not cite page numbers for title page or Table of Contents.
   ⇒ *One- to two-page* **Introduction** to topic (start numeral 1)
      o *Problem and Purpose Statement:* who or what are you proposing to discover, challenge, understand, illuminate. Purpose of paper and what you seek to achieve in this writing.
      o *Rationale*: what is important about this exploration? What contribution does it make to the field of dance?
      o *Personal Statement*: Why is the subject important to you? Is there a personal connection to the subject; or a connection you would like to make?
   ⇒ *Two– to five-page* **Discussion of the Literature** and other resources you researched (written, visual, media): Demonstrate your knowledge of what has been done before related to this topic.
   ⇒ *Two- to five-page* **Methodology** section describing the research process you undertook.
      o Detail ideas and approaches showing WHAT you actually did.
      o You may include HOW you made unique connections across (or unique use of) your selected "literature" (written, visual, media, etc.) and questions it prompted.
   ⇒ *Two-page to three-page* **Outcomes, Reflections, and Future Directions** section, summarizing the most salient outcomes of your project and possible future directions of your research/project.
      o The critical findings, results, or conclusions of the research, including strengths and weaknesses.
      o What further questions do you have or what directions for research?
      o What are the larger implications of your findings?
   ⇒ Optional: Visual Resources
   ⇒ **Works Cited** in **MLA** (Note you will use simple in-text citations as per **MLA**; place extra explanatory notes in endnotes)

Paper Deadlines:

- Outline and Draft 1 (including Review of Literature, Methodology outline, + Works Cited in-progress) – ***due Friday, Jan 30***
- Draft 2 (with Methodology written and including Outcomes section) – ***due Friday, Mar 13***
  - Turn in to Alex AND assigned peer for peer review
  - Peer feedback due to assigned peer – ***due Fri, Mar 27***
- Draft 3 (entire paper, minimal adjustments to be made) – ***due Mon, Apr 20***
- FINAL paper – ***due Wed, Apr 29***

STATEMENT ON THE USE OF ARTIFICAL INTELLIGENCE

The paper in this course is designed to help you develop writing, analytical, and critical thinking skills. As a course requirement it is expected that you will perform work for this class without the assistance of any artificial intelligence (AI) technology such as ChatGPT and Grammarly. **Therefore, if you submit assignments that have utilized an AI generator (in whole or part) you will be treated as having engaged in academic dishonesty.**

In an effort to be abundantly clear, while AI technology is new and constantly evolving, please know that using ChatGPT or any other AI text generator to assist in writing your papers, or completing other written assignments, is construed as plagiarism and will be treated as such. Those found to have engaged in such academic misconduct may be subject to any additional sanctions listed in the student code.

UF POLICIES & RESOURCES

UF Academic Policies and Resources: For information on university policies, support services, and resources, please visit UF Syllabus Policy Links.

UF Honor Code: All students are expected to adhere to the UF Honor Code, which upholds academic integrity and honesty in all coursework.

THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE
Students will be notified in advance of important changes that could affect grading, assignments, etc.