

Communication Arts

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The Communication Arts Department is a center of excellence in teaching and service. The department currently serves over 1500 undergraduate students each semester in a variety of service course offerings in the areas of public speaking, business communication, intercultural communication, voice and diction, gender communication, and interpersonal communication. In addition to our diverse course offerings, the nationally recognized FIU Parliamentary Debate Team and FIU's Oral Presentation Lab are both housed within the department.

The department's instructional mission is to provide all students a high quality educational experience through innovative teaching that promotes active learning, course work that addresses the needs, interests and backgrounds of our diverse student population, and extra-curricular activities that enable students to develop communication skills in applied settings. Students enrolled in our courses can expect to develop skills essential for leadership, career development, and for understanding and interpreting events. They will learn how to advocate and critically debate ideas in social and political settings, to appreciate diverse communication styles, to work productively in task oriented groups, and to engage in rewarding interpersonal relationships.

Minor in Communication Studies

The Communication Studies minor addresses the ways in which people communicate in relationships and in public discourse. Through theory and application, the minor includes the study of the ways in which such processes relate to cultural, gender and racial issues. The degree consists of 15 credits. At least 12 credits must be completed at Florida International University. A grade of 'C' or higher is required in all courses in the minor.

Required courses for minor (15 credits)

SPC 2608	Public Speaking	3
SPC 3210	Communication Theory	3
SPC 3301	Interpersonal Communication	3
SPC 3711	Gender and Communication	3
COM 3461	Intercultural Communication	3

Course Descriptions

Definition of Prefixes

COM-Communication; ORI-Oral Interpretation; SPC-Speech Communication

COM 3110 Business and Professional Communication (3). Identification of communication situations specific to business and the professions. Analysis of variables related to communication objectives and preparation of oral presentations and business correspondence.

COM 3410 Cultural Communication Patterns of Asia (3). Increases cultural awareness by contrasting and comparing communication patterns between Asian and Western cultures.

COM 3461 Intercultural/Interracial Communication (3). How people communicate cross culturally, interculturally and intraculturally.

COM 5108C Managerial Communication (3). A study of the communication competencies required for successful organizational leadership, including presentations, business writing, meeting management, and utilization of communication technologies.

COM 5415C Intercultural Communication (3). This course examines the role culture plays in communication by examining differences and similarities in communication behaviors between and among diverse cultures.

ORI 3003 Intermediate Oral Interpretation (3). A continuation of the basic techniques of oral interpretation with emphasis on program development. Programs will include poetry, prose, and drama. Prerequisite: ORI 3000.

ORI 3005 Basic Oral Interpretation (3). Development of the voice as an instrument for expressive interpretation of literature.

SPC 2050 Voice and Diction (3). Effective voice production, articulation, acceptable pronunciation, accent reduction, intonation, rhythm and phrasing.

SPC 2065 Communication for Business (3). A communication course that emphasizes oral communication skills necessary for the business and professional communities. Concentration on interviewing, public speaking, problem-solving, and leadership skills.

SPC 2608 Public Speaking (3). Study of the principles of ethical and effective public speaking, with practice in the construction and delivery of original speeches before an audience.

SPC 3210 Communication Theory (3). Comprehensive introduction to the study of human communication processes including verbal and nonverbal modalities. Key historical and contemporary definitions and concepts in communication theory are reviewed.

SPC 3301 Interpersonal Communication (3). Fundamental principles and terms of human communication study in the interpersonal context. Practical application of definitions, models, and communication rules and competence discussed with emphasis on a variety of relational stages and types.

SPC 3425C Small Group Communication (3). The study of group development, group roles, decision-making, leadership, power, and conflict management.

SPC 3540 Persuasion (3). A study of attitude formation and change are explored to identify how individuals process and act on information. Social influence theories/techniques and their ethical implications are examined.

SPC 3513 Argumentation and Debate (3). Lectures and activities concerned with audience-centered reasoning. Topics include: Nature of argument, analysis, reasoning, evidence, values, and building and refuting arguments. Prerequisites: SPC 2608 or permission of the instructor.

SPC 3514 Argumentation and Debate II (3). Study of all styles of formal and informal debate. Emphasis on construction and use of the brief, debate strategy and delivery. Prerequisites: SPC 2608, SPC 3513 and permission of the instructor.

SPC 3602 Advanced Public Speaking (3). Examines public speaking as a workplace activity and provides students with practical experience. Emphasis is placed on incorporating technology into the different types of speeches. Prerequisites: SPC 2608 or permission of the instructor.

SPC 3711 Gender and Communication (3). Using text and films, this course examines the different styles of verbal and non-verbal communication of men and women in various settings.

SPC 4445 Corporate Communication Theory and Leadership Dynamics (3). Emphasis on oral communication and leadership skills that are essential for the business community.

Minor in Dance 15 credits

The Minor in Dance is designed to meet the needs of liberal arts students who wish to pursue dance for the purpose of increasing creative development, artistic awareness, and intercultural understanding.

Requirements for Minor

Six credits in dance technique courses

DAA 1100	Modern Dance Technique I	3
DAA 1341	African Diaspora Dance I	3

Six credits in dance theory courses

DAN 2100	Introduction to Dance	3
DAN 2140	Dance in Modern American Culture: 1895-Present	3

One three credit course in speech

COM 3461	Intercultural Communication	3
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Course Descriptions

Definition of Prefixes

DAA-Dance Activities; DAE-Dance Education; DAN-Dance Theory

DAA 1100 Modern Dance Techniques I (3). Development of techniques and understanding of the art of contemporary dance includes theoretical component of studies in dance science or history. May be repeated.

DAA 1200 Ballet Techniques I (3). Development of techniques and understanding of ballet, includes theoretical component of studies in dance science or history. May be repeated.

DAA 1341 African Diaspora Dance I (3). An introductory course in African and African diaspora dance techniques. Includes readings and discussions of historical and cultural contexts of the dance. May be repeated.

DAA 1500 Jazz Dance Technique I (2). Development of the dance techniques and understanding of jazz dance. May be repeated.

DAA 2104 Modern Dance Techniques II (3). A continuation of techniques in modern dance with emphasis on increased complexity, musicality and readings in dance history. May be repeated. Prerequisites: DAA 1100 or permission of the instructor.

DAA 2204 Ballet Techniques II (3). Continuation of Ballet Techniques I with increasing complexity in technical presentations. Emphasis on execution of movement, musicality and readings in ballet history. May be repeated. Prerequisites: DAA 1200 or permission of the instructor.

DAA 2333 African Diaspora Dance II (3). A beginning/intermediate technique class in African and African diaspora influenced dance. Emphasis on increased complexity and musicality. Readings in African Dance and Culture. May be repeated. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

DAA 2350 Spanish Dance I (3). Explores the basics of theatre styles of Spanish dance. Readings and attendance at performance may be required. May be repeated.

DAA 2504 Jazz Dance Techniques II (2). A continuation of Jazz I with emphasis on quickness and musicality when executing complex combinations of movements. May be repeated.

DAA 2520 Tap (2). Designed for students interested in learning the skills and techniques of tap dancing. May be repeated.

DAA 2610 Dance Composition I (3). Introduction course in dance composition. Improvisation, movement invention and basic choreographic forms are introduced and explored. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

DAA 2611 Dance Composition II (3). Choreographic devices are explored for movement invention and organized in choreographic forms. Solo and small group choreography emphasized. Prerequisites: DAA 2610 or permission of the instructor.

DAA 3094 Dance Studio (2). An in-depth studio focus on specific dance genres to vary each semester. May be repeated.

DAA 3108 Modern Dance Techniques III (3). A continuation of Modern Dance I and II with an emphasis on skills in movement style and phrasing necessary to perform modern dance repertory. Prerequisites: DAA 2104 or permission of the instructor. May be repeated.

DAA 3208 Ballet III (3). A continuation of Ballet I & II with an emphasis on developing strength & coordination in more complex movement. Additional work on phrasing,

quality of movement, musicality and performance style. Prerequisites: DAA 2204 or permission of the instructor. May be repeated.

DAA 3224 Pointe Techniques (1-2). Introduction of fundamentals for development of pointe techniques. May be repeated. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

DAA 3344 African Diaspora Dance III (3). An intermediate level technique class in African and African Diaspora influenced dance techniques. May be repeated. Prerequisites: DAA 2333 or permission of the instructor.

DAA 3345 Caribbean Dance (3). Studio exploration of popular and traditional dance genres and rhythms of the Caribbean region. Includes discussions of historical and cultural context of the dances. May be repeated.

DAA 3346 Haitian Dance (3). Explores through studio practice, discussion, and readings a variety of Haitian folkloric dance styles within their broader religious, historical, political, and cultural contexts. May be repeated.

DAA 3347 West African Dance (3). A studio exploration of selected dance styles and rhythms attributed to the classical societies of Western Africa. Genres are discussed within broad cultural context. May be repeated.

DAA 3354 Spanish Dance II (3). A continuation of Spanish Dance I stressing the development of musicality while working with rhythms associated with Spanish Dance. Readings and attendance at performances may be required. May be repeated. Prerequisites: DAA 2350 or permission of the instructor.

DAA 3395 Cultural Dance Forms (3). An in-depth focus on specific cultural dance styles (Haitian, Afro-Cuban, etc.) to vary each semester. Studio course. May be repeated.

DAA 3508 Jazz Dance Techniques III (2). A continuation of jazz dance techniques and skills with increased emphasis on developing complex dance combinations and full routines. May be repeated.

DAA 3614 Dance Composition III (3). A further exploration of choreography for the group form. Students will be required to take a concept and complete a work for showing and critique. Prerequisites: DAA 2611 or permission of the instructor.

DAA 3654 Dance Repertory (1). The study and practice of works in repertory. May be repeated. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

DAA 3655 Dance Repertory III (2). The continuation of study and practice of selected works of dance repertory. Prerequisite: Demonstration of competence is required. May be repeated.

DAA 3684 Dance Practicum (1). Dance studio explorations on varied topics. May include repertory, improvisations and technical experiences. Permission of the instructor. May be repeated.

DAA 4110 Modern Dance Techniques IV (3). Advanced modern dance techniques with the major focus on dance as an art form using the body as a medium of expression. Prerequisites: DAA 3108 or permission of the instructor. May be repeated.

DAA 4210 Ballet Techniques IV (3). Further development of strength and form with emphasis placed on perfecting the execution of the classical ballet techniques. Prerequisites: DAA 3208 or permission of the instructor. May be repeated.

DAA 4356 Spanish Dance III (3). A continuation of Spanish Dance II, stressing the development of musicality while working with rhythms associated with Spanish dance. Readings and attendance may be required. May be repeated. Prerequisite: DAA 3354.

DAA 4615 Dance Composition IV (3). Students work on extended choreographic projects with an eye toward developing material for their senior project. Prerequisites: DAA 3614 or permission of the instructor.

DAA 4656 Dance Repertory IV (2). The continuation of study and practice of selected works of dance repertory. Prerequisite: Demonstration of competence is required. May be repeated.

DAA 4905 Directed Study (3-12). Individual study by students under the direction of a faculty member. Topics vary; they are usually selected on an individual basis.

DAA 4930 Special Topics (3). Centers around topics of current interest to the field of dance. Topics vary from semester to semester.

DAA 5348 Advanced African Diaspora Dance (3). Advanced African Diaspora Dance is a studio class, which offers an extensive experience in all elements of Afro-Brazilian dance through the exploration of traditional and contemporary dance forms. Prerequisites: DAA 1341 or DAA 2333 or permission of the instructor.

DAE 3385 Building Community Through the Arts (3). Preparation for arts field experience in a variety of community settings. Students will gain an overall view of community-based art and curriculum design.

DAE 4302C Teaching Dance – Arts (3). Practical experience in creating and teaching arts based dance for specific age and developmental groups. Prerequisites: DAN 3714 or permission of the instructor.

DAN 1600 Music for Dance (3). Introductory course in relationships between dance and music. Musical forms, cultural influences and basic accompaniment practices will be covered. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

DAN 2100 Introduction to Dance (3). An overview of dance from a variety of cultural and traditional perspectives. Through film, lecture, and movement, this course explores the diverse ways in which we organize and interpret our life experience as human beings through dance.

DAN 2140 Dance in Modern American Culture (3). Survey/lecture course that investigates dance as a cultural phenomenon in America; 1895-present.

DAN 2160 Entry Seminar (1). An introductory course for those considering majoring in dance: an exploration of curricular requirements; courses; aesthetics; and other relevant topics.

DAN 2500 Dance Production I (2). This course prepares dancers for all aspects of dance concert production

including lighting, costuming, props, set designs, budget management, and publicity.

DAN 2580 Production Practicum I (1). Practical assignments in working on dance and theatre productions.

DAN 2602 Sound and Accompaniment for Dance (3). An introductory course for sound and accompaniment for dance. Students learn basic accompaniment techniques and how to develop and create original sound scores. Prerequisites: DAN 1600 or permission of the instructor.

DAN 3150 Contemporary Issues in Dance Aesthetics (3). Introduction to theoretical aspects of Dance as a form of art and discussion of contemporary dance, philosophy, and aesthetics. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

DAN 3394 Dance and Culture of Latin America and the Caribbean (3). Team-taught interdisciplinary course offered as a summer institute focusing on Latin America and the Caribbean. Lecture, panels, and studio classes.

DAN 3504 Dance Production II (3). Continuation of theory and practice in elements of dance production.

DAN 3584 Production Practicum II (1). Practical experience in dance production.

DAN 3714 Dance Kinesiology (3). Concert dance is the referent model for studying and analyzing human movement. Anatomy, physiology and individual differences considered. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

DAN 3724 Anatomy for Dance (3). An overview of the anatomy and physiology of the body explaining how certain anatomical structures and physiological processes interact to execute movement in a safe and effective manner.

DAN 3724L Anatomy for Dance Lab (1).

DAN 4125 Contemporary Issues in Choreography (3). Explores the complex historic and current social, political and cultural issues that contemporary choreographers reference in the creation of new works. Prerequisite: DAA 3614.

DAN 4136 Global Perspectives in Dance and Culture I: Theory (3). Cross-cultural, comparative survey of historic and contemporary world dance. Varied topics are explored within a broad cultural context. Team-taught, interdisciplinary methodology.

DAN 4137 Global Perspective in Dance and Culture II: Theory (3). Cross-cultural, comparative survey of historic and contemporary world dance. Exploration of varied historic and geographic regions of world culture.

DAN 4180 Senior Dance Seminar (2). Capstone course in which senior students articulate and plan senior thesis project. Prerequisites: DAN 4137 or permission of the instructor.

DAN 4396 Dance Ethnology (3). A special topics course which will study a specific dance culture from an historical, sociological and anthropological viewpoint. Topic will vary from semester to semester.

DAN 4905 Independent Study (3-12). Individual study by students under the direction of a faculty member. Topics vary; they are usually selected on an individual basis.

DAN 4910 Research (1-5). Supervised individual investigation of special research projects. Credit will vary with the nature and scope of the project. May be repeated.

DAN 4930 Special Topics (3-12). The course centers around topics of current interest or of special interest to students or instructors. Topics or focus may vary from semester to semester.

DAN 4940 Field Experience (3). Practical application in varied community settings utilizing knowledge's acquired in the dance major. Students design an outreach community-based project.

DAN 4970 Senior Thesis (1). Presentation of Senior Thesis project under the direction of faculty advisor. Prerequisite: DAN 4180.

DAN 5388 Dance Ethnology (3). A special topics course which will study a specific dance culture from an historical, sociological and anthropological viewpoint. Topic will vary from semester to semester.

DAN 5398 Latin American and Caribbean Dance and Culture (3). An intensive course offered through a Summer Institute focusing on Latin American and Caribbean dance and culture through seminars, performance techniques, and academic classes.

DAN 5399 Latin American and Caribbean Dance and Culture II (3). An intensive course focusing on Latin American and Caribbean dance and culture through seminars, performance technique, and academic classes.

DAN 5905 Independent Study (3-12). Individual study by students under the direction of a faculty member. Topics vary; they are usually selected on an individual basis.