

World Dance and Intercultural Performance
DAA2381

Capoeira Spring 2011

Instructor: Aimee Green

T TH Periods 9 & 10 CON G010

Office Hours: by appointment Grinter 318

(352) 273-4715

Recommended Reading:

Capoeira: A Brazilian Art Form: History Philosophy and Practice by Bira Almeida

Capoeira: the history of an Afro-Brazilian Martial Art by Matthias Rohrig Assunção

Web Sites:

www.bcaeonline.org

The BCAE class schedule and events

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Capoeira is a dynamic Brazilian art form combining self defense, acrobatic movements, music, and dance. Students in the class will develop a strong base in capoeira movements and gain an understanding of capoeira through its rich history, contemporary context, and music. Students will experience an exciting piece of Brazilian culture while developing physical strength, self confidence, and body awareness. Through participation in local activities involving capoeira and Brazilian culture, students will also develop a strong sense of community. No prior dance or martial arts experience necessary. This class is geared towards all ability levels.

OBJECTIVES

- To understand the historical context of capoeira and its present manifestations
- To use capoeira movements as a form of self-expression
- To gain self confidence and discipline by motivating you to challenge your physical and psychological limits
- To become an active member of the capoeira and Gainesville communities through performance and participation in community activities

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Participation as indicated in classes, outside events, and outreach activities
- Participation in assigned classes, written assignments, and special events

DRESS

I strongly encourage you to purchase a capoeira uniform; abada (\$40) (white pants) and a white shirt.

You can purchase the abadas and T-shirts from the Brazilian Cultural Arts Exchange (352-256-1833). Otherwise, regular dance clothing is acceptable. Please do not wear shorts, hats, or skirts to class.

EVALUATION

You will be evaluated on how fully you realize the objectives (page one) of the course, on your success in completion of all class requirements and assignments and your professional demeanor (including punctuality and attendance):

Attendance and Attire	50 points (2 points each)
Reading Responses (3)	15 points (5 points each)
BFA Showcase	5 points
Visit to BCAE	10 points
Final Evaluation	<u>25 points</u>

Total: 100 points

Assignments may be added or modified throughout the semester. Students will receive written notice of any modifications to the syllabus.

Grading by percent:

94-100...A
90-93...A-
87-89...B+
84-86...B
80-83...B-
77-79...C+
74-76...C
70-73...C-
67-69...D+
64-66...D

Reading Responses – You will be asked to read three reading assignments throughout the semester. After reading the selection, you will submit a two page double spaced response (12pt Times New Roman) to the reading. Each response is worth 5 points. Your responses should combine your own thoughts about the prompt supported by evidence and ideas from the readings. You will receive up to 4 points for content and use of reading to support your ideas and 1 point for correct format and grammar. The readings and prompts will be posted on e-learning.

BFA Showcase - McGuire Studio Dance Theatre, and other locations TBA

Must bring tickets stubs attached to a one paragraph reflection on a topic of your choosing for credit.

Final Evaluation- this is an exam based on your progress in technique throughout the semester. For your final project you will be placed in small groups to work on a presentation or choreography. Your final should be 5-8 minutes long. This is your opportunity to meet the self-expression portion of the course objectives. Your presentation/choreography can mix other dance/performance genres with what we have learned in class. Please reference the rubric for grading and requirements. There will also be a written component where you will reflect on the class, readings, and the process of creating your final in a 3-5 page double spaced paper.

BCAE Visit - You must attend and participate in one the capoeira classes held at The Brazilian Cultural Arts Exchange (www.bcaeonline.org). You must take the class and stay for the entire scheduled class period. You must then interview a student or instructor about their experience in capoeira. You must write a two page response of your experience in the class that includes your conclusions from the interview. Please include your interview questions and responses. Your visit should take place in late February or March after you have gained some in-class experience. The best classes to visit are Friday classes.

-Please see or e-mail me with any course related questions or concerns-

-Please be ready to train in every class unless notified by the instructor-

About the Instructor:

Ms. Green (AKA Cereja) has trained under several great capoeira teachers. She began her training in 2001 in NY, NY under Contra-Mestre Caxias and then continued her training in Los Angeles under Mestre Boneco, one of the founding fathers of Grupo Capoeira Brasil. Pursuing capoeira outside of the training academy, Ms. Green received a Richter Scholarship and completed an independent research project on women and capoeira in Brazil in the summer of 2002. In 2003, Ms. Green moved to St. Louis, MO where she began training under Professor Borracha and Mestre Jelon Vieira, founder of Grupo Capoeira Luanda. She continues to train under Professor Borracha here in Gainesville and has attended many capoeira workshops throughout the United States, Canada, and Brazil. She has also participated in a number of performances such as: "A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings" performed at the Hippodrome State Theater in the spring of 2006. In 2009 she received her Master's in Latin American Studies. Her thesis was written about women's empowerment in capoeira. Ms. Green is pleased to teach and share her love and knowledge of capoeira at the University of Florida.

ATTENDANCE

Your regular, punctual attendance as a disciplined, open, and active participant in classes and outreach activities is essential to your growth and the growth of others in the class. You are responsible for all material missed. Late assignments will only be accepted under extenuating circumstances.

- Participation is the only way to meet the objectives of this course.
- Attendance is MANDATORY!
- You must be present for all scheduled classes, plus required concerts, auditions, and events.
- Each absence **will result in a loss of two points.**
- There are NO makeup classes. Additional points for excused absences can be earned as stipulated below.
- It is your responsibility to know your schedule.
- Check your UF email & the dance studio bulletin boards.
- INCOMPLETES WILL NOT BE GIVEN WITHOUT MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION. If approved, CFA Incomplete Contract must be signed by the Director, Instructor, and Student.

Tardy Policy: You are late after role has been taken/class begun.

1 point deducted for being late or leaving early, for any reason.

Excused absences (those that can be documented) may be made-up in the following manner:

- Take classes at the Brazilian Cultural Arts Exchange. There is a fee charged by the BCAE for these classes.
- Approved Performance Event with Written Assignment

No more than three excused absences may be made up for full credit. After three excused absences, 2 points will be deducted from attendance grade per absence. You will not pass the course if you acquire more than 8 absences (excused or unexcused).

Resources:

- <http://www.shcc.ufl.edu/excuse.shtml> (Infirmary)
- <http://dso.ufl.edu/> (Dean of Students)

If unable to dance, with instructor permission, you may 'actively' observe one time for full credit. **You will complete an observation paper due at the end of class.** Check with instructor for instructions. You may not receive credit for attendance if you arrive ten minutes into the scheduled class time. You may not use this time for napping or "study hall", otherwise it will be considered an absence.

Injury/Illness: Please refer to the Injury and Illness Policy in the current SoTD Handbook

UF approved religious days are excused and do not need to be made-up. (Travel time not included.) Student is still responsible for material covered during their absence.

All Make-up assignments for excused absences must be completed by the last day of classes of the semester.

*Students requesting class room accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

**Academic Honesty Guidelines: The academic community of students and faculty at the University of Florida strives to develop, sustain and protect an environment of honesty, trust and respect. Students are expected to pursue knowledge with integrity. Exhibiting honesty in academic pursuits and reporting violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines will encourage others to act with integrity. Violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines shall result in judicial action and a student being subject to the sanctions in paragraph XI of the Student Conduct Code. The conduct set forth hereinafter constitutes a violation of the Academic Honesty Guidelines (University of Florida Rule 6C1-4.017). **