

**The University of Iowa
The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences**

Dance Research Lab Courses: DANC:4452, 4453, 4554

Course meeting time and place: Arranged

Department of Dance: <https://dance.uiowa.edu/>

Course ICON site: To access the course site, log into [Iowa Courses Online \(ICON\)](https://icon.uiowa.edu/index.shtml) <https://icon.uiowa.edu/index.shtml> using your Hawk ID and password.

Course Home

For Undergraduate Courses: The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) is the home of this course, and CLAS governs the add and drop deadlines, the “second-grade only” option (SGO), academic misconduct policies, and other undergraduate policies and procedures. Other UI colleges may have different policies.

For Graduate Courses: The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) is the home of this course, and CLAS governs the policies and procedures for its courses. Graduate students, however, must adhere to the [academic deadlines set by the Graduate College](#).

Instructor/Course Supervisor

Individual choreographers of DANC:4453 and 4454 or graduate independent project advisor of DANC:4452.

Description of Course

Students in these courses are selected only through an audition and will participate in the process of creating and rehearsing creative research produced by graduate students (DANC:4552 and 4553) or faculty (DANC:4554). Please consult the [Department of Dance Auditions, Casting, and Rehearsal Guidelines](#) document for more information.

Dancers will be required to analyze movement vocabulary and adapt general principles to specific movement challenges. Students will also engage in various professional models of creating and rehearsing: learning material taught by the choreographer, altering or inflecting material as directed, and responding to creative assignments. Students will practice receiving and/or participating in critical feedback and are guided in understanding the individual performer's responsibility in achieving the success of the whole work.

Learning Objectives

- Improve ability to observe, analyze, and embody the required movement language of the dance with increasing speed and accuracy.
- Develop greater artistry in the treatment and/or interpretation of new movement material.

- Improve ability to contribute to the creative process as a performer by investing one's complete attention and intelligence in executing the work-in-progress, and/or through participating in movement development at the direction of the choreographer.
- Develop aesthetic and creative flexibility in the practical application of technique to a specific choreography.
- Improve ability to perform when "practicing."
- **Attend all scheduled rehearsals.**

Academic Honesty and Misconduct

All students in CLAS courses are expected to abide by the [CLAS Code of Academic Honesty](#). Undergraduate academic misconduct must be reported by instructors to CLAS according to [these procedures](#). Graduate academic misconduct must be reported to the Graduate College according to Section F of the [Graduate College Manual](#).

Student Complaints

Students with a complaint about a grade or a related matter should first discuss the situation with the instructor and/or the course supervisor (if applicable), and finally with the Director or Chair of the school, department, or program offering the course.

Undergraduate students should contact [CLAS Undergraduate Programs](#) for support when the matter is not resolved at the previous level. Graduate students should contact the CLAS [Associate Dean for Graduate Education and Outreach and Engagement](#) when additional support is needed.

Drop Deadline for this Course

You may drop an individual course before the deadline; after this deadline you will need collegiate approval. You can look up the [drop deadline for this course](#) here. When you drop a course, a "W" will appear on your transcript. The mark of "W" is a neutral mark that does not affect your GPA. Directions for adding or dropping a course and other registration changes can be found on the [Registrar's website](#). Undergraduate students can find policies on dropping and withdrawing [here](#). Graduate students should adhere to the [academic deadlines](#) and policies set by the Graduate College.

Grading System and the Use of +/-

DANC:4552 and 4553 are graded on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) basis only. DANC:4554 is graded with letter grades.

More information about S/U grading may be found here:

<https://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook/grading-system#sf>

Final grades will be awarded based on the following ranges for letter-graded courses:

A	B	C	D	F
A+ 98-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	F < 59
A 93-97	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 63-66	
A- 90-92	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	

An A+ grade will be given only in extraordinary circumstances.

Course Grades

Final course grades will be assessed based on your performance in the following activities:

- Attendance/Promptness: prompt attendance at all rehearsals, meetings, fittings, showings, and performances.
- Application of Technical Skill/Adaptation to Specific Choreography: speed of learning, accuracy, clarity, musicality, details, application of corrections.
- Contribution to a productive working environment: brings full energy, attention, willingness and motivation to assigned tasks.
- Artistic Treatment of Assigned Materials: offers interesting adaptations, inflections, interpretations or a unique presence in the movements assigned.
- Creative Contribution: engagement, openness, skill in movement development, manipulation of material, response to creative tasks.
- Performance while practicing: demonstrates the results of the process, gives the choreographer a “full-out” performance from which to evaluate the dancer and the dance.

Students who satisfy the requirements above all or most of the time will receive “S” or “A” or “B” grades. Those who meet these expectations sometimes or never will receive “U” or “C-F” grades.

UI Department of Dance Instructional Touch Best Practices (AY 2022/23)

The Department of Dance is dedicated to integrating consent-based practices into all classroom and production environments. In all dance studio activities, all participants are expected to understand and apply the *Instructional Touch and Intimacy Best Practices* described below. Any studio activities that require adaptation or addition to these guidelines must establish community awareness and agreement prior to practice; helpful notes for this process are included below.

Instructional Touch

“Instructional Touch” is defined as any physical contact between instructor and student, or between two or more students, occurring in the context of a class, rehearsal, production, or other program activity.

**Please note: Instructional Touch is different from touch made in emergency situations, such as touch that attempts to prevent accident or minimize injury. In those situations, all participants should, using best judgement, act rapidly and/or spontaneously.*

Examples of Instructional Touch include:

- Adjusting alignment/positioning

- Bringing awareness to physical use
- Partnering for demonstrations
- Correcting placement in space
- Costume Fittings
- Creating choreography that moves in contact
- Contact Improvisation / Compositional Improvisation that moves in contact (*see below for additional notes*)

Consensual Touch (root word: consensus)

The concept of consensual touch starts with the notion that people have the right to say, “**yes**” and say, “**no**” to being touched, and with the notion that it is possible to make general agreements about touching and being touched. In the field of Dance, due to its physical nature, physical contact is often an essential part of learning, creating, performance, and expression in the art form; agreements that guide this process are essential to a safe, respectful and professional environment.

In the UI Department of Dance, instructors follow best practices when they ask a student’s consent to physical touch each and every time that they believe: *tactile contact is necessary or beneficial here to the learning process*. Without explanation or repercussion, every student has the right and responsibility to say **yes** or **no** in that particular moment; throughout a year, a semester, or a single class, students may, without explanation or repercussion, change their **yes** and **no** answers in response to internal feelings and external circumstances. In lieu of physical contact, instructors must, to the best of their ability, replace physical contact with other means of helpful instruction.

Instructional Touch Best Practices

- Ask before you touch and *be specific* about the contact
 - Where
 - For what purpose
- Try Questions about Specific Contact
 - “Would you be open to *[type/location of contact]*?”
 - “Would *[type of contact]* be helpful right now?”
 - “Can you experience *[correction/suggestion/concept]* through touch today?”
- Instructional responses to “**no**”
 - Use tone and attitude to demonstrate acceptance and flexibility
 - Apply alternatives (considered and prepared in advance)
 - Guided visualization; verbally describe images and actions, and use kinesthetic imagination to invoke experiences
 - Demonstrating on yourself, with or without self-touch
 - Guided self-touch; invite and guide students to use their own hands
 - Using props or other material support (*barres, walls, chairs, appropriate objects*)
- Refrain from calling attention to, or “calling out” individual consent decisions

- Practice and model attitudes of nonjudgement and equanimity regardless of the “**yes**” and the “**no.**”
- Model and Guide the steps above when directing students in peer and partnered touch
 - Describe specific location and purpose of touch; demonstrate when possible
 - Establish steps for consent, and provide options and alternatives as part of the assignment
- Responsiveness, Observation, and Keeping Track
 - Practice “the pause” between requesting contact and inviting the answer
 - Practice quick shifts between touch/no-touch strategies
 - Practice remembering what students have said, requested, or prohibited about making contact, even though you will ask anew for consent in each instance

Please see [full policy on website](#).

UI Department of Dance Injury Policy (AY 2022/23)

Due to the physical nature of movement classes, injuries will sometimes occur in the classroom. In the event of injury in the classroom, the instructor should halt class activity for a moment to check in with the injured student.

If the injury is minor, the instructor will direct the injured student to the classroom first aid kit. Basic first items, such as bandages and ice packs, are located in the first aid kits. If the student is unable to participate in the rest of the class, they should be instructed to take notes to turn in at the end of class. The instructor should encourage the student to contact Student Health Services at 319-335-8394 if the injury persists.

In the event of serious injury requiring medical assistance, please instruct the student, if they are able, to call Student Health Services at 319-335-8394 for an appointment or 911. Instructors could also make these phone calls if the injured student is not able. All incidents requiring medical assistance should be reported by the instructor and injured student on the Incident Report Form, available in the main office or by email from Molly Dahlberg at molly-dahlberg@uiowa.edu. It is not necessary that the form be completed during class time. This form can be completed at a later date and returned to the main office for filing with Risk Management.

Injuries that require students to sit out or be absent from multiple classes may require accommodations specific to the student’s situation. In these circumstances, the student should communicate with their technique teacher(s) to develop a collective plan for class participation/makeups that takes into consideration:

- whether the injury is short-, mid-, or long-term
- whether the injury was incurred at the beginning, middle, or end of the semester
- whether the student is able physically to participate partially in class (for example by doing barre but not center, floor work only, or port de bras only)
- coordination with a PT to execute exercises that can be done during class

-additional work to supplement missed classwork such as a research paper or detailed notes on class observations

Enrollment Status and Excessive Hours Statement

Enrollment Status

Please be aware that if you are **not** enrolled as a full-time student (12 s.h. for undergraduate students, 9 s.h. for graduate students), you will be charged additional tuition for each research lab credit added to your schedule. Please notify the instructor of record and the Department of Dance Academic Coordinator if you do not wish to receive credit for this course.

Excessive Hours - Undergraduates

Students who are enrolled as full-time undergraduate students at or above 18 semester hours must notify the Department of Dance Academic Coordinator in order to obtain special permission to add excess hours.

The Department of Dance encourages students enrolled in dance performances to meet the following guidelines for excessive hours outlined by the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences:

Permission for 19 hours requires:

2.0 minimum GPA

Evidence of previous substantial (15+ graded hours) and successful semesters

Permission for 20 hours requires:

2.5 minimum GPA

Evidence of previous substantial (15+ graded hours) and successful semesters

Permission for 21 hours requires:

3.0 minimum GPA

Evidence of previous substantial (15+ graded hours) and successful semesters

Permission for excess hours is a privilege. If you perform poorly or drop any of your courses, then permission for excess hours may not be granted in a future semester. Students should make every effort not to take more than 21 s.h. per semester. As auditions are progressing over the course of the semester, it is recommended that students assess their available time prior to audition and casting such that they are balancing their personal and academic responsibilities.

It is strongly recommended that Freshman participate in a **maximum of 3 dances per semester** for the Fall & Spring.

It is strongly recommended that Sophomores, Juniors & Seniors participate in a **maximum of 4 dances per semester** for the Fall & Spring.

Graduate students may not register for more than 15 s.h. per semester (less than 50% TA assignment) or 12 s.h. (50% TA assignment). Please speak with your advisor before adding a dance research lab credit.

Communication: UI Email

Students are responsible for all official correspondences sent to their UI email address (uiowa.edu) and must use this address for any communication with instructors or staff in the UI community.

University Policies

[Accommodations for Students with Disabilities](#)

[Basic Needs and Support for Students](#)

[Classroom Expectations](#)

[Exam Make-up Owing to Absence](#)

[Free Speech and Expression](#)

[Mental Health](#)

[Military Service Obligations](#)

[Non-discrimination](#)

[Religious Holy Days](#)

[Sexual Harassment/Misconduct and Supportive Measures](#)

[Sharing of Class Recordings](#)