

Dance

Chair

Jennifer Kayle

Undergraduate major: dance (BA, BFA)

Undergraduate minor: dance

Graduate degree: MFA in dance

Faculty: <https://dance.uiowa.edu/people>

Website: <https://dance.uiowa.edu/>

The Department of Dance provides comprehensive training in dance technique, performance, choreography, and theoretical studies while approaching scholarship, creative research, and studio-based training in the framework of a liberal arts education at the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts, and Master of Fine Arts levels. Integrating dance studies with the liberal arts and sciences, the dance degree programs promote creative and intellectual growth in an environment that develops young artists and advances the art of dance.

The undergraduate major prepares students for careers as performers, choreographers, and educators as well as for graduate studies in dance and related fields. The MFA curriculum broadens and deepens the knowledge and experience of returning professionals seeking to reenter the field or secure positions in higher education.

The Department of Dance imparts the values and knowledge necessary to empower students as they create unique paths forward. Students develop as young artists, creative thinkers, and problem solvers who may further the arts in society in diverse, urgent, and transformational ways.

The department offers 10 concerts each year on average, providing dance students with numerous opportunities to perform and/or to present their choreography; visit the Dance Callboard for more information on performances and auditions. The department's annual Dance Gala presents original faculty choreography as well as work by a distinguished guest artist with undergraduate and graduate students performing. UI Dance Company, the department's student repertory company, engages with the Iowa City community and performs around Iowa and the Midwest.

All dance faculty members regularly present and publish their choreography or scholarship nationally and internationally. Students have ample opportunities to work with faculty on their creative and scholarly research. Periodic master classes with noted guest teachers, choreographers, and touring companies introduce students to contemporary artists and provide opportunities for professionalization and networking.

Students have the opportunity to earn a major in dance and a second major in another of the university's programs, including one of the other performing arts units—music or theatre arts. Faculty and advisors guide students in combining their rigorous dance education with many other disciplines. Dance graduates work in the dance profession and also establish careers in a range of professional fields, such as arts administration and production, education, business, the health sciences, law, and engineering.