Dance, BA

Integrating studies in dance and the liberal arts, the Bachelor of Arts degree program establishes foundations for creative and intellectual development, and cultivates multiple approaches to dance, career, and citizenship. Students take daily classes in Western classical and concert dance movement practices, complemented by courses in improvisation, choreography, dance history and theory, multicultural movement practices, global dance studies, digital performing arts, kinesiology, pedagogy, and community engagement.

Auditions for BA Admission

An audition is required for admission to the BA program in order to determine placement in ballet and contemporary movement practices classes and for consideration for scholarships. An online application is required in order to audition; visit Undergraduate Applications on the Department of Dance website. Contact the Department of Dance for more information or questions about auditions.

Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- achieve proficiency in contemporary concert dance movement practices while developing stylistic versatility, expressive range, and efficient body mechanics;
- learn to think critically about the historical, cultural, and social contexts of dance as an art form and cultural practice while developing strong writing skills and effective oral expression;
- master formal compositional elements and improvisational techniques toward the creation of original choreographic work, and learn to articulate and render their creative intentions with clarity, with opportunities to present these works in public performances;
- acquire performance skills, such as interpretation, expressivity, physical agility, and refinement, by participating in auditions, rehearsals, and studio and public performances;
- acquire knowledge of anatomical and kinesiological principles and injury prevention for effective dance training and career longevity; and
- attain an understanding of digital arts tools currently practiced in contemporary dance.

Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in dance requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including at least 58 s.h. of work for the major. Students must maintain a grade-point average of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. They also must complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core. Students also have the opportunity to complete the Dance Pedagogy and Instruction Track [p. 2] while fulfilling the BA requirements.

In planning coursework, especially electives, students may apply a maximum of 61 s.h. in Department of Dance courses (prefix DANC) toward the minimum 120 s.h. required for the BA degree. At least 28 s.h. in major coursework must be earned at the University of Iowa. Any grades earned for coursework are calculated in the grade-point average.

The BA with a major in dance requires the following coursework.

### Core Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DANC:1000</td>
<td>First-Year Seminar</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:1060</td>
<td>Introduction to Dance Studies</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:1090</td>
<td>Dance Production</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:1170</td>
<td>Functional Anatomy</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:2060</td>
<td>Dance and Society in Global Contexts</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:2220</td>
<td>Production Run Crew (taken twice)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:3060</td>
<td>Western Concert Dance History: Romantic to Contemporary</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:3070</td>
<td>Dance Kinesiology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:3080</td>
<td>Music Essentials for Dance</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Studio Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DANC:2050</td>
<td>Introduction to Improvisation and Composition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:3150</td>
<td>Choreography I</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:3250</td>
<td>Choreography II</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Performance and Creative Research Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DANC:3885</td>
<td>Repertory Dance Company</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:4452</td>
<td>MFA Independent Project Research Lab</td>
<td>arr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:4454</td>
<td>Faculty Creative Research Lab</td>
<td>arr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:4880</td>
<td>Dance Gala Performance</td>
<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:4882</td>
<td>Undergraduate Concert</td>
<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:4883</td>
<td>Faculty Concert</td>
<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:4884</td>
<td>Undergraduate Event</td>
<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:4885</td>
<td>MFA Thesis Concert</td>
<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:4886</td>
<td>BFA Concert</td>
<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:4887</td>
<td>MFA Event</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:4888</td>
<td>Special Project Student Performance</td>
<td>arr.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Movement Practices Courses

Students must complete 22 s.h. from the following.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DANC:2020</td>
<td>Intermediate Jazz</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:2025</td>
<td>Intermediate Hip Hop Dance</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC:2030</td>
<td>Majors Intermediate Ballet</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DANC:2040 Majors Intermediate Contemporary Movement Practices 3
DANC:3030 Major Ballet I 1-3
DANC:3040 Major Contemporary Movement Practices I 1-3
DANC:3530 Major Ballet II 1-2
DANC:3540 Major Contemporary Movement Practices II 1-2
DANC:4030 Major Ballet III 1-2
DANC:4034 Ballet Pointe I 1
DANC:4035 Ballet Pointe II 1-2
DANC:4040 Major Contemporary Movement Practices III 1-2
DANC:4540 Major Contemporary Movement Practices IV 1

At least two semesters of one of these with grades of B-minus or higher:

DANC:3530 Major Ballet II 1-2
DANC:3540 Major Contemporary Movement Practices II 1-2
DANC:4030 Major Ballet III 1-2
DANC:4040 Major Contemporary Movement Practices III 1-2
DANC:4540 Major Contemporary Movement Practices IV 1

Distribution Areas

Students must complete at least one course from each of the following three areas. These courses may satisfy multiple requirements for the major.

Dance Somatics

Course # Title Hours
One of these:
DANC:3851/ MUS:3851 Introduction to the Alexander Technique 3
DANC:3852 Introduction to the Feldenkrais Method: Posture, Perception, and Pain Relief 3
DANC:3853 Introduction to Klein Technique 2

Global Dance Studies

Course # Title Hours
One of these:
DANC:1150/ LAS:1150 Brazilian Culture and Carnival 3
DANC:2065 Performing Power/Performing Protest: The Body, Identity, and the Image 3
DANC:2085 Introduction to African Caribbean Dance Practices 3
DANC:2150 Brazilian Social Dance: The Samba 2
DANC:3010 Topics in Global Movement Practices 2

Digital Performing Arts

Course # Title Hours
One of these:
DANC:2890/ DIGA:2890/ THTR:2890 Producing and Directing Digital Video 3
DANC:3050 Body/Image: Dance and Media in Discourse and Practice 3
DANC:3875/ THTR:3875 Topics in Digital Performing Arts 3

Dance Electives

The required number of semester hours in dance electives varies depending on whether a student completes the core with dance courses or with cross-referenced courses from another department, or has a core requirement waived.

Dance Pedagogy and Instruction Track

Dance majors who have a particular interest in the art and practice of teaching dance as passion and/or profession may complete the dance pedagogy and instruction track at the same time as they are completing their degree requirements. This track tailors the knowledge and skills gained in the pursuit of a major in dance toward the preparation of students for life as active members of their communities and society in professions in dance instruction, studio ownership, and as teaching artists within community and dance company outreach and engagement.

Most of the required courses fulfill the requirements for the dance major and/or GE CLAS Core requirements.

The dance pedagogy and instruction track requires 23–24 s.h. from the following.

Dance Pedagogy Foundations

Course # Title Hours
This course:
DANC:3700 Dance Pedagogy: Theories, Issues, and Perspectives 3

Dance Pedagogy Electives

Course # Title Hours
5-6 s.h. from these:
DANC:2075 Teaching and Using Creative Dance for Children (K-8) in a Variety of Educational Settings 2
DANC:4535 Elementary Ballet Pedagogy 3
DANCE:4545  Teaching of Modern and Contemporary Dance Forms 3

Education, Learning, and Human Development

Course #  Title  Hours
6 s.h. from these:
EPLS:3000  Foundations of Education 3
PSQF:1075  Educational Psychology and Measurement 3
PSQF:4133  The Adolescent and Young Adult 3
PSY:1001  Elementary Psychology 3
PSY:2401  Introduction to Developmental Science 3

Leadership and Entrepreneurship Studies

Course #  Title  Hours
3 s.h. from these:
ARTS:3400  Grant Writing in the Arts 3
ENTR:1350  Foundations in Entrepreneurship 3

Social Justice Studies

Course #  Title  Hours
3 s.h. from these:
DANC:2065  Performing Power/Performing Protest: The Body, Identity, and the Image 3
DANC:3600  Art, Feminist Practice, and Social Justice 3
GWSS:3600  Art, Feminist Practice, and Social Justice 3
SJUS:1001/GWSS:1003  Introduction to Social Justice 3

Electives

Students take additional coursework to earn at least 23–24 s.h. needed to complete track requirements from one of the areas listed above: Education, Learning, and Human Development; Leadership and Entrepreneurship Studies; or Social Justice Studies.

Honors in the Major

Majors who maintain a Department of Dance grade-point average (GPA) of at least 3.50 and a UI GPA of at least 3.33 are encouraged to pursue honors in dance. It is not necessary for students pursuing honors in dance to be members of the University of Iowa Honors Program, although honors in dance does satisfy the experiential learning component (“learning by doing”) of the UI Honors Program.

Students who graduate with honors in their major receive special recognition during commencement, and their transcript and diploma reflect honors designations.

Graduation with honors in dance requires successful completion of 8–10 s.h. of University of Iowa honors courses or honors contract courses in the Department of Dance and successful completion of an honors project.

University of Iowa Honors Program

In addition to honors in the major, students have opportunities for honors study and activities through membership in the University of Iowa Honors Program. Visit Honors at Iowa to learn about the university's honors program.

Membership in the UI Honors Program is not required to earn honors in the dance major.

Career Advancement

Careers for dance majors include professional work as performers, choreographers, dance educators, and involvement in related areas such as arts management, technical theater, dance scholarship, or dance and physical therapy. Many graduates from the UI dance program are currently working in arts organizations throughout the United States.

The discipline and creative challenges of dance training transfer well to other careers. Students have combined dance with a second major in another field such as business or communication.

The Pomerantz Career Center offers multiple resources to help students find internships and jobs.

Academic Plans

Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the university's Four-Year Graduation Plan. Courses in the major are those required to complete the major; they may be offered by departments other than the major department.

Department of Dance coursework beyond 61 s.h. for BA students does not apply toward semester hours required for graduation.

Before the third semester begins: 12 s.h. of coursework in the major.

Before the fifth semester begins: 24–32 s.h. of coursework in the major.

Before the seventh semester begins: 36–48 s.h. of coursework in the major and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree.

Before the eighth semester begins: 42–50 s.h. of coursework in the major.

During the eighth semester: enrollment in all remaining coursework in the major, all remaining GE CLAS Core courses, and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate.

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

Dance, BA

Course  Title  Hours
Academic Career
Any Semester
An audition is required to be considered for the BA program, as well as for placement in dance classes. An online application is required in order to audition.

GE CLAS Core: Sustainability 0

Honors

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Dance, BA

First Year

Fall
DANC:1000 First-Year Seminar 1
DANC:1060 Introduction to Dance Studies 1
DANC:1090 Dance Production 3
DANC:1170 Functional Anatomy 1
Major: ballet course b 3
Major: contemporary movement practices course b 3
RHET:1030 Rhetoric or ENGL:1200 The Interpretation of Literature 3 - 4
CSI:1600 Success at Iowa 2

Hours 17-18

Spring
DANC:2050 Introduction to Improvisation and Composition 3
DANC:2060 Dance and Society in Global Contexts c 3
Major: ballet course b 3
Major: contemporary movement practices course b 3
ENGL:1200 The Interpretation of Literature or RHET:1030 or Rhetoric 3 - 4

Hours 15-16

Second Year

Fall
DANC:3080 Music Essentials for Dance 3
Major: ballet/contemporary movement practices course b 2
Major: global dance studies course d 2 - 3
BIOL:1140 Human Biology: Nonmajors e 4
GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency or elective course f 4 - 5

Hours 15-17

Spring
DANC:2220 Production Run Crew 1
Major: ballet/contemporary movement practices course b 2
GE CLAS Core: Diversity and Inclusion d, g 3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences without Lab 3
GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues g 3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course f 4 - 5

Hours 16-17

Third Year

Fall
Major: digital performing arts course b 3
Major: ballet/contemporary movement practices course b 2
GE CLAS Core: Values and Culture e, i 3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Third Level Proficiency or elective course f 4 - 5
Elective course j 3

Hours 15-16

Spring
DANC:3060 Western Concert Dance History: Romantic to Contemporary 3
DANC:3070 Dance Kinesiology 3
Major: ballet/contemporary movement practices course b 2
GE CLAS Core: Quantitative or Formal Reasoning g 3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Fourth Level Proficiency or elective course f 4 - 5

Hours 15-17

Fourth Year

Fall
DANC:2220 Production Run Crew 1
DANC:3150 Choreography I 2
Major: dance somatics course h 2 - 3
Major: ballet/contemporary movement practices course b 2
GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives g 3
GE CLAS Core: Social Sciences g 3
Elective course j 3

Hours 16-17

Spring
DANC:3250 Choreography II 2
Major: ballet/contemporary movement practices course b 2
Major: dance performance and creative research course h 2
Major: elective courses (prefix DANC) 3
Elective course j 3
Elective course j 3
Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall) k

Hours 15

Total Hours 124-133

a Sustainability must be completed by choosing a course that has been approved for Sustainability AND for one of these General Education areas: Natural Sciences; Quantitative and Formal Reasoning; Social Sciences; Historical Perspectives; International and Global Issues; Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; or Values and Culture.
b Students must complete 22 s.h. of movement practices courses, including 10 s.h. of ballet, 10 s.h. of contemporary movement practices, and at least two semesters of DANC:3530, DANC:3540, DANC:4030, DANC:4040, or DANC:4540.
c Fulfills a major requirement and may fulfill a GE requirement.
d DANC:2065 meets both the GE CLAS Core Diversity and Inclusion requirement and the global dance studies requirement for the major.
e Recommended course for GE CLAS Core Natural Sciences with Lab, not a major requirement.
f Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course.
g GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.
h See General Catalog for list of approved courses.
i DANC:1150 and DANC:1412 meet the GE CLAS Core Values and Culture requirement.
j Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.
k Please see Academic Calendar, Office of the Registrar website for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor or Graduation Services.