

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 train daily in movement practices and are afforded ample opportunities to perform in faculty and student creative research and to produce their own choreographic works in the department's concert season. This training is 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 Placement

The department admits all students to the dance BA. An audition is required to determine placement in ballet and contemporary movement classes and for consideration for scholarships. Students may email a video, attend a Hawkeye Dance Day in the department, or arrange to visit a class to audition for placement. For incoming first-year students, a short, supplemental application is required to make audition arrangements and will become available to students after they have been admitted to the University of Iowa. See Undergraduate Applications on the Department of Dance website for more information about the first-year admissions process. Students who have already matriculated at the University of Iowa may contact the Department of Dance to add the BA and to arrange placement 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 used in contemporary dance.

Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in dance requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including 61 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 included in the grade-point average.

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

Requirements	Hours
Core Courses	20
Studio Courses	9
Performance and Creative Research Courses	2
Movement Practices Courses	21
Distribution Areas	9

Core Courses

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
DANC:1000	First-Year Seminar	1
DANC:1090	Dance Production	3
DANC:1170	Functional Anatomy	2
DANC:2060	Dance and Society in Global Contexts	3
DANC:2220	Production Run Crew (taken twice for 1 s.h. each)	2
DANC:3060	Western Concert Dance History: Romantic to Contemporary	3
DANC:3070	Dance Kinesiology	3
DANC:3080	Music Essentials for Dance	3

Studio Courses

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
DANC:2050	Introduction to Improvisation and Composition	3
DANC:3150	Choreography I	3
DANC:3250	Choreography II	3

Performance and Creative Research Courses

Course #	Title	Hours
2 s.h. from these:		
DANC:3885	Repertory Dance Company	1-3
DANC:4452	MFA Independent Project Research Lab	arr.
DANC:4453	MFA Thesis Research Lab	arr.
DANC:4454	Faculty Creative Research Lab	arr.
DANC:4880	Dance Gala Performance	1-4
DANC:4881	Graduate Concert	1
DANC:4882	Graduate/Undergraduate Concert	1-4
DANC:4883	Faculty/Graduate Concert	1-4
DANC:4884	Undergraduate Event	1-4
DANC:4885	MFA Thesis Concert	1-4

DANC:4886	BFA Concert	1-4
DANC:4887	MFA Event	1-3
DANC:4888	Special Project Student Performance	arr.

Movement Practices Courses

Students must complete 21 s.h. from the following.

Course #	Title	Hours
At least 9 s.h. of ballet and at least 9 s.h. of contemporary movement practices from these:		
DANC:2020	Intermediate Jazz	3
DANC:2025	Intermediate Hip Hop Dance	3
DANC:2030	Majors Intermediate Ballet	3
DANC:2040	Majors Intermediate Contemporary Movement Practices	3
DANC:3030	Major Ballet I	3
DANC:3040	Major Contemporary Movement Practices I	3
DANC:3530	Major Ballet II	3
DANC:3540	Major Contemporary Movement Practices II	3
DANC:4030	Major Ballet III	3
DANC:4034	Ballet Pointe	3
DANC:4040	Major Contemporary Movement Practices III	3
DANC:4540	Major Contemporary Movement Practices IV	3
At least two semesters of one of these with grades of B-minus or higher:		
DANC:3530	Major Ballet II	3
DANC:3540	Major Contemporary Movement Practices II	3
DANC:4030	Major Ballet III	3
DANC:4040	Major Contemporary Movement Practices III	3
DANC:4540	Major Contemporary Movement Practices IV	3

Distribution Areas

Students must complete one course from each of the following three areas.

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	3

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	3
DANC:3010	Topics in Global Movement Practices	3

Digital Performing Arts

Course #	Title	Hours
One of these:		
DANC:2800/ ARTS:2800/ CINE:2800/CS:2800/ DIGA:2800/ MUS:2800/ THTR:2800	Digital Arts: An Introduction	3
DANC:2880/ DIGA:2880/ THTR:2880	Installations and Interactive Performance	3
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
DANC:3876/ CINE:3876/ DIGA:3876/ INTM:3876/ THTR:3876	Projection Design	3
DANC:3895/ DIGA:3895/ THTR:3895	Performance, Art, and New Technologies in Society	3

Dance Pedagogy and Instruction Track

Dance majors who have a particular interest in the art and practice of teaching dance as a 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 professions in dance instruction and studio ownership, and for opportunities to work as teaching artists within community and dance company outreach and engagement programs.

Some of the required courses fulfill the requirements for the dance major or GE CLAS Core requirements.

The dance pedagogy and instruction track requires 23 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:3075	Yoga Teacher Training I	3
DANC:3076	Yoga Teacher Training II	3
DANC:4535	Elementary Ballet Pedagogy	3
DANC:4545	Teaching of Modern and Contemporary Dance Forms	3

Education, Learning, and Human Development

Course #	Title	Hours
Two of 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
One of these:		
ENTR:1350	Foundations in Entrepreneurship	3
THTR:3510/ INTD:3510	Introduction to Arts Management	3

Social Justice Studies

Students may only apply either DANC:3600 or GWSS:3600 to this area.

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

Electives

To complete the required 23 s.h., students must take one additional course selected from one of these preceding categories: "Education, Learning, and Human Development," "Leadership and Entrepreneurship Studies," or "Social Justice Studies." Students using DANC:3600 to fulfill the Social Justice Studies area cannot apply GWSS:3600 to the elective requirement. Students using GWSS:3600 to fulfill the Social Justice Studies area cannot apply DANC:3600 to the elective requirement.

Honors

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. Although it is not necessary for students pursuing honors in dance to be members of the University of Iowa Honors Program, earning 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 in performing, choreography, education, private teaching, and 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.

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Course	Title	Hours
Academic Career		
Any Semester		
The department admits all students to the dance BA. An audition is required to determine placement in ballet and contemporary movement classes and for consideration for scholarships.		
GE CLAS Core: Sustainability ^a		
Hours		0
First Year		
Fall		
DANC:1000	First-Year Seminar	1
DANC:1090	Dance Production	3
DANC:1170	Functional Anatomy	2
Major: ballet course ^b		3
Major: contemporary movement practices course ^b		3
ENGL:1200 or RHET:1030	The Interpretation of Literature or Rhetoric: Writing and Communication	3 - 4
CSI:1600	Success at Iowa	1
Hours		16-17
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
RHET:1030 or ENGL:1200	Rhetoric: Writing and Communication or The Interpretation of Literature	3 - 4
Hours		15-16
Second Year		
Fall		
DANC:3080	Music Essentials for Dance	3
Major: ballet/contemporary movement practices course ^b		3
Major: global dance studies course ^d		3
BIOL:1140	Human Biology: Nonmajors ^e	4
GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency or elective course ^f		4 - 5
Hours		17-18

Spring

DANC:2220	Production Run Crew	1
Major: ballet/contemporary movement practices course ^b		3
GE CLAS Core: Understanding Cultural Perspectives ^{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		17-18

Third Year

Fall

Major: digital performing arts course ^h		3
Major: ballet/contemporary movement practices course (if needed) ^b		3
GE CLAS Core: Values and Society ^{g, i}		3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Third Level Proficiency or elective course ^f		4 - 5
Elective course ^j		3
Hours		16-17

Spring

DANC:3060	Western Concert Dance History: Romantic to Contemporary	3
DANC:3070	Dance Kinesiology	3
Major: ballet/contemporary movement practices course (if needed) ^b		3
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		16-18

Fourth Year

Fall

DANC:2220	Production Run Crew	1
DANC:3150	Choreography I	3
Major: dance somatics course ^h		3
GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives ^g		3
GE CLAS Core: Social Sciences ^g		3
Elective course ^j		3
Hours		16

Spring

DANC:3250	Choreography II	3
Major: dance performance and creative research course ^h		2
Elective course ^j		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		14
Total Hours		127-134

^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 or Formal Reasoning; Social Sciences; Historical Perspectives; International and Global Issues; Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; or Values and Society.

- b Students must complete 21 s.h. of movement practices courses, including at least 9 s.h. of ballet and at least 9 s.h. of contemporary movement practices. At least two semesters of one of these must be completed with grades of B-minus or higher: DANC:3530, DANC:3540, DANC:4030, DANC:4040, DANC:4540.
- c Fulfills a major requirement and may fulfill a GE requirement.
- d DANC:2065 meets both the GE CLAS Core Understanding Cultural Perspectives 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 levels of a single language or two levels of two different languages in high school or college have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Students who have completed three levels of a single language may complete a fourth-level course in the same language or may choose an approved World Language and Cultural Exploration course. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course. Contact your academic advisor or CLAS Undergraduate Programs Office with questions concerning the World Languages requirement.
- 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 Society 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, on 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 Degree Services.