

BFA in Performing Arts - Dance

The Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in performing arts - dance is a degree focused on preparation for professional performance and choreography. Dance BFA major course offerings include core study in contemporary dance, and students choose additional dance forms to enhance their training such as ballet, tap and musical theatre dance. Additional training includes somatics, choreography, dance history, dance kinesiology, conditioning, repertoire and methods of teaching.

All dance BFA majors must audition for program entrance and technical level placement.

For all dance BFA majors, advancement in technique is not automatic and is possible only with faculty consent and approval. Students will be placed at the technical level the dance faculty deem appropriate for individual growth and development. Students with a developed skill in one dance technique should not expect that ability to translate into the same level of skill in other dance techniques. The dance faculty works with each student to create the best fit between student goals and interests and faculty adjudication of each student's educational, technical and artistic development. The faculty seeks to facilitate an education that ensures graduates will be competitive in the professional field of dance.

Admission

Through an audition and interview process, students may gain acceptance to the dance program and be placed at the technical level the dance faculty deem appropriate for individual growth and development. For all dance BFA majors, advancement in technique is not automatic and is possible only with faculty consent and approval. Students with a developed skill in one dance technique should not expect that ability to translate into the same level of skill in other dance techniques. The dance faculty works with each student to create the best fit between student goals and interests and faculty appraisal of each student's needs for true artistic development. The faculty seeks to facilitate an education that ensures graduates will be competitive in the professional field of dance.

Program Requirements

General Requirements

- Total credit hours for graduation 120 minimum, overall GPA 2.000 (2.500 for department scholarship consideration).
- Must complete the 34-35 credit hours of the WSU General Education Program (<http://catalog.wichita.edu/undergraduate/academic-information/general-education-program/>), the requirements of the College of Fine Arts, and must have 45 credit hours of upper-division credits.

Major Requirements

- 72 credit hours in dance;
- 8 credit hours performing arts core courses; and
- 5-6 credit hours of electives based on plan of study.
- Must complete 2 semesters of DANC 441 Contemporary Technique 4 upon graduation.
- A C or better is required for all major required courses, including THEA and/or DANC electives.

Course	Title	Hours
General Education		
Select courses to meet General Education requirements ¹		34-35
Core Curriculum courses		
THEA 150P	Production Experience	1

THEA 150R	Production Processes	1
DANC 180E	Performing Arts Seminar	1
DANC 280	Inclusion in Performing Arts	1
DANC 368	Collaborative Community Project	1
DANC 370	Professional Practices for the Performing Arts	2
DANC 499	Capstone Project	1
Dance Applied Theory Courses		
DANC 225	Dance History: Ancient Civilization to Early 1900s	3
DANC 325	Dance History: 20th and 21st Centuries	3
DANC 345	Methods of Teaching Dance	2
Dance Body Science and Technique Courses		
<i>Body Science Courses</i>		
DANC 290	Somatics 1 (two enrollments at 1 credit hour)	2
DANC 390	Somatics 2	1
DANC 415	Dance Kinesiology	3
<i>Contemporary Dance Technique Courses</i> ²		
Take courses for eight semesters at 3 credit hours each		24
DANC 301	Contemporary Technique 2	
DANC 401	Contemporary Technique 3	
DANC 441	Contemporary Technique 4	
Additional Dance and Movement Courses ²		
Choose from the following courses (seven semesters at 2 credit hours)		14
DANC 130V	Hip Hop I	
DANC 210	Ballet Technique 1	
DANC 235	Jazz and Broadway Styles 1	
DANC 240	Tap 1	
DANC 310	Ballet Technique 2	
DANC 335	Jazz and Broadway Styles 2	
DANC 340	Tap 2	
DANC 410	Ballet Technique 3	
DANC 435	Jazz and Broadway Styles 3	
Dance Repertoire/Dance Technique Workshop		
DANC 365	Dance Technique Workshop (eight enrollments at .5 credits)	4
DANC 320	Dance Repertoire (seven enrollments at 1 credit)	7
Creative Practice Courses		
DANC 304	Dance Improvisation	1
DANC 305	Choreography 1	2
DANC 405	Choreography 2	2
DANC 425	Choreography 3	2
Applied Career Transition Courses		
DANC 346	Practicum in Teaching Dance	1
DANC 481	Cooperative Education	1
Open Electives		
Select enough electives to reach 120 credit hours		5-6
Total Credit Hours		120

¹ Required major courses may also count towards General Education requirements. Students will need to select additional electives to reach 120 credit hours required for graduation with assistance from an advisor.

² Faculty advisor approval is required for advancement into all dance techniques classes above level 1. Classes may be repeatable for credit.

BFA in performing arts - dance majors culminate their studies with a Capstone Project (DANC 499). BFA majors present both a group choreographic work and solo performance with a research paper component. BFA Capstone Projects culminate in a final interview with the dance faculty.

Applied Learning

All students in a School of Performing Arts bachelor degree track or concentration are required to complete an applied learning or research experience to graduate from the program. The requirement can be met by completing a formal capstone project. Students create a major project whether self-generated, an extension of coursework, or through advanced participation in producing a public performance. Through the capstone experience, students develop and demonstrate, in a hands-on, real world context, the skills, knowledge and competencies required in their area of emphasis. Students in the School of Performing Arts develop a diverse portfolio of experiences, materials and intellectual properties through a broad offering of applied experiences in their four years. The capstone project provides a practical context for academic, experiential and personal growth through the college experience. The final, real product of the SPA's program of applied learning is a young professional prepared for the future.