

Dance BFA

Overview

Offered by the Department of Dance, the **Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance** emphasizes modern dance technique, performance, choreography and dance theory. The Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Dance at Temple is focused on building well-rounded, versatile artists who are not only technically proficient, but also have a broad range and a deep understanding of their work. The BFA program focuses on modern dance technique and choreography, but with a broad curriculum that includes requirements in ballet, which follows the AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE® National Training Curriculum, African dance and other technique electives. Other course requirements include composition, repertory, creative process, improvisation and dance science, in addition to courses that explore cultural, historical and analytical approaches to the study of dance.

The BFA in Dance aims to

- Guide students toward a balance of cognitive, analytic, intuitive and creative skills.
- Aid students in development of their creative potential through technique, choreography, performance, research and other creative media.
- Educate students about the various forms and purposes of dance within their historical, social and cultural contexts.
- Provide intensive training in a range of dance techniques and styles as represented by the faculty and selected guest artists.
- Prepare students for professional careers as performing artists, choreographers, teachers, scholars, and informed and responsible leaders in academic and other professional settings.

The Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Dance is conferred upon a student by recommendation of the faculty and upon the satisfactory completion of a minimum of 124 semester hours of credit and completion of the required Dance and university requirements.

Campus Location: Main

Program Code: BC-DANC-BFA

Special Admissions Requirements

See Dance Admissions information on the Boyer College of Music and Dance page.

Mission

The Department of Dance is committed to artistic and scholarly excellence through fostering a creative, reflective and inclusive learning environment. Through embodied practice, the Dance faculty and students seek to honor traditions while exploring new ways of knowing dance. In recognition that we experience through the body, the programs encourage students to consider how bodies in motion contribute to knowledge, transform our social world and facilitate community engagement.

Dance Resources

The Dance Department, with its three studios, rehearsal room, Pilates room, black-box theater, video library and assorted classrooms, embraces a broad array of activities. The Philadelphia Dance Collection at Temple University (PDCAT) provides access to the dance legacy of the region through a permanent collection of multi-format archival resources related to the history of Philadelphia dance.

Special Opportunities

The Conwell Dance Theater season provides many opportunities for students to perform and choreograph. A typical season features two student concerts, two Master of Fine Arts thesis concerts, two Bachelor of Fine Arts senior concerts, a faculty dance concert and an alumni concert. Added to this are performances by guest artists, repertory showings and informal student choreography performances. Recent guest artists have included Kyle Abraham; Rennie Harris Puremovement; Cornelius Carter; Ruth Andrien, former soloist with the Paul Taylor Dance Company; and Nina Watt, member of the José Limón Dance Company.

Accreditation

Full accredited Member of the National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD).

Contact Information

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Learn more about the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance.

These requirements are for students who matriculated in academic year 2023-2024. Students who matriculated prior to fall 2023 should refer to the Archives to view the requirements for their Bulletin year.

Summary of Requirements

The Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Dance is conferred upon a student by recommendation of the faculty and upon the satisfactory completion of a minimum of 124 semester hours of credit and completion of the required Dance and university requirements.

University Requirements

- All students are required to complete the university's General Education (GenEd) curriculum.
- All students must take a minimum of two writing-intensive courses. The specific writing-intensive courses required for the major are identified with the code "WI".

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
General Education courses		32
Foundation		
DANC 1801	First Year Seminar in Dance	1
DANC 1811	Movement Improvisation I	2
DANC 1812	Movement Improvisation II	2
DANC 1813	Dance Repertory I	2
DANC 1819	Dance Production	1
DANC 1834	Introduction to African Diasporic Dance Traditions	2
DANC 1835	Early Modern Dance I	2
DANC 1836	Introduction to Classical Ballet	2
DANC 1837	Neo-Traditional West African Dance I	2
DANC 1838	Early Modern Dance II	2
DANC 1839	Ballet Enchainments	2
DANC 1841	Music for Dancers	2
DANC 1852	Ways of Knowing Dance	2
Advanced Courses		
DANC 2813	Dance Composition I	2
DANC 2814	Dance Composition II	2
DANC 2833	Contemporary Approaches to Ballet I	2
DANC 2834	Neo-Traditional West African Dance II	2
DANC 2835	Post-Judson Dance Practices I	2
DANC 2837	Umfundalai Technique I	2
DANC 2838	Post-Judson Dance Practices II	2
DANC 2839	Contemporary Approaches to Ballet II	2
DANC 2872	Foundations of Dance Education	3
DANC 3811	Field Experience in Dance	2
DANC 3812	Creative Process in Dance	3
DANC 3813	Dance Repertory II	3
DANC 3831	Global Ballet Styles and Conventions	2
DANC 3832	Ballet and Abstraction	2
DANC 3834	Umfundalai Technique II	2
DANC 3835	Somatic Dance Explorations I	2
DANC 3837	Hip Hop I	2

DANC 3838	Somatic Dance Explorations II	2
DANC 3851	Lighting Design for Dance	3
DANC 3873	Creating Dance Histories	3
DANC 3896	Dancing Cultures (WI)	3
DANC 3897	Making Meaning in Dance (WI)	3
Select two of the following:		4
DANC 4832	Advanced Ballet Technique I	
DANC 4834	Hip Hop II	
DANC 4835	Contemporary Hybrid Dance Practices I	
Select two of the following:		4
DANC 4833	Advanced Ballet Technique II	
DANC 4837	Matters in Contemporary African Diasporic Dance	
DANC 4838	Contemporary Hybrid Dance Practices II	
DANC 4861	Dance Science and Somatics	3
DANC 4873	Senior Seminar	3
Select one of the following:		3
DANC 4864	Dance Education Project	
DANC 4884	Senior Choreographic Project	

Total Credit Hours**124**

Suggested Academic Plan

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance

Suggested Plan for New Students Starting in the 2023-2024 Academic Year

Year 1		Credit Hours
Fall		
DANC 1801	First Year Seminar in Dance	1
DANC 1811	Movement Improvisation I ¹	2
DANC 1819	Dance Production ²	1
DANC 1834	Introduction to African Diasporic Dance Traditions	2
DANC 1835	Early Modern Dance I	2
DANC 1836	Introduction to Classical Ballet	2
DANC 1841	Music for Dancers	2
ENG 0802	Analytical Reading and Writing	4
or ENG 0812	or Analytical Reading and Writing: ESL	
or ENG 0902	or Honors Writing About Literature	
Credit Hours		16
Spring		
DANC 1813	Dance Repertory I ²	2
DANC 1837	Neo-Traditional West African Dance I	2
DANC 1838	Early Modern Dance II	2
DANC 1839	Ballet Enchainments	2
DANC 2813	Dance Composition I ¹	2
DANC 4861	Dance Science and Somatics	3
GenEd Quantitative Literacy Course ^{GQ}		4
Credit Hours		17
Year 2		
Fall		
DANC 1812	Movement Improvisation II	2
DANC 1852	Ways of Knowing Dance	2
DANC 2833	Contemporary Approaches to Ballet I	2
DANC 2834	Neo-Traditional West African Dance II	2

DANC 2835	Post-Judson Dance Practices I	2
DANC 3851	Lighting Design for Dance ²	3
IH 0851 or IH 0951	Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life or Honors Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life	3
Credit Hours		16
Spring		
DANC 2814	Dance Composition II ¹	2
DANC 2837	Umfundalai Technique I	2
DANC 2838	Post-Judson Dance Practices II	2
DANC 2839	Contemporary Approaches to Ballet II	2
DANC 3813	Dance Repertory II	3
DANC 3897	Making Meaning in Dance	3
IH 0852 or IH 0952	Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good or Honors Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good	3
Credit Hours		17
Year 3		
Fall		
DANC 3812	Creative Process in Dance ¹	3
DANC 3831	Global Ballet Styles and Conventions	2
DANC 3834	Umfundalai Technique II	2
DANC 3835	Somatic Dance Explorations I	2
DANC 3896	Dancing Cultures	3
GenEd Breadth Course		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
DANC 2872	Foundations of Dance Education	3
DANC 3832	Ballet and Abstraction	2
DANC 3837	Hip Hop I	2
DANC 3838	Somatic Dance Explorations II	2
DANC 3873	Creating Dance Histories	3
GenEd Breadth Course		3
Credit Hours		15
Year 4		
Fall		
Select two of the following:		4
DANC 4832	Advanced Ballet Technique I	
DANC 4834	Hip Hop II	
DANC 4835	Contemporary Hybrid Dance Practices I	
DANC 4873	Senior Seminar	3
GenEd Breadth Course		3
GenEd Breadth Course		3
Credit Hours		13
Spring		
DANC 3811	Field Experience in Dance	2
Select two of the following:		4
DANC 4833	Advanced Ballet Technique II	
DANC 4837	Matters in Contemporary African Diasporic Dance	
DANC 4838	Contemporary Hybrid Dance Practices II	
Select one of the following:		3
DANC 4864	Dance Education Project	
DANC 4884	Senior Choreographic Project	
GenEd Breadth Course		3

GenEd Breadth Course	3
Credit Hours	15
Total Credit Hours	124

1
These four courses must be completed with a C- or better to fulfill the GenEd Arts requirement.

2
May be taken in Fall or Spring.