



DUKE DANCE

DUKE UNIVERSITY
DANCE PROGRAM

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danceprogram.duke.edu

A horizontal orange line on the right side of the page, with a diagonal orange line extending from its left end down and to the left, crossing the bottom of the page.

Classes are open to all

Our program and our classes are open to all students at Duke University, from the beginner to the professional-level dancer. You do not have to be pursuing a major or a minor in dance to be involved. Declared majors and minors in other disciplines perform in our concerts every semester. For many students, the Dance Program serves as an extended family. Close connections between faculty and students are valued and fostered.

Auditions

Even if you plan to pursue degree work in dance, you do not need to audition for admission to our program. Admission to Duke guarantees admission to all programs. We audition only for performance courses.

Pursuing a professional dance career?

A number of our students go on to professional careers in dance. Duke students who aspire to a career in dance feel that they are getting the training to develop as professionals. Many of our faculty are internationally known as performers, choreographers, and teachers, and all are first-caliber artists. Rigorous technique classes push students to advance, but we also value that technique is not an end in itself. Students also develop as clear and eloquent performers, articulate choreographers, and knowledgeable artists.

Additional Study Opportunities:

Through the Duke in New York Arts Program, students may spend the fall semester of junior or senior year studying the arts in New York City, focusing on dance through an internship. During the summer, Duke is home to the American Dance Festival—five weeks of intensive study and performances by major national and international dance companies.

For Further Information, Contact

Dance Program Rubenstein Arts
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Box 90686
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Description and Requirements for the Major in Dance

The Duke Dance Program will engage you in the profound potential for dance as embodied knowledge. The curriculum provides opportunities to encounter dance traditions and movement experimentation as processes for discovery, communication, inquiry, and discourse. The living kinetic artifacts of movement - dance forms and dance choreography - are critical research components providing scholars the tools to discuss and analyze specific cultures and communities, periods of dance history, and the work of seminal creative artists. Students will experience dance as a mode for personal development and leadership, and as a transformative force for social action. As the landscape of dance continues to evolve, our students will gain the knowledge and skills to impact the nature and function of dance in contemporary society and re-imagine the future of performance. They will move into action, agency, and sustainability with tools that can transform relationships locally and globally.

Four pathways highlight the research trajectories of the Dance Program. None of the pathways targets a specific physical style or cultural tradition; rather, these traditions interweave through all the pathways. These pathways are:

- Dancing Cultures
- Being and Healing
- Process, Practice, and Research
- Social Issues and Social Action

Major Requirements: a minimum of TWELVE course credits.

- Dance 101 (Intro to Dance) OR Dance 165 (Let's Dance!)
- Four (4) courses selected from one pathway
- One (1) course each from the other three pathways
- Dance 487S (Capstone Seminar)
- Dance 489T (Capstone: Senior Project)
- Equivalent of two (2) course credits from partial- or full-movement courses
- Fifteen (15) hours of service work/crew hours completed during your undergraduate experience

PATHWAYS

Courses originating outside of the Dance Program not listed here may be considered as satisfying pathways requirements at the discretion of the director of undergraduate studies and the student's major advisor. No more than two courses originating outside of the Dance Program may count toward the pathways requirements.

DANCING CULTURES

- Dance 165 (Let's Dance! Live Art and Performance)
- Dance 235SL (Capoeira: Practice and Culture)
- Dance 255 (T'ai Chi and Chinese Thought)
- Dance 316S (Postmodernism in Dance, 1950-2000)
- Dance 318S (Movement in Question: Introduction to Critical Dance Studies)
- Dance 335SL (West African Rootholds in Dance)
- Dance 336 (Black Dance)
- Dance 356 (Dance and Dance Theater of Asia)
- Dance 365L (The Art and Cultural History of Flamenco)
- Dance 367 (Dance and Religion in Asia and Africa)
- Dance 535S (AfroFuturism)
- Dance 561S (Art as Work: Valuing Labor in the Arts)
- Dance 590 (Special Topics in Dance/Embodiment)
- Dance 645S (Black Performance Theory)
- Dance 665S (Contemporary Dance History)
- Dance 690S (Special Topics in Dance)

PROCESS, PRACTICE, AND RESEARCH

- Dance 105S (Dance Composition)
- Dance 205S (Advanced Dance Composition)
- Dance 211 (Musical Theater Workshop: Performance)
- Dance 302S (Writing about Performance)
- Dance 308 (Performance and Technology: Composition Workshop)
- Dance 309S (Dancing States of Mind: The Self, Social and Political Practice of Dance)
- Dance 335SL (West African Rootholds in Dance)
- Dance 370S (The Choreographic Mind: Order, Disorder, Organization, Relations)
- Dance 375 (Music for Dancers)
- Dance 390 (Special Topics)
- Dance 412 (Performance: Modern)
- Dance 422 (Performance: Ballet)
- Dance 432 (Performance: African)
- Dance 442 (Performance: Jazz)
- Dance 443 (Performance: Tap)
- Dance 462 (Performance: Interdisciplinary)
- Dance 472 (Performance: Dance Theater)
- Dance 535S (AfroFuturism)
- Dance 590 (Special Topics in Dance/Embodiment)
- Dance 690S (Special Topics in Dance)

BEING AND HEALING

- Dance 284 (Ritual, Performance, and Religion)
- Dance 367 (Dance and Religion in Asia and Africa)
- Dance 377S (Dance Science: An Evolutionary Approach)
- Dance 390 (Special Topics)
- Dance 575S (Somatics: Embodiment for the Twenty-First Century)
- Dance 590 (Special Topics in Dance/Embodiment)
- Dance 690S (Special Topics in Dance)

SOCIAL ISSUES AND SOCIAL ACTION

- __Dance 201S (Arts Entrepreneurship)
- __Dance 207S (Performance and Social Change)
- __Dance 309S (Dancing States of Mind: The Self, Social and Political Practice of Dance)
- __Dance 379S (Legal Issues for the Performing Arts)
- __Dance 390 (Special Topics)
- __Dance 590 (Special Topics in Dance/Embodiment)
- __Dance 690S (Special Topics in Dance)

SERVICE WORK/CREW HOURS

Fifteen hours of service work/crew hours are required of each student who has declared a Dance Major. This may be completed at any time during the four-year undergraduate experience. Examples include: volunteering at Dance Program Concerts as ushers, sound operators, costume construction, house set up; staffing special events; and giving tours to prospective students. For a full list, please visit our website.

Students may petition that courses offered in other departments and programs be counted as coursework toward the major, as long as there is clear documentation of their intellectual value to the overall goals of the major. No courses may be used to substitute for 101, 105S, 375, 487S and 489T. One course credit earned at the American Dance Festival may be counted toward the requirements for the major. Appropriate courses taken through the Duke in New York Arts Program and during Study Abroad may fulfill requirements for the major. Students majoring in Dance are expected to attain and/or maintain the high intermediate level of modern dance or ballet or African dance technique.

FREQUENCY OF COURSE OFFERINGS (subject to change)

- 101 and 105S are offered once each year.
- 487S and 489T or 488T will be offered as needed during the senior year of the existing majors in dance.
- 489T is the Thesis Senior Project with Creative Studio Component designation; 488T is the Thesis Senior Project with a writing (WID) designation.
- Currently, 205T and 305T are offered as needed. If a student is interested in taking the course, it will be taught.
- Almost all the other full credit dance courses are offered on a rotating basis every other year. In other words it will appear once every four semesters. Exceptions are
 - Dance 155, which is taught more frequently.
 - Cross-listed courses that originate in other departments and over which we have no control – 377S, 255, 206S, 276S, 278S, and others.

Outline of the Dance Major

One Introductory Course:
Dance 101: Introduction to
Dance
OR
Dance 165: Let's Dance



Four courses selected from ONE pathway:
(Dancing Cultures; Being and Healing; Process, Practice, and Research; or Social Issues and Social Actions



One course from EACH of the three remaining pathways



Equivalent of two course credits from partial- or full-credit movement courses



Fifteen hours total of service work completed at any time during the four-year undergraduate experience.
(examples: ushering, costume management, staffing special events, meeting with prospective students)



Two Capstone Courses:
487S Dance Research and Methods 489T Senior Project

The Minor in Dance

The dance minor provides a historical and theoretical foundation for the students' creative work. Students will participate in dance creation and performance, and develop technical skills that will deepen their scholarly appreciation of dance as a medium. Our primary goal is to enable you to articulate the visual and physical spheres of dance and to be able to write and to speak clearly about dance. You should develop an ability to see your own art work within the context of the larger field of dance, and then in relation to general art aesthetics.

Minor Requirements: a student must take SIX course credits

- Dance 101 (Intro to Dance) OR Dance 165 (Let's Dance!)
- Four (4) full-credit courses
- One (1) course credit made up of partial- or full-credit course(s)
- Ten (10) hours of service work/crew hours completed during undergraduate experience

Options/Exceptions

- Substitutions for the minor requirements may be made only with the permission of the Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS). For example, with the permission of the DUS, a student may be allowed to substitute a full-credit dance course for one of the required performance courses.
- Courses taken abroad may fulfill minor requirements.
- Students are encouraged to enroll in at least one summer session with the American Dance Festival (ADF). One course credit earned at the ADF may be counted toward the minor requirements.
- Through the Duke in New York Arts Program students have the opportunity to spend the fall semester of the junior or senior year studying in New York City. Appropriate courses taken at New York University may fulfill minor requirements.

Selecting an Advisor

Upon declaration of the minor, make an appointment with the Director of Undergraduate Studies. An adviser will be assigned to each student.

Guidelines for Supplemental Artistic Material

We are interested in your technical, performance, and choreographic abilities. That's why we ask applicants to submit a sample of their artistic works as part of the admissions process. Keep in mind that this is just a way for us to get to know you and the level of your artistic expertise; your video will not adversely impact your admissions to Duke. If you submit artistic material, you will not be required to major in this area, but you should have an interest in pursuing it at Duke. If you have any questions please contact the Dance Program at 919-660-3354.

1. Length: 10 minutes is ideal. You may excerpt sections of works in performance and/or rehearsal. The work you want viewed should be edited together in succession within the 10 minute video.

2. Appropriate Material of Inclusion: If you are proficient in more than one style of dance, submit a supplement for each style separately. You may submit up to 10 minutes per style. Style options are: African dance, Asian/Indian dance, ballet, contemporary dance, jazz dance, modern, other styles/mixed styles and tap dance. Choreography in each of these areas is welcome. Excerpts from performances or rehearsals, or excerpts of class and studio work, are fine. Solo or small group work is ideal. If you must include a large group dance, make sure you can be easily identified by means of highlighting or an arrow, or a description of your place on stage.

3. Submit your digital media through the Common Application's online SlideRoom portal. Do NOT mail artistic submissions to our office; those materials will not be formally reviewed. If you apply using the Universal Application, you should submit the Universal Application Arts Supplement and include URLs where your materials may be accessed online. Go to: [admissions.duke.edu/application/instructions - artistic supplement](https://admissions.duke.edu/application/instructions-artistic-supplement).

Follow the instructions to upload your arts supplement(s) in the MEDIA section of the duke.slideroom.com application.

4. Written Description of Your Work: In the FORMS section of SlideRoom, please include the following information:

- Title of works, choreographer, and music/sound accompaniment
- Date of the recording
- Length of the pieces/excerpt
- If it is an ensemble, a description of your place on stage
- Any other information you feel is pertinent