

Dance

2810 Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center
(301) 405-6676

<http://tdps.umd.edu/programs/BA-Dance>

School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies
College of Arts and Humanities

Key Features of a Dance Major

- Acquire new movement skills and enhance your corporeal creativity.
- Participate in the intellectual development of scholarly insights into the field of dance.
- Come to a comprehensive understanding of studio and theory, providing a foundation for a range of careers in dance.
- Choose to study a particular aspect of dance in depth, such as performance, choreography, or production; or choose to merge your interest in dance with an interest in another field of study.

Career Options with a Dance Major

Dance majors claim a wide variety of careers; a career as a performer or choreographer is not the only option available to you. Career opportunities also exist in education, community and participatory dance work, as well as associated areas such as dance management, administration, and production. Studying dance, you will gain important skills, knowledge, and experience. Determination, openness, and practical experience are crucial ingredients in gaining employment. Be aware that you will need additional support and training to work in some contexts. Examples of a few of the professions that some dance majors undertake include: Professional Dancer, Dance Therapist, Arts Management, Dance Teacher, Community Dance Worker, Dance Notator, and Choreographer.

Potential Salaries

As of May 2015, the median hourly wage of dancers was \$14.44 and the median hourly wage of choreographers was \$22.09.

*All salary information from *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012-13* (<http://stats.bls.gov/ooh/entertainment-and-sports/dancers-and-choreographers.htm#tab-5>)

Additional information on careers can be found through the Arts and Humanities Website: [Dance](#).

Advising

If you are considering a major in Dance, you can easily meet with the advisor in the Department of Dance to answer any questions you may have.

- Alvin Mayes, Director of Undergraduate Dance Studies
- 1931 Clarice Performing Arts Center
- (301) 405-3194; amayes@umd.edu
- For general questions about the Undergraduate Dance Program email Susan Miller at smille13@umd.edu.

Declaring a Dance Major

Dance is not a Limited Enrollment Program (LEP). If you have decided to major in this field, you can declare immediately!

When you declare your major in Dance, you are also declaring that you will be a student in the College of Arts and Humanities (ARHU) which houses the School of Theater, Dance and Performance Studies. There are two levels in your process of declaring and later advising: the department (Dance) and the College (Arts and Humanities). The College will advise you regarding your Gen Ed/CORE requirements and the Department will advise you regarding your major requirements.

Before declaring a Dance major, you should familiarize yourself with the requirements and the focus areas within the major. You may do this by browsing the departmental website (<http://tdps.umd.edu/programs/ba-dance>). **In particular, browse the curriculum requirements: <http://tdps.umd.edu/programs/ba-dance/curriculum-requirements>.** Once you have decided that a Dance major is right for you, take the following steps:

- 1) Meet with the Undergraduate Advisor, Susan Miller (smille13@umd.edu). During this meeting, you will create an academic plan.
- 2) Students must complete the ARHU [Foreign Language Placement Test](#) (FLPT must be taken in a proctored environment if students are seeking exemption from [The Global Engagement Requirement](#)). Please note that students' majors will not be changed until they have an FLPT score on file or have satisfied prerequisites via AP credit or earned college credit.
- 3) Make an appointment to meet with an advisor in the ARHU Office of Student Affairs by calling (301) 405-2108. You will be advised on University (Gen Ed or CORE) and [College](#) requirements and then be officially changed to your new major. Be sure to bring the "Academic Plan Checklist" form with your Dance advisor's signature and stamp to your appointment. ***Enrollment in the major is not complete until an ARHU advisor has signed the Four-Year Plan worksheet.***
- 4) As a new major, you will then be assigned to a department advisor, with whom you will need to meet at least once per semester prior to registration.

Four-Year Plan (GenEd)

Dance Four Year Academic Plan		
Year 1	Fall	Spring
Benchmark 1 Requirements		
DANC 109	ENGL 101 (AW)*	DANC 219
DANC 179	Math (MA)*	DANC 207
DANC 207	DANC 218	DANC 1xx-4xx (Dance Styles #1)
DANC 218	DANC 179	Oral Communication (OC)
DANC 219	DANC 109	Analytic Reasoning (AR)
DANC 1xx-4xx (Dance Styles) <i>Must be completed by the end of two semesters.</i>	ARHU 158 <i>*Must attempt by 30 cr.</i>	
Year 2		
Benchmark 2 Requirements		
DANC 209	DANC 209	DANC 283
DANC 283	DANC 318	DANC 319
DANC 318	DANC 1xx-4xx (Dance Styles #2)	DANC 1xx-4xx (Dance Styles #3)
DANC 319	TDPS 201	Scholarship in Practice (SP) #1**
TDPS 201	Global Engagement #1	Global Engagement #2
Two additional DANC 1xx-4xx (Dance Styles)		
4th Semester Assessment <i>Must be completed by the end of four semesters.</i>		
Year 3		
Benchmark 3 Requirements		
DANC 304	DANC 304	Area of Emphasis #1 (3xx-4xx)
DANC 488	DANC 488 #1	Area of Emphasis #2 (3xx-4xx)
TDPS 479	Humanities (HU)**	TDPS 479 (1-3 credits)
Area of Emphasis 3xx-4xx <i>Must be completed by the end of six semesters.</i>	History/Social Sciences (HS)** Natural Science Lab (NL)**	Natural Sciences (NS)** History/Social Sciences (HS)**
Year 4		
	DANC 488 #2	Area of Emphasis #3 (3xx-4xx)
	Professional Writing (PW)	Area of Emphasis #4 (3xx-4xx)
	Humanities (HU)**	Scholarship in Practice (SP) #2**
	TDPS 479 or DANC 389 (1-3 credits)	Elective 3xx-4xx
	Elective 1xx-4xx	Elective 1xx-4xx
Total Credits for Degree: 120; 45 credits must be 3xx-4xx level		
Note: Some courses for the major may also count toward the General Education requirements.		
**All students must complete two Distributive Studies courses that are approved for I-series courses. The Understanding Plural Societies and Cultural Competence courses may also fulfill Distributive Studies categories.		

Four-Year Plan (CORE)

DANC: B.A. in Dance

YEAR 1

Semester 1
CORE/ARHU/ELECTIVES
ENGL 101 (A/H/U/S or X)
UNIV 100 or 101
MATH 110/111/113/115/140/220/5

MAJOR
DANC 109
DANC 179
DANC 218

Semester 2
CORE/ARHU/ELECTIVES
CORE (e.g. SH)
CORE (e.g. SB)
CORE (e.g. HL)

MAJOR
DANC 219
DANC 207
DANC 1xx-4xx (Dance Styles #1)

1st YEAR Benchmark:

MAJOR: DANC109, 179, 207, 218, 219, and DANC 1xx-4xx (Dance Styles #1)

YEAR 2

Semester 3
CORE/ARHU/ELECTIVES
CORE (e.g. Non Lab - LS/PS/MS)
CORE (e.g. SB)

MAJOR
DANC 209
DANC 318
DANC 1xx-4xx (Dance Styles #2)
TDPS 201

Semester 4
CORE/ARHU/ELECTIVES
CORE (e.g. Non Lab - LS/PS)
CORE (e.g. HA)
CORE (e.g. HL/HA/HO)

MAJOR
DANC 283
DANC 319
DANC 1xx-4xx (Dance Styles #3)

2nd YEAR Benchmark:

CORE: Seven (7) of nine (9) Distributive Studies courses

MAJOR: DANC209, 283, 318, 319, TDPS201; Two (2) additional DANC 1xx-4xx (Dance Styles)
4th Semester Assessment

YEAR 3

Semester 5
CORE/ARHU/ELECTIVES
CORE (e.g. Lab - LL or PL)
Global Engagement #1

MAJOR
DANC 304
DANC 488 #1

Semester 6
Global Engagement #2
Elective (1xx-4xx)

MAJOR
DEPT 3xx-4xx (Area of Emphasis #1)
DEPT 3xx-4xx (Area of Emphasis #2)
TDPS 479 #1

3rd YEAR Benchmark:

MAJOR: DANC304 and 488; TDPS479; DEPT 1xx-4xx (Area of Emphasis)

YEAR 4

Semester 7
CORE/ARHU/ELECTIVES
Prof. Writing (ENGL390/391/392/393/394/395/398)
CORE Advanced Studies #1
Elective (1xx-4xx)

MAJOR
DANC 488 #2
TDPS 479 #2

Semester 8
CORE/ARHU/ELECTIVES
CORE Advanced Studies #2
Elective (3xx-4xx)
Elective (3xx-4xx)

MAJOR
DEPT 3xx-4xx (Area of Emphasis #3)
DEPT 3xx-4xx (Area of Emphasis #4)

Q & A

Is there a minor in Dance?

At this time, the Department of Dance does not offer a minor.

Do I have to audition in order to declare a Dance major?

No. Entrance auditions are not required, but some previous dance experience is “highly desirable.”

Are there any scholarships available for Dance majors?

There are a few Creative and Performing Arts Scholarships awarded each year to new transfer and freshman students. Auditions are required for these awards and are held each Spring for the following academic year. Please see <http://tdps.umd.edu/programs/ba-dance/scholarships-and-awards> for more information regarding specific scholarships and requirements.

I'm thinking about a possible Dance major, but I'd like to take a couple classes first. Is that possible even if I'm not a major?

Most dance major classes are open to non-majors on a space available basis, providing the student has completed any prerequisites for those classes. In some cases non-majors may need to wait until the first week of classes to add a class to assure room in the class for incoming freshmen and transfer students. A few of the classes may fill regularly with Dance majors.

[Students interested in non-credit dance classes may also consider classes through the Art and Learning Center: https://stampunion.umd.edu/artlearn/classes.aspx.](https://stampunion.umd.edu/artlearn/classes.aspx)