

DANCE - BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS (BFA)

The University of Colorado Boulder offers a well-established, nationally recognized dance program that encourages the pursuit of one's artistic voice, embodied scholarship and pedagogical exploration.

Our BFA program is designed to meet the needs of highly curious and motivated students interested in preparing for a professional dance career in performance and/or choreography while in an academic setting. Our curriculum is designed to use dance and the body to challenge assumptions about practices, values, technology and sustainability. Our program scaffolds entrepreneurial approaches to art-making based in personal initiative, curiosity and versatility.

We support the vital cultivation of self-awareness alongside a nuanced appreciation of one's positionality within the global conversation. Somatic studies serve as the integrative tissue in our highly diverse and forward-thinking program.

We are a contemporary program—one that values and provides study in a range of styles and fusion of forms that influence and reflect the multifaceted nature of dance performance today. Our curriculum is designed to develop concrete skills in performance and choreography and to instill an appreciation of the role that dance plays in human culture around the world.

Requirements

Admission Requirements

Students who did not pre-audition into the BFA program and who wish to pursue the BFA can audition during the fall semester of their freshman or sophomore year. If the student is a sophomore auditioning for the BFA, they must be enrolled in or have taken DNCE 3033 or DNCE 3043 in order to be on track to graduate in four years.

Application guidelines for the BFA track are posted each fall semester. The undergraduate director will notify students of faculty decisions regarding their audition. If a student is admitted to the program, they should talk to their primary advisor to have their degree status officially changed from BA to BFA.

The characteristics that the faculty looks for in BFA students are:

- Exceptional technical/expressive ability as demonstrated in class work and performance.
- Choreographic skill or potential as demonstrated through movement invention and appropriate clarity of structure
- Willingness and drive necessary to pursue a professional career in dance.
- Exceptional musicality and rhythmic precision.
- Maturity, organization and a positive attitude.

Required Courses and Credit Hours

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Required Courses		
DNCE 1012	Dance Production	2
DNCE 1013	Dance Improvisation	2

DNCE 1027	Dance in Cultural Perception and Expression	3
DNCE 1908	First Year Dance Seminar	1
DNCE 2501	African Dance	2
DNCE 3005	Movement Awareness and Injury Prevention for the Dancer	3
DNCE 3014	Inside the Groove: Developing Rhythmic Skills	2
DNCE 3024	SOUND Choices: Enhancing the Music/Dance Relationship	2
DNCE 3033	Choreographic Resources	3
DNCE 3035	Production Practicum	1
DNCE 3043	Choreographic Process	3
DNCE 3901	Technique Practicum	1-3
DNCE 4012	Concert Production	1
DNCE 4036	Dance Teaching Practices: Inclusive Approaches to Instruction	3
DNCE 4017	Dancing Histories: Sex, Gender and Race in U.S. Concert Dance	3
DNCE 4037	Contemporary Concert Dance: Shifting Perspectives in Performance	3
or DNCE 4047	Hip-Hop Dance History	
DNCE 4053	Advanced Dance Composition	3
DNCE 5052	Studio Concert	3
THTR 4029	Performance and Community Engagement	3
THTR 4081	Senior Seminar	3
Electives		
Take 12 credit hours of one of the following: ¹		12
DNCE 2021	Major Technique	
DNCE 3041	Major Technique	
DNCE 4061	Major Technique	
Select one of the following:		2-3
THTR 1003	Acting 1	
DNCE 4023	Performance Improvisation Techniques	
THTR 4073	Performing Voices of Women	
Take 9 credit hours of electives in dance technique with course numbers that end in 1.		9
Select one of the following THTR Production courses:		2-3
THTR 2105	Introduction to Performance Design	
THTR 3005	Costume Design 1	
THTR 3015	Scene Design 1	
THTR 3045	Stage Management	
THTR 3055	Stage Lighting Design 1	
THTR 3075	Sound Design	
THTR 4035	Scene Painting	
THTR 4055	Stage Lighting Design 2	
THTR 4105	Theatre Make-Up Design	
THTR 4175	Conceptualization	
THTR 5025	Costume Patterning and Construction	
Some sections of the following including Tailoring or Projection Design:		

THTR 4095	Special Topics in Theatre Design and Technology	
Total Credit Hours		72-76

¹ Students are placed at the appropriate level based on audition. Students without sufficient training will be asked to take nonmajor technique classes to make up the deficiency. These classes will not count toward the major requirement.

Additional Requirements

In addition to specified coursework, the BFA student must meet the following requirements:

- Show original choreographic work each semester in Open Space, FRESH or Dance Class Showings.
- Present a concert in conjunction with other senior BFA's in the spring of their senior year.
- By December of their junior year, the student must have formed a committee of two faculty members who will evaluate their concert. The student and First Reader (lead faculty member) of the committee will complete a BFA Concert Form that is given to the Director of Dance Production by January 31 junior year. The Director of Dance Production will help you plan and oversee the production aspects of the show.
- Maintain a 3.2 GPA in required dance and theatre courses. If a student drops below the required GPA by the time of their concert proposal submission (January 31), they will be removed from the BFA and their concert proposal will no longer be considered.

Graduating in Four Years

Consult the Four-Year Guarantee Requirements for more information on eligibility. The concept of "adequate progress" as it is used here only refers to maintaining eligibility for the four-year guarantee; it is not a requirement for the major. To maintain adequate progress toward a BFA in dance, students should meet the requirements in the Four-Year Plan section.

Four-Year Plan of Study

Through the required coursework for the major, students will fulfill all 12 credits of the Arts & Humanities area of the Gen Ed Distribution Requirement and will fulfill the Global Perspective category of the Gen Ed Diversity Requirement.

Year One

Fall Semester		Credit Hours
DNCE 1012	Dance Production	2
DNCE 1027	Dance in Cultural Perception and Expression	3
DNCE 1908	First Year Dance Seminar	1
DNCE 2021	Major Technique	2
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences with Lab)		4
Gen. Ed. Skills course (example: Lower-division Written Communication)		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring Semester		
DNCE 1013	Dance Improvisation	2

DNCE 3041	Major Technique	2
DNCE 3035	Production Practicum	1
Additional technique as needed		2
Gen. Ed. Skills course (example: QRMS)		3-5
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Science)		3
Elective		3
Credit Hours		16-18

Year Two

Fall Semester

DNCE 2501	African Dance	2
DNCE 3014	Inside the Groove: Developing Rhythmic Skills	2
THTR 4029	Performance and Community Engagement	3
THTR 2050	Technical Theatre for Performance	2
Gen. Ed. Distribution/Diversity course (example: Social Sciences)		3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Science)		3
Credit Hours		15

Spring Semester

DNCE 3005	Movement Awareness and Injury Prevention for the Dancer	3
DNCE 3041 or DNCE 4061	Major Technique or Major Technique	2
DNCE 3033	Choreographic Resources	3
DNCE 3024	SOUND Choices: Enhancing the Music/Dance Relationship	2
Additional technique as needed		2
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences)		3
Credit Hours		15

Year Three

Fall Semester

DNCE 3041 or DNCE 4061	Major Technique or Major Technique	2
DNCE 3901	Technique Practicum	1-3
DNCE 4036	Dance Teaching Practices: Inclusive Approaches to Instruction	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution/Diversity course (example: Social Sciences/US Perspective)		3
Gen. Ed. Skills course (example: Upper-division Written Communication)		3
Elective		3
Credit Hours		15-17

Spring Semester

DNCE 3041 or DNCE 4061	Major Technique or Major Technique	2
DNCE 3043	Choreographic Process	3
DNCE 4012	Concert Production	1
THTR 1003 or DNCE 4023 or THTR 4073	Acting 1 or Performance Improvisation Techniques or Performing Voices of Women	2-3
Additional technique as needed		3

Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Social Sciences)		3
Credit Hours		14-15
Year Four		
Fall Semester		
DNCE 3041 or DNCE 4061	Major Technique or Major Technique	2
DNCE 4017	Dancing Histories: Sex, Gender and Race in U.S. Concert Dance	3
DNCE 4053	Advanced Dance Composition	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Social Sciences)		3
Elective		3
Credit Hours		14
Spring Semester		
DNCE 4037 or DNCE 4047	Contemporary Concert Dance: Shifting Perspectives in Performance or Hip-Hop Dance History	3
DNCE 5052	Studio Concert	3
THTR 4081	Senior Seminar	3
Additional technique as needed		2
Elective		3
Credit Hours		14
Total Credit Hours		118-123