DANCE, BFA

The Performance and Choreography/Contemporary Track in the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Dance prepares students to perform and create original dance choreography for theatrical productions. Dance BFA students complete a rigorous technical and creative curriculum designed to develop the student’s individual artistic voice. Contemporary Track majors additionally study body/mind sciences, dance pedagogy, historical and cultural contexts for dance, and the interactive collaboration skills necessary to bring dance to the theatre with a high degree of excellence.

**Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University Core</td>
<td></td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance Technique</td>
<td></td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance Creative</td>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance Academic</td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dance Electives</td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
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<td>120</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**University Core**

The minimum number of credits required to complete the Bachelor of Arts or the Bachelor of Fine Arts is 120. Students who need background preparation courses in math, English, foreign language, and chemistry may need additional credits.

- **General Education Requirements**
  - Competencies
  - Oral and Written Communication – Part A and Part B
  - Quantitative Literacy (QL) – Part A and Part B
  - Foreign Language
  - Distribution Requirements
    - Humanities
    - Natural Sciences (Must include one lab)
    - Social Sciences
    - Cultural Diversity
- **Electives**
  - Additional Electives
  - Credits in Peck School of the Arts
  - University Credits
  - Total Credits: 120

1. Learn more about the General Education Requirements (http://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/#generaleducationtext).
2. Credits may be utilized in required curriculum areas.
3. Chosen from three of the following departments in PSOA: Art & Design, Fine Arts, Theatre, or Film, Video, Animation, and New Genres.

**Dance Foundations Curriculum**

Students in both the BFA and BA dance degree programs must complete the following Dance Foundations curriculum in their freshman year.

- **Dance Technique Courses**
  - Contemporary Dance Practice: Modern Tradition
  - Contemporary Dance Practice: Ballet Tradition

**Major Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DANCE 111</td>
<td>Ballet I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANCE 113</td>
<td>Modern Dance Technique I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANCE 233</td>
<td>Improvisation for Dancemaking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
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</table>

Please note: For all Dance majors and minors, dance courses with a grade C- or below will not be counted toward any departmental degree.
### Recommended Course of Study

#### Year 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>DANCE 111 - Ballet I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>DANCE 113 - Modern Dance Technique I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>DANCE 209 - Dance Production</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>University Core</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credits</td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
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#### Year 2

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Somatic Course #1 (see list on Requirements tab)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>DANCE 115 or DANCE 122 - Jazz Dance I (3 cr. in 122 if GER-CD is desired) or African Dance &amp; Diaspora Technique I</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>DANCE 213 - Contemporary Dance Practice: Modern Tradition III</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>DANCE 412 - Dance Composition I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>University Core</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credits</td>
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<td>16</td>
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#### Year 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>DANCE 214 - Contemporary Dance Practice: Modern Tradition IV</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DANCE 251  Laban Movement Analysis I (QL-B)  3
DANCE 314  Contemporary Dance History  3
DANCE 413  Dance Composition II  3
DANCE 490  Repertoire and Ensemble 1  1
PSOA Core  3

Credits  16

Spring
DANCE 212  Contemporary Dance Practice: Ballet Tradition IV  3
DANCE 352  Digital Media Portfolio for Performers  3
Dance Elective (see list on Requirements tab)  2
PSOA Core  6

Credits  14

Year 4
Fall
Somatic Course #2 (see list on Requirements tab)  2
DANCE 317  Contemporary Dance Practice: Modern Tradition V  3
DANCE 460  Teaching Dance in Community Settings  3
DANCE 601  Senior Project  3
PSOA Core  6

Credits  17

Spring
Complementary Technique (see list on Requirements tab)  2
Dance Elective (see list on Requirements tab)  3
DANCE 312  Contemporary Dance Practice: Ballet Tradition VI  3
DANCE 490  Repertoire and Ensemble 1  1
PSOA Core  3

Credits  12

Total Credits  120

Admission and Retention Requirements for the Dance BFA and BA

Admission Requirements

Please see uwm.edu/arts/apply (http://uwm.edu/arts/apply) for information on admission starting spring 2017.

Students must meet general university admission requirements (http://catalog.uwm.edu/admission-costs/undergraduate-admission) to be admitted to any of the undergraduate curricula as a freshman or transfer student. Passing the Dance Entrance Audition (on-campus or video) is required for entrance into the Dance BA or BFA degree programs.

On-campus auditions consist of a variety of technique classes, writing sample, one-minute solo performance (can be self-choreographed), and Q&A session. Video submission (only with prior authorization via email to dance-admission@uwm.edu) consists of writing sample, 5 minutes each of two contrasting dance techniques, and 2-3 minutes of performance video (DVD or URLs in online form). Auditions after the last on-campus audition will be by appointment or via video submission. If unsuccessful, students may re-audition, but are limited to auditioning twice per academic year (via any method).

To RSVP for a specific audition date, or to submit the video audition form (after authorization), prospective students must:

1. complete the appropriate online form at uwm.edu/arts/apply (http://uwm.edu/arts/apply) and
2. submit separate copies of their high school and/or college transcripts (unofficial copies are acceptable for this purpose).

Transcripts and/or video footage should be sent to dance-admission@uwm.edu or UWM Dance Admission, P.O. Box 413, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

UWM priority application deadline is March 1.

Transfer students must complete a minimum of half of the required dance credits while in residence at UWM in order to graduate. The exact total is available upon admission to the program. Transcript evaluation by a dance advisor is required before placement into dance major courses.

Once accepted, students may enter the program during either fall or spring semesters, but are strongly encouraged to enter in the fall term to progress more smoothly through the BA or BFA curricular sequence.

Retention Requirements

Each undergraduate dance major’s coursework will be reviewed at the end of his/her sophomore year to determine continuance in the major, as part of the Mid-Program Portfolio Review. Students must maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.0 in the dance major.

All students are expected to demonstrate a strong commitment to their health and overall conditioning in order to fulfill the department’s academic requirements. Each student’s ability to undertake the demands of the dance program, including his/her overall physical ability to perform in classes, auditions, rehearsals, and/or performances, will be a factor in the following: grading at the end of each semester; the audition/rehearsal/performance process for departmental productions and outreach events; the Mid-Program Portfolio Review assessment; determining “probation” status; and potentially removing a student from the program.

Laptops

Dance BA and BFA students are required to have a laptop computer (or comparable tablet meeting minimum specifications) by the beginning of their sophomore year, but are strongly encouraged to have one when they enter the program. The hardware and software must meet or exceed the current departmental requirements, as stated on the website (uwm.edu/arts/apply/laptop) and in the Dance Undergraduate Student Handbook. Website also includes information on using financial aid to fund this expense.

Honors in the Major

Honors in the Major is granted to students who have earned a GPA of 3.500 or greater in the major and the academic department’s recommendation.

High Honors in the Major is granted to students who have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or greater and the academic department’s recommendation.

Departmental Honors are granted to students recommended by their academic department for Honors excellence in performance not reflected in the GPA.
Dean’s Honors are granted to students with major achievements in one or more of the arts.

**Honors in the Peck School of the Arts**

**Dean’s Honor List**
GPA of 3.750 or above, earned on a full-time student’s GPA on 12 or more graded credits in a given semester.

**Honors Degree and Honors Degree with Thesis**
Granted to graduating seniors who complete Honors College requirements, as listed in the Honors College (http://catalog.uwm.edu/opportunities-resources/honors-college) section of this site.

**Commencement Honors**
Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester, will receive all-university commencement honors and be awarded the traditional gold cord at the December or May Honors Convocation. Please note that for honors calculation, the GPA is **not** rounded and is truncated at the third decimal (e.g., 3.499).

**Final Honors**
Earned on a minimum of 60 graded UWM credits: Cum Laude - 3.500 or above; Magna Cum Laude - 3.650 or above; Summa Cum Laude - 3.800 or above.

**Advising**

**Location:** Theatre 120  
**Hours:** 9AM-4PM Monday through Thursday, 9AM-2PM Fridays  
*(closed on university holidays)*  
**Contact:** (414) 229-4763

Academic advising is an important aspect of long-term academic success. At the Peck School of the Arts, we offer professional academic advising in the following undergraduate disciplines: art, dance, film, music, and theatre.

Advisors provide students with individualized advising to assist them in areas such as: degree requirements, major options, course selection, campus resources, college success strategies, graduation assessment, academic policies and procedures, etc.

For more information on Peck School of the Arts advising, please visit http://uwm.edu/arts/advising/.