DANCE AND CHOREOGRAPHY, BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS (B.F.A.)

The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance and Choreography requires a total of 120 credits, with 81 of those credits as the major core curriculum. Alongside general education courses, dance-focused academics and creative process classes (i.e. composition and choreography), dance majors are typically required to take two technique classes daily throughout the majority of their studies. The continuous study of modern/contemporary dance and ballet is a strong component of the curriculum. In addition, elective courses in partnering, jazz, hip hop, West African, contact improvisation, yoga, Pilates and other studio experiences are offered, rounding out a curriculum that also involves studies in anatomy and dance science, dance history, and music, among other areas. Within the major core there are opportunities for repertory experience and for independent study.

The dance major program is rigorous. Students' technique placement within the required major courses is determined through departmental assessment and placement processes. Formal evaluation procedures include a placement class for entering students, juried examinations at the end of the first semester of the freshman and sophomore years and every semester of the junior and senior years. In the second semester of the freshman and sophomore years the jury is folded into a comprehensive career evaluation called the Freshmen Review and the Sophomore Readmittance Exam, respectively. These career evaluations are to assess each student's progress in relationship to the standards of the program and progress toward degree completion. Students in the major program may be notified of probationary status after the Freshmen Review. All majors must pass the Sophomore Readmittance Exam in order to continue in the major. This exam stands on its own as a separate evaluation from course grades.

The VCU dance program provides abundant opportunities for students to interact with faculty and guest artists in academic, professional, creative and performance contexts. Within the School of the Arts, dance students have frequent opportunities to work collaboratively with other students in the arts. Possibilities include the visual arts, participation in multimedia events and productions outside the dance department. Any dance major or minor can perform in numerous formal concerts, informal showings and lecture-demonstrations produced by the department. Opportunities also are available for training in teaching, but students interested in earning state certification should consult their advisers.

Student learning outcomes

Upon completing this program, students will know and know how to do the following:

- Students should demonstrate comprehensive and theoretical understanding of the field of dance.

Special requirements

An audition is required for acceptance into the dance program. Applicants must follow the admissions guidelines for arts students as described in the “Admission to the university” section of the bulletin.

To be eligible for graduation, dance majors must meet the proficiency requirements of having completed two semesters of level IV technique (DANC 401-DANC 402) or achieved an equivalent through departmentally approved summer study. In order to graduate, students must also complete a senior project, which is a practical presentation in creative work. Senior projects are approved in multiple stages by a review committee composed of full-time faculty members. Eligibility is based on the student's overall academic record (credits earned, requirements met). Approval in stage one is based on the quality of the student's written proposal; in stage two it is based upon evaluation/review of the student's completed project proposed for presentation.

Degree requirements for Dance and Choreography, Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DANC 103</td>
<td>Survey of Dance History</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 104</td>
<td>Survey of Dance History</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 105</td>
<td>Improvisation</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 201 &amp; DANC 202</td>
<td>Modern Dance Technique II and Workshop and Modern Dance Technique II and Workshop</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 260</td>
<td>Dance Production Workshop</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 301 &amp; DANC 302</td>
<td>Modern Dance Technique III and Workshop and Modern Dance Technique III and Workshop</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 317</td>
<td>Anatomy for the Dancer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 318</td>
<td>Dance Science</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 407</td>
<td>Teaching Methods for Dance</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 490</td>
<td>Senior Project</td>
<td>3</td>
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- Additional major requirements

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DANC 101 &amp; DANC 102</td>
<td>Modern Dance Technique I and Workshop and Modern Dance Technique I and Workshop</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 107</td>
<td>Music and Dance Forms</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 162</td>
<td>Rehearsal and Performance</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 205 &amp; DANC 206</td>
<td>Composition and Composition</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 303</td>
<td>Choreography/Performance</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>DANC 313</td>
<td>Dance in World Cultures</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
or DANC 413  African American Presence in American Dance, Performance and Social Contexts
or DANC 415  Black Performance Theory
DANC 401 & DANC 402  Modern Dance Technique IV and Workshop
• Major electives
DANC 111 & DANZ 111  Ballet Technique I
DANC 112 & DANZ 112  Ballet Technique I and Ballet Technique I Laboratory
DANC 211 & DANZ 211  Ballet Technique II
DANC 212 & DANZ 212  Ballet Technique II and Ballet Technique II Laboratory
DANC 311  Ballet Technique III
DANC 312  Ballet Technique III
DANC 411  Ballet Technique IV
DANC 412  Ballet Technique IV
DANC 411  Ballet Technique III Laboratory
DANC 412  Ballet Technique III Laboratory
Creative practicum
DANC 304  Choreography/Performance or DANC 319  Screen Dance
or DANC 360  Lighting Design for Dance
or DANC 365  Sound Design for Dance
or DANC 491  Topics in Dance
Technique elective (select from list below) 2
Dance electives (select from list below) 2
Open electives
Select any course. 9
Total Hours 120
The minimum number of credit hours required for this degree is 120.

Electives
Course  Title  Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Technique electives</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DANC/AFAM 121</td>
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<tr>
<td>DANC/AFAM 122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 126 &amp; DAN 127</td>
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<tr>
<td>DANC 141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 142</td>
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<tr>
<td>DANC 191</td>
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<tr>
<td>DANC 213 &amp; DANZ 211</td>
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<tr>
<td>DANC 251</td>
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<tr>
<td>DANC 253</td>
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<tr>
<td>DANC 254</td>
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<td>DANC 255</td>
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</tbody>
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DANC 256  Hip Hop Dance  2
DANC 315  Contact Improvisation  2
DANC 321  Partnering  2

Approved topics courses
Dance electives
ARTS 460  Synesthesia: Exploring Process Across Disciplines  2
DANC 230  Dance in Hollywood  3
DANC 408  Children's Pedagogy  2
DANC 455  Dance Criticism  2
DANC 460  Business of Dance  2

What follows is a sample plan that meets the prescribed requirements within a four-year course of study at VCU. Please contact your adviser before beginning course work toward a degree.

Freshman year
Fall semester
DANC 101  Modern Dance Technique I and Workshop  3
DANC 103  Survey of Dance History  3
DANC 105  Improvisation  2
DANC 111 & DANZ 111  Ballet Technique I and Ballet Technique I Laboratory  3
UNIV 111  Focused Inquiry I (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)  3
Play course video for Focused Inquiry I  3
Term Hours: 17

Spring semester
DANC 102  Modern Dance Technique I and Workshop  3
DANC 104  Survey of Dance History  3
DANC 107  Music and Dance Forms  2
DANC 112 & DANZ 112  Ballet Technique I and Ballet Technique I Laboratory  3
DANC 162  Rehearsal and Performance  2
UNIV 112  Focused Inquiry II (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)  3
Play course video for Focused Inquiry II  3
Term Hours: 16

Sophomore year
Fall semester
DANC 201  Modern Dance Technique II and Workshop  3
DANC 205  Composition  3
DANC 211 & DANZ 211  Ballet Technique II and Ballet Technique II Laboratory  3
DANC 260  Dance Production Workshop  2
General education course  3
General education course  3
Term Hours: 17

Spring semester
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DANC 202</td>
<td>Modern Dance Technique II and Workshop</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 206</td>
<td>Composition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 212</td>
<td>Ballet Technique II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; DANC 212</td>
<td>and Ballet Technique II Laboratory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 317</td>
<td>Anatomy for the Dancer</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNIV 200</td>
<td>Advanced Focused Inquiry: Literacies, Research and Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(satisfies general education UNIV foundations)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>General education course</td>
<td>3</td>
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**Junior year**

**Term Hours:** **16**

**Fall semester**

- DANC 301 Modern Dance Technique III and Workshop | 3
- DANC 303 Choreography/Performance                | 2
- DANC 318 Dance Science                          | 3
- Ballet technique                                | 2
- General education course                        | 3
- Technique elective                              | 1

**Spring semester**

- DANC 302 Modern Dance Technique III and Workshop | 3
- DANC 313 Dance in World Cultures (Performance and Social Contexts) (interdependence work culture elective) | 3
- or DANC 413                                  |         |
- or DANC 415 American Dance, Performance and Social Contexts or Black Performance Theory |         |
- Ballet technique                                | 2
- Creative practicum elective                     | 2
- General education course                        | 3
- General education course                        | 3

**Term Hours:** **16**

**Senior year**

**Fall semester**

- DANC 401 Modern Dance Technique IV and Workshop | 3
- DANC 407 Teaching Methods for Dance             | 3
- Dance elective                                  | 2
- Open electives                                  | 3
- Technique elective                              | 1

**Term Hours:** **12**

**Spring semester**

- DANC 402 Modern Dance Technique IV and Workshop | 3
- DANC 490 Senior Project (capstone)              | 3
- Open electives                                  | 6

**Term Hours:** **12**

**Total Hours:** **120**

The minimum number of credit hours required for this degree is 120.