DANCE, B.S.

Begin Campus: University Park
End Campus: University Park

Program Description

The BS in Dance degree is specially designed as a comprehensive study of all elements of Dance, focusing on elements of the artistry and sciences of the body to create a more well-rounded performer. Students are encouraged to have a concurrent major with any other area of study. Students are encouraged to consider how their concurrent majors will result in career enhancement, for example kinesiology and dance or education and dance. Students will learn to analyze, generate, and influence creativity in their workplaces and their lives. This program will also emphasize the broadening impact of the intersection of the arts and sciences. Students are strongly encouraged to spend Maymester abroad in the dance program’s international trip to Ireland.

Unlike the BFA’s in Musical Theatre, Design and Technology, and Acting, this degree is designed to allow and encourage exploration by the student, working closely with their adviser. As a student’s perspectives and career goals may change over the course of their four years at Penn State, this program is flexible in order to support those changes. Equally, unlike the BA in Theatre, which is a liberal arts based program, the BS focuses on courses that enhance the student’s professional aspirations and encourage students to see the “theatricality of the body,” the artistic applications of scientific information on the body, and the scientific aspect of artistry. Students who successfully complete the program will be prepared to use their skills in presentation, design, analysis, and critical thinking in every phase of their profession development.

What is Dance?

Convergence of artistry and science of the body—artistic applications of scientific information on the body, and the scientific aspect of artistry. Modern. Ballet. Jazz. African. Anatomy. Nutrition. Small program and flexible curriculum. The Dance B.S. degree is the program for a student who wishes to have the top-notch Penn State education while continuing to develop technically. Dancing alongside the students in the B.F.A. in Acting and Musical Theatre programs creates the professional atmosphere of dance training, while access to our top ranked Kinesiology program offers a unique educational experience.

You Might Like this Program If...

- The thought of an anatomy coloring book makes you giddy
- You dance through the grocery store and then binge watch “ER” for the medical scenes
- You are fascinated by the science and art of dance and the body
- You are looking for a program that helps you build your technique and artistry as a dancer, as well as your knowledge of how the body works

Entrance to Major

Entrance to the major is achieved by audition and interview with the dance faculty. Video auditions and internet interviews can be arranged.

Additional Information

For more specific information on entrance procedures, please visit the website for the College of Arts and Architecture (https://theatre.psu.edu/danceauditions).

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Science in Dance a minimum of 120 credits is required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>9-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>73.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)

- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

Knowledge Domains

- Arts (GA): 6 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 6 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences(GS): 6 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 9 credits

Integrative Studies (may also complete a Knowledge Domain requirement)

- Inter-Domain or Approved Linked Courses: 6 credits

7.5-13.5 of these 45 credits are included in the Requirements for the Major.

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.
First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

**Cultures Requirement**
6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements
- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

**Writing Across the Curriculum**
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

**Total Minimum Credits**
A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

**Quality of Work**
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

**Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition**
The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

**Requirements for the Major**
This includes 7.5-13.5 credits of General Education courses: 3 credits of GN; 1.5 credits of GHW; 0-6 credits of GA; 3 credits of GS. College of Arts and Architecture - 6 credits of History of the Arts. At least 15 credits at the 400 level.

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified in their degree program.

To support the intersection of arts and science and provide engaged scholarship in both.

To encourage an international experience.

To allow flexibility for students to chart their own path through the variety of dance styles offered.

To prepare students to work in the science fields related to and in support of dance training and the healing arts.

To develop the dancer’s ability in artistry, technique, analysis, and intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

To support the intersection of arts and science and provide engaged scholarship in both.

**Learning Outcomes**
1. To develop the dancer’s ability in artistry, technique, analysis, and historical inquiry of the art form.
2. To prepare students to work in the science fields related to and in support of dance training and the healing arts.
3. To allow flexibility for students to chart their own path through the variety of dance styles offered.
4. To encourage an international experience.
5. To support the intersection of arts and science and provide engaged scholarship in both.

**Academic Advising**
The objectives of the university’s academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in- and out-of-class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee’s unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information need to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.
**Suggested Academic Plan**

**University Park Campus**

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

**First Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15A, 15A or 30</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>KINES 101 or 180</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 100</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NUTR 100</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 1S</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>THEA 132</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Course for Major (see list)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>THEA 289</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course</td>
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<td>General Education Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supporting Course for Major (see note)²</td>
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<td>Supporting Course for Major (see note)²</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Second Year |
|-------------|---------|--------|---------|
| Fall        | Credits | Spring | Credits |
| BBH 203 or PSYCH 260 | 3       | BIOL 11 | 3       |
| DANCE 370   | 3       | CAS 100 | 3       |
| KINES 202   | 4       | THEA 407W or WMNST 407W | 3       |
| Additional Course for Major (see list) | 3 | Additional Course for Major (see list) | 3       |
| Supporting Course for Major (see note)² | 3 | General Education Course | 3       |
|            | 16      |        | 15      |

**Third Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
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<th>Spring</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DANCE 410</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Additional Course for Major (see list)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Course for Major, 400-level (see list)¹</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Additional Course for Major (see list)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Course for Major (see list)¹</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course (GHW)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>Supporting Course for Major (see note)²</td>
<td>3</td>
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**Fourth Year**

<table>
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<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Additional Course for Major, 400-level (see list)¹</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Course for Major, 400-level (see list)¹</td>
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<td>Additional Course for Major (see list)¹</td>
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<td>Additional Course for Major (see list)¹</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
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<td>General Education Course</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3</td>
<td>General Education Course</td>
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<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credits 120**

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

# Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

1 **ADDITIONAL COURSES (27 credits)**
- Select 18 credits from: DANCE 100 GA;US;IL(3); THEA 100 GA;US;IL(3) or THEA 105 GA(3); THEA 102 GA(3); THEA 120(3); DANCE 411 GH(3); THEA 408W US(3); DANCE 499 IL(1); THEA 499 IL(9)
- Take 9 credits of DANCE or THEA courses, 6 credits must be 400 level: DANCE 280(1); DANCE 281(2); DANCE 297(1); DANCE 381(1); DANCE 480(2); DANCE 482(3); DANCE 485(1-2); DANCE 497(1); THEA 146(2)

2 **SUPPORTING COURSE AND RELATED AREAS (15 credits)**
Select 15 credits of dance technique courses in consultation with adviser.

**University Requirements and General Education Notes:**

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

GWS, GQ, GWF, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GWG, GN, GA, GH, GS, and Integrative Studies). Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of ‘C’ or better.

Integrative Studies courses are required for the General Education program. N is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate an Inter-Domain course and Z is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate a Linked course.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL/CAS 137 in the fall semester and ENGL/CAS 138
in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and replace both ENGL 30 and CAS 100. Each course is 3 credits.

**Program Notes:**
ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS: Entrance to the major is achieved by audition and interview with the dance faculty. Video auditions and internet interviews can be arranged.

**Career Paths**
From researcher to health/body practitioner to performer, this degree is designed to help you meet your career goals and be prepared for professional graduate studies.

**Opportunities for Graduate Studies**
This degree prepares students for advanced study in a variety of programs dependent upon interests and goals. Students in this program often enter graduate programs in physical therapy, physician assistant, expressive arts therapy, nutrition, somatic psychology, and dance therapy. Students may also choose to enter the field with additional professional study in a somatics certificate program, such as Laban Movement Analysis, Alexander Technique, The Feldenkrais Method, or Hanna Somatics. Additionally, through opportunities such as our international program in Ireland, you are well-rounded and well-prepared to pursue an M.F.A. in dance.

**Professional Resources**
- National Dance Education Organization (NDEO) (http://ndeo.org)
- National Honor Society for Dance Arts™ (NHSDA) (http://sites.psu.edu/nhsda)
- American College Dance Association (ACDA) (http://www.acda.dance)

**Accreditation**
The Bachelor of Science in Dance is accredited by National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST).

Founded in 1965, the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST) is an organization of schools, conservatories, colleges, and universities with approximately 188 accredited institutional members. It establishes national standards for undergraduate and graduate degrees and other credentials for theatre and theatre-related disciplines, and provides assistance to institutions and individuals engaged in artistic, scholarly, educational, and other theatre-related endeavors.

MORE INFORMATION (https://nast.arts-accredit.org)

**Contact**

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theatre@psu.edu

http://theatre.psu.edu