

DANCE

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Department Assistant: Diane Roe

The Department of Dance

Mission

The Barnard College Department of Dance, located in a world dance capital, offers an interdisciplinary program that integrates the study of dance within a liberal arts setting of intellectual and creative exploration. The major builds upon studio courses, the Department's productions at Miller Theater, New York Live Arts, and other venues, as well as a rich array of dance studies courses, allowing students' creative work to develop in dialogue with critical inquiry into the history, culture, theory and forms of western and non-western performance, typically enhanced by study in other disciplines. Students work with accomplished artists whose work enriches contemporary American dance; they also study with outstanding research scholars.

Making, thinking about, and writing about art are an essential part of the liberal arts education. For this reason, the Department of Dance offers technique courses for students of all levels of expertise, while opening its other courses to majors and non-majors alike, who may also audition for its productions. The Department partners with cultural institutions in New York City to connect students with the professional world.

Student Learning Outcomes for the Major and Minor

Students graduating with a major in Dance should be able to attain the following outcomes:

- Apply critical thinking, reading, and writing skills to dance-related texts and choreography.
- Develop the knowledge and research skills to explore the dance past in writing, orally, and in performance.
- Present interpretations of dance-related texts orally, in writing, and in performance.
- Apply library, archival, and internet research skills to dance scholarship and choreography.
- Demonstrate improved efficiency and expressivity in dance technique.
- Demonstrate growing technical understanding and fluency in dance technique.
- Create original dances, dance/theater works or dance-based, mixed media works.
- Collaborate with an artist in the creation of original dance works.
- Participate in the creative process through the creation and interpretation of choreography.
- Apply interdisciplinary research methods to dance scholarship and choreography.
- Apply historical research methods to dance scholarship and choreography.
- Demonstrate conceptual and methodological approaches for studying world dance forms through research and writing.
- Demonstrate the ability to understand cultural and historical texts in relation to dance forms.

- Apply anatomical knowledge to movement and movement concepts.
- Evaluate the theoretical and artistic work of peers.
- Communicate with an audience in oral presentations and dance performance.
- Understand and interpret the language and form of an artist's choreography.
- Solve technical problems in dance movement.
- Apply musical knowledge to movement and choreography.
- Design choreographic movement and structures.

Chair: Colleen Thomas-Young (Professor of Professional Practice)

Director of Undergraduate Studies: Paul A. Scolieri (Professor)

Associate Professors of Professional Practice: Gabri Christa, Marjorie Folkman

Assistant Professors: Cecile Feza Bushidi, Seth Williams

Senior Associate: Katie Glasner

Term Associate: Vincent McCloskey

Adjunct Faculty: Cynthia Anderson, Jennifer Archibald, Rebecca Bliss, Candace Brown, Siobhan Burke, Maguette Camara, Antonio Carmena, Uttara Coorlawala, Dormeshia, Nicole Duffy, Allison Easter, Caroline Fermin, Roderick George, Tamisha Guy, Chisa Hidaka, Irene Hultman, Gabrielle Lamb, Jodi Melnick, MX Oops, Juan Rodriguez, Sarah Silverblatt-Buser, Carol Teitelbaum, Nelida Tirado, Caitlin Trainor, Ashley Tuttle

Technical Director and Lighting Designer: Tim Cryan

Music Director: Robert Boston

Senior Administrative Assistant: Diane Roe

Major in Dance

Majors must complete eleven academic courses (six required, five elective) and a minimum of eight 1-point technique courses (minimum 42 credits). All majors write a senior thesis as part of their coursework.

The required courses for the major in dance are distributed as follows:

Dance History

The following two courses in Dance History must be completed before the fall of the senior year:

DNCE BC2565	WORLD DANCE HISTORY
DNCE BC3001	HISTORY OF THEATRICAL DANCING

Movement Science

Select one or more of the following:

DNCE BC2562	MOVEMENT ANALYSIS
ANAT BC2573	HUMAN ANATOMY AND MOVEMENT
DNCE BC3144	Coding Choreography

Composition

One course in Composition must be completed before the fall of the senior year.

DNCE BC2563	DANCE COMPOSITION: FORM
DNCE BC2564	DANCE COMPOSITION: CONTENT
DNCE BC3560	SCREENDANCE:COMPOSITION
DNCE BC3565	Composition: Collaboration and the Creative Process
DNCE BC3566	Composition: Site Specific and Experimental Methods

Senior Work

Seniors planning to write a combined thesis must request approval from both departments and notify the Registrar. All majors must complete two semesters of senior work. The following course, which culminates in a 25-30-page written thesis and an oral presentation to the Department at the end of the semester, is required of all seniors:

DNCE BC3591	SENIOR SEMINAR
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In addition, all majors must take one of the following two courses, depending on whether the senior requirement is completed with a creative project or a two-semester written thesis: 3-4

DNCE BC3592	Senior Project: Research for Dance
DNCE BC3593	SR PROJECT:REPERTORY FOR DANCE

Students who are double majors may request permission to write a two-semester combined thesis.

Electives

Five additional 3- or 4-point courses, chosen in consultation with the major advisor, are required. Electives may be chosen from among the departmental offerings listed above or below, including additional coursework in Composition, Movement Science, and/or Senior Work beyond the major requirement. 15-20

History/Criticism:

DNCE BC2570	DANCE IN NEW YORK CITY
DNCE BC3000	From Page to Stage: Interactions of Literature and Choreography
DNCE BC3002	Choreographing Race in America
DNCE BC3200	DANCE IN FILM
DNCE BC3240	SEEING THE BODY
DNCE BC3550	Dance in Africa
DNCE BC3567	DANCES OF INDIA
DNCE BC3576	DANCE CRITICISM
DNCE BC3585	DEVSING IMMERSIVE PERFORMANCE
DNCE BC3800	Dismantling Racism/Decolonizing Dance
DNCE BC3984	Digital Performance

Studio/Performance:

DNCE BC2567	MUSIC FOR DANCE
DNCE BC3340	Dance/Music Improvisation: Critical Practices in Negotiation, Embodiment, and Freedom
DNCE BC3601	REHEARSAL # PERFRMNC IN DANCE
- DNCE BC3604	and REHEARSAL#PERFRMNC IN DANCE

Overview of Major Requirements (11 total, plus 8 technique courses)

- 1 Movement Science
- 1 Composition
- 2 History
- 1 Senior Seminar
- 1 Senior Project (Research in Dance or Repertory for Dance)
- 5 Electives
- 8 Technique Courses

Senior Work

All dance majors must complete two semesters of senior work. DNCE BC3591 SENIOR SEMINAR given in the fall semesters, requires a 25-30 page written thesis and an oral presentation to the Department at the end of the semester. The second semester is usually a performance project for which the student registers in DNCE BC3593 SR PROJECT:REPERTORY FOR DANCE. Students may also choose to do a two-semester thesis, registering in DNCE BC3592 Senior Project:

Research for Dance. Students who are double majors may request permission to do a two-semester combined thesis.

Overview of Major Requirements (11 total, plus 8 technique classes)

- 1 Movement Science
- 1 Composition
- 1 History
- 1 Writing
- 1 Senior Seminar
- 1 Senior Project (Research in Dance or Repertory for Dance)
- 5 Electives
- 8 Technique Classes

Minor in Dance

Six courses constitute a minor in dance. Normally, three history/criticism and three credit-bearing performance/choreography courses are taken. (Note: 1-point technique courses do NOT count toward the Dance minor.)

Courses are to be selected on the basis of consultation with full-time members of the department.

Dance Courses

DNCE BC1135 BALLET I. 2.00 points.

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DNCE BC1136 BALLET I. 0.00-1.00 points.

DNCE BC1137 BALLET II. 2.00 points.

Ballet II

DNCE BC1138 BALLET II. 0.00-1.00 points.

DNCE BC1250 HIP HOP DANCE # CULTURE I. 0.00-1.00 points.

This course introduces students to urban dance styles, focusing on the foundations and origins of hip-hop dance, street dance culture, and the physical vocabularies of hip-hop and freestyle dance. Classes are geared to condition the body for the rigors of hip-hop technique by developing strength, coordination, flexibility, stamina, and rhythmic awareness while developing an appreciation of choreographic movement and structures. Compositional elements of hip-hop will be introduced and students may compose brief movement sequences

DNCE BC1330 MODERN I. 0.00-1.00 points.

Open to all beginning dancers

DNCE BC1331 MODERN I. 0.00-1.00 points.

Open to all beginning dancers

DNCE BC1332 MODERN II. 0.00-1.00 points.

DNCE BC1333 MODERN II. 0.00-1.00 points.

DNCE BC1445 TAP I. 0.00-1.00 points.

DNCE BC2137 BALLET III. 0.00-1.00 points.

DNCE BC2138 BALLET III. 0.00-1.00 points.

DNCE BC2139 BALLET IV. 2.00 points.

This course is designed for advanced intermediate dancers who are interested in maintaining their established ballet technique as well as advancing their knowledge and familiarity with the classical vocabulary. Students of Ballet IV should have completed two semesters of Ballet III or its equivalent, or one semester of Ballet IV or its equivalent, and have a firm mental and physical understanding of ballet technical exercises. These include all barre exercises (plié, battement tendu, battement dégagé, rond de jambe à terre, battement fondu, battement frappé, and grand battement), as well as center exercises including adagio, waltz, pirouettes, petit allegro, and grand allegro. Focus of this class will be on how to practice ballet safely, efficiently, musically, and joyfully. This is a graded, semester long, two credit course. This class is offered in person only, and no remote learning option will be available

DNCE BC2140 BALLET IV. 0.00-1.00 points.

DNCE BC2252 AFRICAN DANCE I. 0.00-1.00 points.

Prerequisites: Permission of instructor. Concentrates on the dances of West Africa, including Senegal, Mali, and Guinea, and a variety of dances performed at various functions and ceremonies. Explanation of the origin and meaning of each dance will be an integral part of the material presented

DNCE BC2253 AFRICAN DANCE II. 0.00-1.00 points.

Prerequisites: DNCE BC2252 or permission of instructor

DNCE BC2254 CLASSICAL INDIAN I. 0.00-1.00 points.

Principles and practices of Bharata Natyam including the adavu movement system, hasta or hand gestures, narrative techniques, or abhanaya, as well as other classical Indian dance forms

DNCE BC2255 AFRO-CUBAN DANCE. 0.00-1.00 points.

Prerequisites: Permission of Instructor. This class will introduce students to the African-based folkloric and popular dances of Cuba, including Orisha, Rumba, and Salsa. In addition to learning rhythms and dances, these forms will be contextualized within the historical and contemporary significance of Afro-Cuban dance performance

DNCE BC2260 HIP HOP DANCE # CULTURE III (ADVANCED). 0.00-1.00 points.

Advanced technique and repertory in hip hop. Classes are geared to condition the body for the rigors of hip-hop technique by developing strength, coordination, flexibility, stamina, and rhythmic awareness, while developing an appreciation of choreographic movement and structures. Compositional elements of hip-hop will be introduced and students may compose brief movement sequences. The course meets twice weekly and is held in the dance studio

DNCE BC2332 MODERN III. 0.00-1.00 points.

DNCE BC2333 MODERN III. 0.00-1.00 points.

DNCE BC2334 MODERN IV. 0.00-1.00 points.

DNCE BC2335 MODERN IV. 0.00-1.00 points.

DNCE BC2448 TAP II. 0.00-1.00 points.

DNCE BC2452 PILATES FOR DANCERS. 0.00-1.00 points.

Prerequisites: Permission of instructor or DNCE BC1330, BC1331, BC1135, BC1136. Focus on movement practices, primarily for dancers, which introduces the concepts of Joseph Pilates, a seminal figure in creating a method of body conditioning. Learn and practice a repertory of mat work to improve body awareness, strength, flexibility, and dynamic alignment

DNCE BC2455 FELDENKRAIS FOR DANCERS. 2.00 points.

Through guided practice-based lessons in Awareness Through Movement® (ATM), students develop sensory awareness of habitual neuromuscular patterns resulting in increased movement efficiency, improved skill acquisition, and greater strength, coordination, and flexibility. Applicable to all dance styles and activities

DNCE BC2563 DANCE COMPOSITION: FORM. 3.00 points.

An exploration of choreography that employs text, song, vocal work, narrative and principles of artistic direction in solo and group contexts

DNCE BC2564 DANCE COMPOSITION: CONTENT. 3.00 points.

Continued study of choreography as a communicative performing art form. Focuses on the exploration of ideas and meaning. Emphasis is placed on the development of personal style as an expressive medium and unity of style in each work. Group as well as solo compositions will be assigned

DNCE BC2565 WORLD DANCE HISTORY. 3.00 points.

Investigates the multicultural perspectives of dance in major areas of culture, including African, Asian, Hispanic, Indian, Middle Eastern, as well as dance history of the Americas through reading, writing, viewing, and discussion of a wide range of resources. These include film, original documents, demonstration, and performance

ANAT BC2573 HUMAN ANATOMY AND MOVEMENT. 3.00 points.

Corequisites: ANAT BC2574

Corequisites: ANAT BC2574 Dancers and other movers will acquire concrete, scientific information about anatomy and integrate this knowledge into their sensed experience of movement. Through readings, lecture/discussions and movement practice, students will explore: (1) structure and function of bones and joints, (2) muscles, neuromuscular function and coordination, (3) motor cognition and learning

DNCE BC3001 HISTORY OF THEATRICAL DANCING. 3.00 points.

Focuses on the history of theatre dance forms originating in Europe and America from the Renaissance to the present. Includes reading, writing, viewing, and discussion of sources such as film, text, original documentation, demonstration, and performance

DNCE BC3138 BALLET V. 0.00-1.00 points.**DNCE BC3139 BALLET V. 0.00-1.00 points.****DNCE BC3140 BALLET VI. 0.00-1.00 points.****DNCE BC3141 BALLET VI. 0.00-1.00 points.****DNCE BC3143 CLASSIC VARIATIONS. 0.00-1.00 points.****DNCE BC3250 FLAMENCO. 0.00-1.00 points.**

Prerequisites: DNCE BC1137, BC1138, BC1332, BC1333, or Permission of instructor. Intermediate level in modern or ballet technique is required.

The study of contemporary flamenco dance technique with special emphasis on improvisation and performance. Through video and reading assignments and attendance at live performances, students will also develop a context for understanding flamenco art, pedagogy, and culture

DNCE BC3332 MODERN V. 0.00-1.00 points.

Note: This is a variable-point course (0-1 pts).

Intermediate Advanced

DNCE BC3333 MODERN V. 0.00-1.00 points.

Note: This is a variable-point course (0-1 pts).

Intermediate Advanced

DNCE BC3334 Improvisation. 1 point.

Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

In this course we will investigate techniques from Ruth Zaporah's Action Theater™ work, Viola Spolin's improvisational "games," Bonnie Bainbridge Cohen's Body-Mind Centering®, and layered improvisational prompts created by the instructor and variations suggested by the class. Together we will create our own methods to facilitate relevant performance practices.

DNCE BC3335 MODERN VI. 0.00-1.00 points.**DNCE BC3336 MODERN VI. 0.00-1.00 points.****DNCE BC3447 TAP III. 0.00-1.00 points.**

Prerequisites: DNCE BC2447, BC2448, or permission of instructor

DNCE BC3560 SCREENDANCE:COMPOSITION. 3.00 points.

Prerequisites: Must have taken a Dance Department Composition course, have some dance training.

Prerequisites: Must have taken a Dance Department Composition course, have some dance training. This experiential, hands-on course requires all students to choreograph, dance, and film. Focusing on single-shot film-making, the duet of the camera and the dance will create an understanding of the interaction between the two, enabling students to create a final short film

DNCE BC3567 DANCES OF INDIA. 3.00 points.

A range of dance genres, from the traditional to the innovative, co-exist as representations of Indianness in India, and beyond. Identities onstage and in films, morph as colonial, national, and global contexts change. This course zooms from micro to macro views of twentieth century staged dances as culturally inflected discourse. We review how Indian classical dance aligns with the oldest of performance texts, and with lively discourses (rasa as a performance aesthetic, Orientalism, nationalism, global recirculations) through the ages, not only in India but also in Europe, Britain and America. Throughout the course, we ask:- How is culture embodied? How do historical texts configure dance today? How might they affect our thinking on mind-body, practice-theory, and traditional-contemporary divides? How does bodily patterning influence the ways that we experience our surroundings and vice versa? Can cultural imaginaries instigate action? How is gender is performed? What are dance discourses?

DNCE BC3576 DANCE CRITICISM. 3.00 points.

This course offers intensive practice in writing on dance and explores a range of approaches to dance criticism from the 1940s through today. Starting from the premise that criticism can be an art form in itself, we ask: What are the roles and responsibilities of a critic? How do our own identities and experiences inform how we see and write? With the proliferation of dance in digital spaces, what new possibilities arise for dance criticism? Class meetings include discussion, writing exercises, and peer workshops. Assignments involve viewing performances outside of class

DNCE BC3591 SENIOR SEMINAR. 4.00 points.

Research and scholarly writing in chosen topics relating to dance. Methods of investigation are drawn from prominent archival collections and personal interviews, as well as other resources. Papers are formally presented to the Dance Department upon completion

DNCE BC3592 Senior Project: Research for Dance. 4 points.

Independent study for research and writing (35 to 50-page thesis required).

DNCE BC3593 SR PROJECT:REPERTORY FOR DANCE. 3.00 points.

Independent study for preparing and performing repertory works in production to be presented in concert

DNCE BC3607 Rehearsal and Performance in Dance. 3 points.

The course can be taken for 1-3 credits. Students are graded and take part in the full production of a dance as performers, choreographers, designers, or stage technicians.

DNCE BC3984 Digital Performance. 4 points.

BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: The Visual and Performing Arts (ART).

An intensive conceptual and practice-based inquiry into the field of digital performance – the integration of computational, interactive, new media, and mobile technologies into experimental performance practice and research – its history, central concerns, scientific breakthroughs, and transformative impact on the role of the artist and on the notion of "live" art. *Limited enrolment: 15 students.*

Cross-Listed Courses - American Studies

DNCE BC2565 WORLD DANCE HISTORY. 3.00 points.

Investigates the multicultural perspectives of dance in major areas of culture, including African, Asian, Hispanic, Indian, Middle Eastern, as well as dance history of the Americas through reading, writing, viewing, and discussion of a wide range of resources. These include film, original documents, demonstration, and performance

DNCE BC2570 DANCE IN NEW YORK CITY. 3.00 points.

Study of the cultural roots and historical contexts of specific communities using New York City's dance scene as a laboratory. Students observe the social environments in which various modes of dance works are created while researching the history of dance in New York City. Course includes attendance at weekly events, lecture-demonstrations, and performances

DNCE BC3001 HISTORY OF THEATRICAL DANCING. 3.00 points.

Focuses on the history of theatre dance forms originating in Europe and America from the Renaissance to the present. Includes reading, writing, viewing, and discussion of sources such as film, text, original documentation, demonstration, and performance

Cross-Listed Courses - Urban Studies

DNCE BC2570 DANCE IN NEW YORK CITY. 3.00 points.

Study of the cultural roots and historical contexts of specific communities using New York City's dance scene as a laboratory. Students observe the social environments in which various modes of dance works are created while researching the history of dance in New York City. Course includes attendance at weekly events, lecture-demonstrations, and performances