BA in Dance

Admission
For all dance BA majors, advancement in technique is not automatic and is possible only with faculty consent and approval. Students will be placed at the technical level the dance faculty deem appropriate for individual growth and development. Students with developed skill in one dance technique should not expect that ability to translate into the same level of skill in other dance techniques. The dance faculty works with each student to create the best fit between student goals and interests and faculty adjudication of each student’s needs for both technical and artistic development. The faculty seeks to produce graduates who will be competitive in the professional field of dance.

Program Requirements

General Requirements
• Total credit hours for graduation 120 minimum, overall GPA 2.000 (2.500 in major);
• Must complete the 36 credit hours of the WSU General Education Program (http://catalog.wichita.edu/undergraduate/general-education-program/), the requirements of the College of Fine Arts, and must have 45 credit hours of upper division credits; and
• Audition and perform in the faculty dance company, Wichita Contemporary Dance Theatre, a minimum of two semesters.

Major Requirements
• 42-43 credit hours in dance;
• 8 credit hours performing arts core courses;
• 15 credit hours electives outside the School of Performing Arts; and
• 18-19 credit hours electives based on plan of study.

Course Title Hours
Core Curriculum courses
DANC 180E Performing Arts Seminar 1
DANC 370 Professional Practices for the Performing Artist 3
DANC 580 Capstone Project 1
Technical Theatre Class (THEA 345 recommended; THEA 244 or THEA 253 also accepted) 3

Dance Technique
Minimum proficiency must be at level 2 for all technique areas. Faculty advisor approval required for advancement into all technique classes above level 1. Classes may be repeated for credit.
Select 12 credit hours of Modern Dance Technique from the following: 1 12
DANC 301 Modern Technique 2
DANC 401 Modern Technique 3
Select 12 credit hours of Ballet Technique from the following: 1 12
DANC 310 Ballet Technique 2
DANC 410 Ballet Technique 3
Select 4 credit hours of Jazz Technique from the following: 1 4
DANC 335 Jazz Technique 2
DANC 435 Jazz Technique 3
Select 2-3 credit hours from the following 1 2-3
DANC 301 Modern Technique 2
DANC 310 Ballet Technique 2
DANC 335 Jazz Technique 2
DANC 401 Modern Technique 3
DANC 410 Ballet Technique 3
DANC 435 Jazz Technique 3

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DANC 225 Dance History: Ancient Civilization to Early 1900s (Counted in General Education) 3
DANC 325 Dance History: 20th and 21st Centuries 3
DANC 380 Dance Conditioning 2
DANC 415 Dance Kinesiology 3
DANC 580 Capstone Project (in addition to the semester counted in the core) 2
DANC 215 Dance Improvisation 1
DANC 320 Dance Repertoire (two enrollments of 0.5 credit hours) 1

Additional Requirements
Non-English language proficiency courses or outside of performing arts with advisor approval (9 minimum credit hours required at 300+ upper division) 15
Electives based on plan of study with advisor approval (6 minimum credit hours required at 300+ upper division) 18-19
Total Credit Hours 84

1 Placement and advancement by audition and/or faculty consent only.

BA dance majors culminate their studies with a Capstone Project (DANC 580). BA majors write a research paper, which may include an applied dance experience. Two semesters of capstone courses are required for BA majors in the fall and spring of their senior year. In the first semester of the Capstone Project, students research and develop an initial proposal and theoretical framework for their project. In the second semester of the Capstone Project, students implement, analyze and present their final works. BA Capstone Projects culminate in a final oral defense with the dance faculty.

Applied Learning
All students in a School of Performing Arts bachelor degree track or concentration are required to complete an applied learning or research experience to graduate from the program. The requirement can be met by completing a formal capstone project. Students create a major project whether self-generated, an extension of coursework, or through advanced participation in producing a public performance. Through the capstone experience, students develop and demonstrate, in a hands-on, real world context, the skills, knowledge and competencies required in their area of emphasis. Students in the School of Performing Arts develop a diverse portfolio of experiences, materials and intellectual properties through a broad offering of applied experiences in their four years. The capstone project provides a practical context for academic, experiential and personal growth through the college experience. The final, real product of the SPA’s program of applied learning is a young professional prepared for the future.