

DANCE, B.A.

Our undergraduate program combines a rigorous dance classroom and studio environment with the depth and breadth of an excellent liberal arts education. Dance majors are exposed to performance, technique and pedagogical experiences that support their transition into the professional dance environment and beyond. Dance students gain confidence, as well as skills in leadership, critical thinking, creative problem solving, collaboration and nonverbal communication that make them well-suited for a wide variety of professions, including arts administration, dance medicine, marketing and public relations and production management.

Along with core courses, students have the option of developing additional competencies in either performance and choreography or dance education with K-12 certification. All majors in both emphases work together in studio, performance, choreography and dance academic coursework. Additionally, students work with professional directors, choreographers, dancers and designers from all over the world, making dance a common double-major.

• Performance and Choreography

The performance and choreography concentration is designed for those who wish to obtain a broad undergraduate liberal arts experience and grow as an artist in a disciplined dance environment. Courses stress the development of performance and choreography skills, while also building intellectual depth and scope. We offer a diverse repertory that provides opportunities to gain a sound foundation in the principles of classical ballet, contemporary, modern and jazz dance forms.

• Dance Education

Working with the College of Education, students in the dance education concentration can pursue the South Carolina K-12 teacher's certification in addition to pursuing a degree in dance. Certification provides qualification to teach in public or private schools. The teacher certification program requires additional coursework, including a semester of student teaching.

Learning Outcomes

1. Dance majors will demonstrate an advanced level of technical proficiency in ballet and / or contemporary dance. Dance majors in Performance as well as Dance Education must achieve level three by graduation.
2. Students will be able to write about dance in an educated manner and use critical approaches to evaluate dance.
3. Students will describe the principles and theories of dance artists, their theories and choreographic strengths and also the material that pertains to history and cultural dance.
4. Students will be able to verbally articulate the principles and theories of dance artists and their significance in terms of history and cultural dance.
5. Students are expected to demonstrate an appropriate level of knowledge about theoretical perspectives in dance education, instruction, assessment, dance education content, classroom management, and leadership in dance education in order to proceed to the professional program and student teaching.

Progression Requirements

1. At the end of each semester, dance majors will be evaluated for proficiency and progression to the next level of dance technique based on rubrics and syllabi.
2. All dance majors with an emphasis in dance education must fulfill admission requirements for the Professional Education Program and Internship.
3. To remain in the dance major, a student must make satisfactory progress towards a degree. A student who fails to make satisfactory progress may be placed on academic probation or removed from the college.