The Department of Dance offers a Bachelor of Fine Arts for undergraduates. The BFA in dance provides a comprehensive education across the field of contemporary dance with a core focus on the dancing experience. An accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Dance, the Department of Dance offers students rigorous training at the intersection of movement practice, creative activity and theoretical inquiry.

The BFA curriculum provides a solid foundation in movement practice, performance, choreography, history/theory/literature, analysis, dance education, kinesiology, production and technology. Beginning in the junior year, students have the opportunity to develop an individual focus in areas such as choreography, dance technology or dance education, through courses in the “Focus Curriculum.” Our students are partners in their own education providing focus, energy, skill and creativity. Faculty mentorship is integrated into this critical process.

Pursuing Dance at Ohio State
Acceptance into the dance program is contingent upon the successful completion of an on-campus audition. The purpose of the audition is to determine the applicant’s level of basic skills in movement practice, as well as meet with prospective students to determine their motivation and capability to fulfill our program goals. Find application and audition information at dance.osu.edu.

In addition to successfully completing an on-campus audition, students must also be admitted to the university. All freshman applicants are considered within a competitive admission process; find admissions criteria at go.osu.edu/admissions.

A minimum of 127 semester units are required to complete the degree requirements in dance. Of these, 37 meet General Education requirements. The remaining 90 credits are completed within the BFA major.

Core education requirements for a BFA in dance:
- Movement practice (contemporary, ballet, African-based forms, improvisation, somatics)
- Performance/repertory
- Composition/choreography
- History/theory/literature
- Analysis
- Education
- Kinesiology
- Technology/dance film
- Production/lighting

Upon completion of the foundational curriculum, students choose from a range of courses such as Partnering, Contact Improvisation, Music and Choreography, Dance in Global Contexts, Dance Film, Dance Documentation, Dance Dynamics, Dance for Children, and Interdisciplinary Workshops. Students conduct both studio research in creative art-making practices and scholarly research in which dance is studied in social, historical and cultural frameworks.

For further educational opportunities, the Department of Dance also features a top ranked graduate program offering MFA and PhD degrees.

Educational Objectives
Students majoring in dance will achieve the following learning outcomes:
- Students should have a solid foundation in a breadth of contemporary dance techniques.
- Upon graduation, students will exhibit an advanced degree of proficiency in the contemporary dance techniques taught in the department.
- Students will be able to translate technical proficiency from the studio to a performance context.
- Students will be able to synthesize skills and knowledge from the department’s diverse curricular areas including Laban studies, choreography, history, education, technology, performance and technique.
- Students will apply skills and knowledge attained in one course to a new context in another course.
- Students will exhibit intermediate/advanced proficiency in each of the curricular areas.
- Students will be able to provide well-considered, analytical feedback to their peers in regards to performance and choreography.
- Students will be able to produce thorough written analysis of his or her own work and the work of others.

Co-Curricular Opportunities
Ohio State offers many opportunities for students to learn and grow outside of the classroom. These range from cooperative education (co-op) and internships to study abroad programs to student organizations. Co-ops and internships place students in professional environments while they are Ohio State students. Ohio State offers more than 100 study abroad programs in 40 countries around the world. In addition, there are hundreds of student organizations on campus to meet the interests of a diverse student population.
Unique and varied dance-specific study abroad opportunities are an ongoing aspect of the Department’s commitment to cultural outreach and exchange.

These opportunities enable students to gain valuable work experience, learn about other cultures, and take on leadership roles before they enter the workforce. All of these experiences enhance learning and may provide an advantage in the job market.

**Honors & Scholars Programs**

Arts honors and distinction projects can be declared at any time. Ohio State offers the Honors and Scholars programs to create an environment of intellectual support and stimulation within a close-knit community of high-ability undergraduate students. Through these programs, students have access to smaller classes, undergraduate research opportunities, close working relationships with faculty, priority scheduling and unique housing options. Learn more at [honors-scholars.osu.edu](http://honors-scholars.osu.edu).

**Career Prospects in Dance**

Undergraduate students who obtain the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in dance are prepared to enter the dance profession in a variety of areas including, but not limited to, performance, choreography, production, lighting, dance and technology, dance education, and health sciences.

Ohio State Students have also gone on to careers as dance notators, historians, movement analysts and specialists in dance production. We prepare young artists to creatively and consciously forge their own path of professional success. Graduates of our program go on to become contributing members of the creative economy. They create their own dance companies and teach in schools, studios, and universities. Our alumni write books, make films, document dance traditions and engage in cultural diplomacy.

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**Curriculum Sample**

This is a sample list of classes a student will take to pursue a BFA in dance. Since university students need more than specific education in a narrow field, they also will take classes to complete General Education (GE) requirements. Because GE courses come from a variety of academic areas of study, this course work helps students develop fundamental skills essential to collegiate success and allows them to tailor these courses toward their interests. Note: This sample represents one of several possible paths to a BFA in dance.

**Freshman Year:**
- Contemporary Dance Technique 4
- Ballet Dance Technique 2
- Somatics/Movement Practice 2
- Introductory Seminar 1 3
- Introductory Seminar 2 3
- Composition 1 3
- Dance Production 3
- GE courses 12
- **Total hours** 32

**Sophomore Year:**
- Contemporary Dance Technique 4
- Ballet Dance Technique 2
- Composition 2 3
- History/Theory/Lit 1 3
- History/Theory/Lit 2 3
- Analysis 3
- Kinesiology 3
- Repertory 2
- GE courses 10
- **Total hours** 33

**Junior Year:**
- Contemporary Dance Technique 4
- Ballet Dance Technique 2
- Somatics/Movement Practice 2
- Education 3
- Dance Focus Curriculum 12
- GE courses 9
- **Total hours** 32

**Senior Year:**
- Contemporary Dance Technique 4
- Ballet Dance Technique 2
- Somatics/Movement Practice 2
- Senior Seminar 1 1
- Senior Seminar 2 1
- Senior Project 2
- Dance independent studies 2
- GE courses 6
- **Total hours** 30

*Upon completing the core requirements, students have an additional 18 credit hours to design their individualized Focus Curriculum based on their senior project and career goals.

Revised September 2015. Information subject to change. For the most up-to-date information on the dance program, please visit [dance.osu.edu](http://dance.osu.edu).