Key Features of a Dance Major

- Acquire new movement skills and enhance your corporeal creativity.
- Participate in the intellectual development of scholarly insights into the field of dance.
- Come to a comprehensive understanding of studio and theory, providing a foundation for a range of careers in dance.
- Choose to study a particular aspect of dance in depth, such as performance, choreography, or production; or choose to merge your interest in dance with an interest in another field of study.

Career Options with a Dance Major

Dance majors claim a wide variety of careers; a career as a performer or choreographer is not the only option available to you. Career opportunities also exist in education, community and participatory dance work, as well as associated areas such as dance management, administration, and production. Studying dance, you will gain important skills, knowledge, and experience. Determination, openness, and practical experience are crucial ingredients in gaining employment. Be aware that you will need additional support and training to work in some contexts. Examples of a few of the professions that some dance majors undertake include: Professional Dancer, Dance Therapist, Arts Management, Dance Teacher, Community Dance Worker, Dance Notator, and Choreographer.

Potential Salaries

As of May 2012, the median hourly wage of dancers was $14.16 and the median hourly wage of choreographers was $18.33.


Additional information on salaries and careers can be found through the University Career Center & The President’s Promise: Dance.
Advising

If you are considering a major in Dance, you can easily meet with the advisor in the Department of Dance to answer any questions you may have.

- Alvin Mayes, Director of Undergraduate Dance Studies
- 1931 Clarice Performing Arts Center
- (301) 405-3194; amayes@umd.edu
- For general questions about the Undergraduate Dance Program email Susan Miller at smille13@umd.edu.

Declaring a Dance Major

_Dance is not a Limited Enrollment Program (LEP). If you have decided to major in this field, you can declare immediately!_

When you declare your major in Dance, you are also declaring that you will be a student in the College of Arts and Humanities (ARHU) which houses the School of Theater, Dance and Performance Studies. There are two levels in your process of declaring and later advising: the department (Dance) and the College (Arts and Humanities). The College will advise you regarding your Gen Ed/CORE requirements and the Department will advise you regarding your major requirements.

Before declaring a Dance major, you should familiarize yourself with the requirements and the focus areas within the major. You may do this by browsing the departmental website ([http://tdps.umd.edu/programs/ba-dance](http://tdps.umd.edu/programs/ba-dance)). Once you have decided that a Dance major is right for you, take the following steps:

1) Meet with the Undergraduate Director (Alvin Mayes). See “Advising” for his contact information. You may set up an appointment by calling the number listed above. At the appointment, you will be assisted in completing an academic plan. You will bring your academic plan to a second meeting with an Arts and Humanities College advisor.

2) Students must complete the ARHU Foreign Language Placement Test (FLPT must be taken in a proctored environment if students are seeking exemption from The Global Engagement Requirement). Please note that students’ majors will not be changed until they have an FLPT score on file or have satisfied prerequisites via AP credit or earned college credit.

3) You will then submit a “College of Arts & Humanities Change of Major Form.” This is presented to the ARHU Office of Student Affairs, along with your 4-Year Plan, in 1120 Francis Scott Key Hall (301-405-2108). You will either meet with an advisor then or make an appointment for a later meeting. _Enrollment in the major is not complete until an ARHU advisor has signed the Four-Year Plan worksheet._

4) As a new major, you will then be assigned to a department advisor, with whom you will need to meet at least once per semester prior to registration.

Be sure to call the Arts and Humanities Office of Student Affairs at 301-405-2108 at least one day in advance in order to schedule an appointment. The Office of Student Affairs is located in 1120 Francis Scott Key Hall. Their hours are Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

*Students may not change their major during walk-in advising hours.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benchmark 1 Requirements</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 109</td>
<td>ENGL 101 (AW)*</td>
<td>DANC 219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 179</td>
<td>Math (MA)*</td>
<td>DANC 237</td>
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<tr>
<td>DANC 207</td>
<td>DANC 218</td>
<td>DANC 1xx-4xx (Dance Styles #1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 218</td>
<td>DANC 179</td>
<td>Oral Communication (OC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 219</td>
<td>DANC 109</td>
<td>Analytic Reasoning (AR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 1xx-4xx (Dance Styles)</td>
<td>UNIV 101</td>
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<tr>
<td>Must be completed by the end of two semesters.</td>
<td>*Must attempt by 30 cr.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Year 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benchmark 2 Requirements</td>
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<tr>
<td>DANC 209</td>
<td>DANC 209</td>
<td>DANC 283</td>
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<tr>
<td>DANC 283</td>
<td>DANC 318</td>
<td>DANC 319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 318</td>
<td>DANC 1xx-4xx (Dance Styles #2)</td>
<td>DANC 1xx-4xx (Dance Styles #3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DANC 319</td>
<td>TDPS 201</td>
<td>Scholarship in Practice (SP) #1**</td>
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<tr>
<td>TDPS 201</td>
<td>Global Engagement #1</td>
<td>Global Engagement #2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two additional</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>DANC 1xx-4xx (Dance Styles)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th Semester Assessment</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Must be completed by the end of four semesters.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Year 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benchmark 3 Requirements</td>
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<tr>
<td>DANC 304</td>
<td>DANC 304</td>
<td>Area of Emphasis #1 (3xx-4xx)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANC 488</td>
<td>DANC 488 #1</td>
<td>Area of Emphasis #2 (3xx-4xx)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TDPS 479</td>
<td>Humanities (HU)**</td>
<td>TDPS 479 (1-3 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area of Emphasis 3xx-4xx</td>
<td>History/Social Sciences (HS)**</td>
<td>Natural Sciences (NS)**</td>
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<td>Must be completed by the end of six semesters</td>
<td>Natural Science Lab (NL)**</td>
<td>History/Social Sciences (HS)**</td>
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<tr>
<th>Year 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DANC 488 #2</td>
<td>Area of Emphasis #3 (3xx-4xx)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Writing (PW)</td>
<td>Area of Emphasis #4 (3xx-4xx)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities (HU)**</td>
<td>Scholarship in Practice (SP) #2**</td>
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<tr>
<td>TDPS 479 (1-3 credits)</td>
<td>Elective 3xx-4xx</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective 1xx-4xx</td>
<td>Elective 1xx-4xx</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Credits for Degree: 120; 45 credits must be 3xx-4xx level</td>
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Note: Some courses for the major may also count toward the General Education requirements.

**All students must complete two Distributive Studies courses that are approved for I-series courses. The Understanding Plural Societies and Cultural Competence courses may also fulfill Distributive Studies categories.
Four-Year Plan (CORE)

DANC: B.A. in Dance

YEAR 1

Semester 1
CORE/ARHU/ELECTIVES
ENGL 101 (A/H/U/S or X)
UNIV 100 or 101
MATH 110/111/115/140/220 (1)

Semester 2
CORE/ARHU/ELECTIVES
CORE E (e.g. 3H)
CORE E (e.g. SB)
CORE E (e.g. HL)

1st YEAR Benchmark:
MAJOR: DANC 109, 179, 207, 218, 219, and DANC 1xx-4xx (Dance Styles 81)

YEAR 2

Semester 3
CORE/ARHU/ELECTIVES
CORE E (e.g. Non Lab - Li/PS/MS)
CORE E (e.g. SB)

Semester 4
CORE/ARHU/ELECTIVES
CORE E (e.g. Non Lab - Li/PS)
CORE E (e.g. HA)
CORE E (e.g. HL/HA/HO)

2nd YEAR Benchmark:
CORE E: Seven (7) of nine (9) Distributive Studies courses
MAJOR: DANC 209, 213, 219, 319, TDFS 201; Two (2) additional DANC 1xx-4xx (Dance Styles)
4th Semester Assessment

YEAR 3

Semester 5
CORE/ARHU/ELECTIVES
CORE E (e.g. Lab - LL or FL)
Global Engagement #1

Semester 6
Global Engagement #2
Elective (1xx-4xx)

3rd YEAR Benchmark:
MAJOR: DANC 104 and 408, TDFS 479; DEPT 1xx-4xx (Area of Emphasis)

YEAR 4

Semester 7
CORE/ARHU/ELECTIVES
Prof. Writing (ENGL 190/191/192/194/195/198)
CORE I: Advanced Studies #1
Elective (1xx-4xx)

Semester 8
CORE/ARHU/ELECTIVES
CORE I: Advanced Studies #2
Elective (1xx-4xx)
Elective (1xx-4xx)

MAJOR:
DEPT 1xx-4xx (Area of Emphasis #3)
DEPT 1xx-4xx (Area of Emphasis #4)
Q & A

Is there a minor in Dance?
At this time, the Department of Dance does not offer a minor.

Do I have to audition in order to declare a Dance major?
No. Entrance auditions are not required, but some previous dance experience is “highly desirable.”

Are there any scholarships available for Dance majors?
There are a few Creative and Performing Arts Scholarships awarded each year to new transfer and freshman students. Auditions are required for these awards and are held each Spring for the following academic year. Please see http://tdps.umd.edu/programs/BA-dance/scholarships-and-awards for more information regarding specific scholarships and requirements.

I’m thinking about a possible Dance major, but I’d like to take a couple classes first. Is that possible even if I’m not a major?
Most dance major classes are open to non-majors on a space available basis, providing the student has completed any prerequisites for those classes. In some cases non-majors may need to wait until the first week of classes to add a class to assure room in the class for incoming freshmen and transfer students. A few of the classes may fill regularly with Dance majors.