B.F.A.

The bachelor of fine arts in dance emphasizes technical, compositional, and performance training in modern dance. The program seeks to prepare the gifted student for a performance or creative career.

Admission Requirements

All entering dance students must first be accepted into CLA. Acceptance into the B.F.A. program is by audition only.

Degree Requirements

Students must complete at least 120 credits to graduate, including at least 78 credits in the major.

Major credits must be earned in areas of professional technical training, creative process, performance experience, dance history and studies, and career knowledge of the field. This requirement includes 10 credits of dance-related academic electives. Major coursework must be taken A-F.

Required Courses

- Dnce 1626—Music for Dance (3 cr)
- Dnce 3010—Modern Dance Technique 5 (2 cr)
- Dnce 3020—Modern Dance Technique 6 (2 cr)
- Dnce 3110—Ballet Technique 5 (2 cr)
- Dnce 3120—Ballet Technique 6 (2 cr)
- Dnce 3210—Jazz Technique 5 (1 cr)
- Dnce 3220—Jazz Technique 6 (1 cr)
- Dnce 3500—Topics in Dance: Survival Strategies in Dance (2 cr)
- Dnce 3500—Topics in Dance: Dance Production (3 cr)
- Dnce 3401—Dance History 1 (3 cr)
- Dnce 3402—Dance History 2 (3 cr)
- Dnce 3433—Articulate Body (3 cr)
- Dnce 3601—Dance Composition 1 (3 cr)
- Dnce 3602—Dance Composition 2 (3 cr)
- Dnce 3700 or 5700—Performance (2 cr each; 8 cr required)
- Dnce 4443—Philosophy and Aesthetics (3 cr)
- Dnce 4601—Dance Composition 3 (3 cr)
- Dnce 4602—Dance Composition 4 (3 cr)
- Dnce 4901—Senior Seminar (2 cr)
- Dnce 5010—Modern Dance Technique 7 (2 cr)
- Dnce 5020—Modern Dance Technique 8 (2 cr)
- Dnce 5858—Teaching Dance (4 cr)
- Technique electives (1 or 2 cr each; 7 credits required)
- Dance-related academic electives (1-3 cr each; 9 credits required)

Electives

The dance-related academic elective requirement may be fulfilled by courses in such areas as music, theatre, art history, kinesiology, cultural studies, speech communications, and women’s studies, as agreed upon between students and their dance advisers.

Final Project

Requirements for final projects are completed in the required course Dnce 4901—Senior Seminar.
What can I do with a major in dance?

Skills

Dance majors develop skills that are applicable to a wide variety of careers. These skills include:

- Independent, self-motivated work ethic
- Rhythm, coordination, and physicality
- Discipline and memorization skills
- Ability to work well with diverse groups

Employment

Common areas of employment for this major include but are not limited to:

- **Arts and Entertainment**—performing, choreographing, managing, announcing, writing
- **Nonprofit**—fundraising, programming, management
- **Business**—marketing, human resources, sales, consulting, recruiting
- **Education**—teaching, research, student affairs
- **Health Care**—dance therapy

How do I declare a dance major?

You will be required to declare a major by the time you have completed 60 credits.

1. Talk with someone from the department: an adviser or a professor to learn more about the major and its requirements.

2. Both B.A. and B.F.A. dance majors are required to audition for acceptance into the program. Most students audition their senior year in high school; students on campus considering a dance major should meet with someone in the dance program as soon as possible. All perspective dance majors should contact the Dance Program Office at 624-5060 for exact dates and further information about auditions.

3. When you have been accepted into the major, meet with the appropriate person from the department to complete a Major Program form.

4. Bring a copy of the form to your CLA student community.

5. If you decide to change your major, contact your CLA student community to learn more about your new major’s declaration process.

For more information

**About the dance major:**
Undergraduate Advising
111 Barbara Barker Center for Dance
(612) 624-5060
http://www.cla.umn.edu/theater/
umdance@umn.edu

**About CLA requirements, graduation, and other information about majors:**
CLA Arts Student Community
560 Heller Hall
(612) 624-7504
http://arts.cla.umn.edu
arts@class.cla.umn.edu

or

CLA Martin Luther King, Jr. Program
19 Johnston Hall
(612) 625-2300
http://www.mlk.umn.edu/
mlk@class.cla.umn.edu

**About careers, internships, and community learning opportunities in this major and others:**
Career and Community Learning Center
135 Johnston Hall
(612) 624-7577
www.cclc.umn.edu
cclc@class.cla.umn.edu

**About graduation with honors:**
Students interested in graduating with honors should contact:
CLA Honors Division
115 Johnston Hall
(612) 624-5522
www.cla.umn.edu/honors/
honors@class.cla.umn.edu

**Remember!**

You have not declared a major until you have:

- completed a Major Program Form with your major adviser
- filed a copy with the major department
- filed a copy with your CLA student community
- be sure to keep a copy for yourself