

**DANCE PROGRAM HANDBOOK DEPARTMENT OF  
THEATRE & DANCE MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY**



**2023-2024 ACADEMIC YEAR**

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## **A Message from the Dance Program Faculty**

Welcome (and welcome back) to Missouri State University!

The Missouri State Dance program is designed to help you deepen your knowledge, develop your skills and enhance your artistry as you prepare for a career in dance. Missouri State offers two options in Dance: the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) and the Bachelor of Science (BS) degree programs. In addition to the majors, we offer a dance minor. We want to ensure that you receive the best training and education available.

This handbook operates as your guide and first steps through the program. Details on each of the degree options are listed on page 4 of this handbook. Regardless of which dance program you are pursuing, we are glad you are here and happy to assist in your goals. You will be challenged mentally, creatively, physically, and emotionally but the rewards of pursuing dance are profound. We expect you to meet these challenges with discipline, creativity, humility, and curiosity. We will be here to guide you along the way.

The faculty is eager to assist you as you pursue your degree in Dance: in rehearsal, in the classroom, in the studio, and in advising meetings. Feel free to seek us out – to ask questions, or to chat – as you engage in an exciting and complex training for this most elusive of art forms.

Here's to a great year!

Azaria Hogans  
Sarah Wilcoxon  
Brittney Banaei

## **BFA IN DANCE PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Missouri State University Department of Theatre and Dance offers a BFA in Theatre and Dance with options in Acting, Dance, Design, and Technology and Stage Management. The three BFA options share a common core curriculum of 31 credit hours; all students then complete 47 credit hours in their major option.

The BFA Dance program is designed to instill the knowledge and skills needed to pursue a successful career in dance. The curriculum for the BFA is focused on performance and choreography. Upon completion of this degree you will be prepared for a career in performance and/or choreography. It is also a great foundation for pursuing further education as a director, costumer, writer, teacher, physical therapist and/or dance therapist...or any other dance-related profession.

## **BS IN DANCE PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The BS Dance program is a generalist dance degree for the student who wants to explore broader interest in the dance field. This program requires an additional major or minor to complete the BS degree. This extra area of study, of your choice, provides a unique opportunity to examine and explore dance's interaction with our socio-political landscape. In addition to your second major/minor, maintaining a rigorous training program in technique, choreography, history, pedagogy, dance science and other dance related topics is expected.

This program is created to provide an individualized study in dance. You will work with both dance faculty and faculty of your second area of study. All Missouri State undergraduate programs must complete the General Education Requirements, which include a diverse selection of classes in the arts, sciences, humanities, technology, and business.

## **DANCE MINOR**

The dance minor offers a flexible way to continue to study dance in higher education. Dance minors can tailor technique classes and theory classes in a flexible way in areas of their interest.

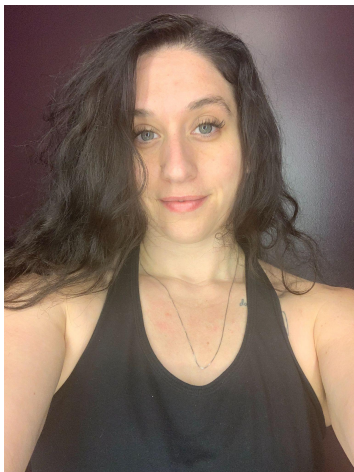
## **DANCE PROGRAM MISSION**

The MSU Dance Program strives to maintain high standards in dance technique, composition, and theory. The program encourages students to investigate, through creative activities and scholarly research, the multifaceted and ever-changing world of dance. This comprehensive preparation reflects the realities of the professional arena, which often contradict the assumed limits of a career in dance. By taking advantage of a variety of techniques, performance experiences, the composition series and scholarly and practical courses, students can acquire wide-ranging skills in a variety of facets of the discipline of dance. In this way, we encourage young artists to be prepared to meet the needs and challenges of today's world.

## FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

### **Brittney Banaei**

*M.F.A, University Colorado, Boulder*  
*STOTT Pilates® Certified Instructor*  
*Gyrotonic® Certified instructor*  
*Licensed Massage Therapist*



Brittney Laleh Banaei is an Iranian-American dancer, scholar, bodyworker, and educator. Her integrative approach to movement (and life) combines the values of inclusivity, critical thought, empowerment, decolonization, and wellness. Brittney recently joined the Missouri State University dance faculty as a full time instructor, with specialties in contemporary dance, cross-cultural dance approaches, performance studies, somatics, dance composition, and dance history. Additionally, she is a STOTT Pilates® trained instructor, certified Gyrotonic® instructor, licensed massage therapist, and an avid weightlifter. She uses those skills to help other humans find growth, ease, and autonomy, and confidence in their chosen movement practice(s).

Brittney holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance from Missouri State University with a minor in Middle Eastern Studies (history, comparative politics) and received her Master of Fine Arts in Dance from the University of Colorado, Boulder. In her artistic work, Brittney interrogates the idea of Middle Eastern-ness by finding performative satisfaction in both subverting and upholding deeply embedded orientalist expectations of the performing Middle Eastern body. Brittney is interested in what it means to be a "fusion human," and the complexities of navigating a multiethnic experience. She approaches her research from a Performance Studies lens, operating at the nexus of movement, geopolitics, law, philosophy, and sociology.

### **Azaria Hogans** (Dance Area Coordinator)

*M.F.A., Dance, Texas Woman's University*  
*B.A., Spanish (minors: Dance, Creative Arts Therapy in Dance) Georgia College*  
*Progressing Dunham Technique Certified Teacher*  
*Umfundalai M'Singa W'uti License*



Azaria Hogans is a freelance dancer, choreographer, artist-scholar, and educator. She holds a M.F.A. in dance from Texas Woman's University where she expanded her research on black modern dance. Azaria received her B.A. in Spanish with minors in both dance and creative arts therapy (dance) at Georgia College. Azaria serves as a board member and Manager of Resources and Archives for kNOwBOX dance. As an Assistant Professor at Missouri State University, Azaria covers an array of classes including, Contemporary Dance, West African Dance Forms, Jazz Dance, Contact Improvisation, Dance History, Alternative Formats to choreography,

Dance Composition, and DAN 180: Introduction to the Dance, among other technique and theory courses. She has presented and performed works both nationally and internationally, including Symposium on Performance of the African Diaspora as Social Change Conference, American College Dance Association (South-Central, South-East, and Central) conferences, World Dance Alliance Puebla, Mexico, Women in Dance Leadership Conference, UNT's Gospel Meets Jazz, Sant'Agata Central Plaza, Sant'Agata, Italy, to name a few. Azaria published articles in the Dance Education in Practice (DEip) journal, the Journal of Dance Education (JODE), Dance Magazine, Dance Teacher Magazine, Black Dance Magazine, among other platforms.

### **Sarah Wilcoxon**

*M.F.A., Dance, Florida State University*

*M.S., Communication (Performance Studies), Illinois State University*

*STOTT Pilates® Certified Instructor*

*Progressing Ballet Technique Certified Instructor*



Sarah Wilcoxon is an Associate Professor of Dance at Missouri State University and the dance representative for their Musical Theatre Program. In live performance, Sarah primarily focuses on musical theatre direction and choreography at the collegiate and professional-regional levels. In dance media, she has created several nationally and internationally award-winning dance films. Samples of Sarah's work are available at [vimeo.com/swilcoxon](https://vimeo.com/swilcoxon). In addition to her work in dance, Sarah is a fully certified Pilates instructor and in training to become a Pilates teacher trainer. She researches wellness and injury risk management for performers. Her research has been published in the Journal of Dance Medicine and Science, and been presented at the Pilates Method Alliance, the International Association of Dance Medicine and Science (where she was nominated for Teacher of the Year in 2020), and the National Communication Association. Her work on dancer wellness has been featured in the Journal of Dance Medicine

and Science, Dance Magazine, Dance Teacher Magazine, Authority Magazine, and on the DanceWell podcast. She loves creative collaboration, leadership theory, her chihuahuas, her husband, and dessert.

## **Per Course (part-time) Faculty:**

### **Haley Bradstreet Olszewski (she/her/hers): Ballet**

Haley comes to MSU from Los Angeles where she was most recently working at the world-renowned Colburn School as a faculty member and administrator. Before relocating to the west coast, she coached PennBallet at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, taught ballet to all ages in Vermont, and performed with PH Dance and other regional companies. Originally from New Jersey, Haley's training includes intensives with The New Jersey Ballet, The Rock School, and Saratoga Summer Dance. She holds a BA in Dance from Mercyhurst University where she also taught open ballet classes, orchestrated several dance events, and performed with the Lake Erie Ballet Company.

### **Susan Bennett: Dance Appreciation**

Susan Bennett is an Adjunct Professor of Theatre and Dance at Missouri State University and received the 2019 MOCRA Award for Online Design. She worked as a Dance Specialist with St. Louis Public Schools and founded the Kinesis Dance Company at University City, MO. Her students are known for their professional status in companies such as Ailey Dance Company. She has been a regular contributor to Dance Magazine as a specialist in early childhood movement and dance. She founded the Magnificent Moving Kids teacher training program as Director of Arts in Motion, St Louis. She cares deeply about student success.

### **Angi Black: Tap, Jazz**

Classically trained in ballet, tap and jazz dance with strong study and experience in musical theatre, lyrical and ballroom, Angi Black has worked professionally for almost 30 years as an actor, singer and dancer, as well as choreographer and director. She studied at Missouri State University, Louisiana State University, and Broadway Dance Center in New York City. Angi Black is the tap instructor for the Department of Theatre and Dance. She is currently the dance director at Springfield Little Theatre and Director of SLT's Illumination Dance Company.

### **Musicians for Dance Classes:**

#### **Kyle Aho**

Kyle Aho is a dance accompanist in the MSU Theatre & Dance Department and also teaches jazz piano, jazz combo, and improvisation in the Music Department. Kyle has a bachelor's degree in piano performance from Idaho State University, a master's degree in jazz performance from the New England Conservatory and a master's degree in music theory from Missouri State University. In addition to playing for classes and teaching in the Music Department, Kyle teaches Music Resources for Dancers.

*Everything in the universe has rhythm. Everything dances. ~ Maya Angelou*

## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

### Admission Process

BFA Dance Option: In addition to applying to Missouri State University, you are required to submit a formal application to the department for an audition into the Dance program, with a letter describing your motivation to pursue a degree in dance. This audition process affords us the opportunity to evaluate your training and assess your potential. It also gives you the chance to decide if this program suits your goals and abilities.

BS in Dance: While the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Dance does not require an audition, in addition to applying to Missouri State University, you are required to submit a letter describing your motivation to pursue a degree in dance. In order for the Dance faculty to place each student at the appropriate starting level of technique, students must take a placement class or submit a video before enrolling in any dance technique courses.

### Acceptance Criteria

- Talents, abilities, passion, and potential in your area of interest in dance
- Intellectual curiosity and desire to learn
- Appetite for movement
- Desire and discipline to develop a variety of professional skills
- Collaborative spirit and positive attitude toward self and others

### Placement Classes & Reviews

Formal assessment of dance technique happens each semester around midterms. During Dance Lab, students will be assessed to determine what level of technique they should register for in the coming semester. Any dance major in the BFA and BS program is required to attend assessment class/es in order to register for dance technique.

BFA Reviews:

BFA Dance Majors are required to participate in several reviews throughout their time at Missouri State.

- First Semester Review: Check In  
In Finals Week, first semester (Fall- Year 1), students will meet with dance faculty for their first BFA Review Meeting. In this meeting, students will discuss their transition to Missouri State and goals for the rest of their time in the program.
- Fourth Semester Review: Technical Review  
In Finals Week, fourth semester (Spring- Year 2), students will meet with dance faculty for their second Review Meeting. This meeting is focused on the technical requirements of the dance BFA. Faculty will provide feedback on the student's capacity to attain the 300-level in two dance techniques, and students will declare which techniques they are pursuing as their specialties. In order to graduate, BFA students must achieve 300-level in two of the following - ballet, tap, contemporary, and/or jazz.
- Fifth Semester Review: Project Preparation  
In Finals Week, 5th semester (Fall- Year 3), students will meet with dance faculty for their third Review Meeting. This meeting is focused on preparation for one's senior project and preparation for post-graduation goals. Be prepared to discuss goals and plans so that faculty can help guide portfolio development and networking activities towards goals.
- Eighth Semester Review: Look Back



In finals week, 8th semester (Spring- Year 4), students will meet with dance faculty to celebrate their time at MSU and discuss next steps.

#### BS Reviews:

BS Dance Majors are required to participate in several reviews throughout their time at Missouri State.

- First Semester Review: Check-In

In Finals Week, first semester (Fall- Year 1), students will meet with dance faculty for their first BS Review Meeting. In this meeting, students will discuss their transition to Missouri State and goals for the rest of their time in the program.

- Fourth Semester Review: Field Review

In Finals Week of the fourth semester (Spring- Year 2), students will meet with dance faculty for their second Review Meeting. This meeting is focused on the students' emerging research interest(s) which may inform the student's Prospectus and Final Research Project. The student will prepare a Field Review which highlights existing research in the field of dance (and/or other relevant fields) that aligns with their own research interests, identify and explain any deficits or gaps in existing research, and explain the ways in which their own research may add to the field in unique and meaningful ways. The student will prepare a 5-10 minute presentation of their Field Review to be given to the dance faculty in the Second Year Review Meeting. The Field Review in tandem with the Prospectus will account for 10% of the student's Final Research Project.

- Fifth Semester Review: Prospectus

In Finals Week of their 5th semester (Fall- Year 3), students will meet with dance faculty for their third Review Meeting. This meeting is focused on preparation for senior projects and preparation for post-graduation goals. Be prepared to turn in a prospectus so that faculty can help guide senior project research and development. Upon Successful completion of Field Review and Prospectus, the student may formally begin work on their Final Research Project.

- Eighth Semester Review: Look Back

In finals week 8th semester (Spring- Year 4), students will meet with dance faculty to celebrate their time at MSU and discuss next steps.

#### **Probation and Program Excusal**

If students do not meet the criteria outlined below, additional meetings will be scheduled during end of semester meetings to evaluate the student's growth. If the Faculty deems the criteria are not being met, the student will be placed on probation for one semester. At the end of the probationary period, a determination will be made as to whether the student should continue or be released from the program. The Assessment shall consist of a faculty-student meeting during which a discussion of strengths, improvement, challenges, short-term and long-term goals will be determined. If pressing issues arise in the middle of the academic year, faculty can call an emergency review meeting.

#### Academic Criteria

- Maintenance of a cumulative GPA of 2.5 -Required
- Completion of 12 credits per semester - Highly recommended
- Completion of a minimum of three to six technique class credit hours per semester- Highly recommended
- Completion of a Final Project (BFA or BS)
- Completion of Review Meetings on schedule as listed above or an adapted schedule for transfer students
- Passing of second year Field Review (BS Students)

### Performance Criteria

- Audition for the Fall and Spring Dance concert. Work as choreographer or dancer in at least two departmental productions (BS Majors)/at least 4 departmental productions (BFA Majors) during your time at MSU.
- Demonstrate artistic growth throughout training program, and make progress toward defined goals (both academic and artistic)
- Passing of Technique Review (BFA Students)

## **PROFESSIONALISM AND CREATIVE ETHICS**

Professionalism and Creative Ethics will be specifically defined by each choreographer, teacher, and director that you engage with. However, this handbook will provide you base level expectations of behaviors and actions that are valued during your time here. These expectations are developed in accordance with the university's Public Affairs Mission with the three pillars being: ethical leadership, cultural competence, and community engagement. Below are examples of how Professionalism and Creative Ethics can be demonstrated in the classroom, rehearsal space, backstage and on stage, and online. Things to consider when applying the Public Affairs Mission to Professionalism and Creative Ethics in the dance field include:

- Recognize and value multicultural contributions of dance practices
- Avoid using language and mindsets that place genres of dance on an hierarchical system
- Create dance spaces that are welcoming of all cultures, races, gender identity and/or expression, abilities, ages, sizes, and religions
- Be an advocate and leader in your community and field by expecting Professionalism and Creative Ethics in yourself and others around you
- Actively seek and engage new and historical resources to inform your practice
- Respect other people's bodies and property – in the studio, in the classroom, in the dressing rooms, in the theaters. Be sure to ask for consent before engaging in touch or using something that is not yours.
- Respect the spaces that hold our dance practices. Leave the space cleaner and neater than you found it.

Dancers are expected to practice the following customary points of professionalism and creative ethics while participating in classes, rehearsals, performances, and online:

### Class

- Attend all of your classes. Come into the studio ready to work, concentrate and commit to the experience. It is not up to the instructor to motivate you.
- Come dressed, on the floor, and ready to dance by the class start time. If your schedule allows, it is good professional practice to arrive early and warm yourself up before class so that you are ready, physically and mentally.
- If you have a schedule that prohibits you from arriving on time, be sure to communicate with your director. If you need to leave the class early, be sure you have made arrangements with the instructor or choreographer ahead of time.
- Check the syllabus for each class for information about proper attire.
- Keep track of due dates for assignments – these are noted in the course syllabus.

- Unless prompted to do so by the instructor, it is inappropriate to correct other dancers in class. Inform the instructor or choreographer in private of any problems you have navigating classroom or rehearsal spaces.
- Please do not eat on the dance floor. Keep water in a container that you can close.
- Check with your instructor in regard to their cell phone policy including recording their choreography, and uploading their choreography to social media. It is good professional practice to silence your phone.

#### Rehearsal

- Know the choreographer: some invite suggestions from the cast, but others do not. It's smart – and respectful – to find out what process will be used, in every rehearsal situation.
- Attend all of your rehearsals. Come into the studio ready to work, concentrate and commit to the experience. It is not up to the choreographer to motivate you. If your schedule allows, it is good professional practice to arrive early and warm yourself up before rehearsal so that you are ready, physically and mentally.
- Check with your choreographer in regard to their cell phone policy, including recording their choreography, and uploading their choreography to social media. It is good professional practice to silence your phone.

#### Backstage and Theatre & Dance Policies

- Arrive on time for your call. Sign in as soon as you arrive.
- The Stage Manager is in charge during production week. Pay attention, and do as you are asked. Take any problems, questions or concerns to the Stage Manager and/or the Concert Director.
- Check the callboards, your campus e-mail and the sign-in board several times a day during production week for any scheduling changes.
- The Costume Shop is NOT a Green Room. Do not congregate there during performances.
- Silence must be strictly respected backstage and in the stairwells, during rehearsals and performances.
- Leave your valuables at home or with the Stage Manager – not in the dressing room.
- No food or drink backstage, nor in the house. Refrain from eating or drinking things that could damage your costume.
- Bring and wear footwear that you can slip on and off easily. Do NOT wander around the Costume Shop, Scene Shop or the backstage area barefoot. Our Scene shop exists backstage, which means it is unsafe to walk around barefoot. Please keep any shoes you wear on stage clean.
- Bring warm-up clothing for pre-performance warm-up (do not warm up in costume).
- Following the warm-up, the Stage Manager and choreographer(s) will give notes.
- Do not wear jewelry or nail polish on stage, unless required as part of your costume. If you wear any kind of non-removable decoration that will show, speak with your choreographers about expectations during performances.
- Dancers provide their own make-up and do their own hair. Speak with your choreographer about specific hair and make-up expectations.
- Speak with your choreographer about hair expectations.
- Hang up your costumes when you finish wearing them. Return them to the costume shop at the end of each performance.
- Ask the costume crew where to leave any costume items that need washing – including personal dancewear worn as part of your costume.
- Do not leave any items in the dressing rooms overnight.
- After the show, remove costumes before meeting family and friends.

- Only crew and performers are allowed backstage (no family/friends)

#### Communication

- Check your school email regularly. These messages provide information and opportunities. Read them. Respond to them. You don't want to miss out on an audition, a deadline, a change of room, clarification of an assignment, or an invitation to attend an awesome free performance!
- If circumstances occur that interfere with your ability to attend class and/or rehearsal, notify your instructor(s) and/or choreographer(s).

#### Social Media

- Social media has become an important professional tool for networking. However, remember that you have little control over how your social media posts are shared and viewed. Therefore, social media can also have considerable negative consequences upon your life and early career. Your social media representation of yourself is as important as your off-line behavior. All Professionalism and Creative Ethics standards including consequences for not meeting those expectations also apply to social media.
- Protect yourself. Social media is a goldmine for preying upon young performers – financially, emotionally, and sexually. Protect yourself and your personal information.
- **Never use social media to create an unsafe or threatening situation in regard to teachers, directors, fellow students or yourself.**



*Dance is for everybody. I believe that the dance came from the people and that it should always be delivered back to the people.*

~ Alvin Ailey

## TECHNIQUE PROFICIENCY STANDARDS

The placement class held every semester will let students know which level they are eligible to register for in each discipline of dance that's being taught. Students in the BFA program are required to achieve the 300-level in at least two disciplines, and those in the BS program should achieve at least the intermediate level in one discipline.

A rule of thumb is that the 100-level fundamentals class is designed for students with little or no prior training; 200-level (elementary) classes are designed for students with some amount of dance training and physical understanding of the elements of the discipline. It is normal for students to repeat 200-level classes multiple times. 300-level (intermediate) classes are designed to deepen students' physical and mental engagement with the work, with an expectation of increased autonomy in learning. The focus in 400-level (advanced) classes, in addition to maintaining and improving technical proficiency, is breadth of artistic expression through dance.



*Technique: "When you can achieve a maximum effect with a minimum effort."  
~ Raymond Lukens, Artistic Associate  
American Ballet Theatre/ New York  
University Master's Program*

## ACADEMIC ADVISING

This handbook includes an outline of required coursework and the semester breakdown for both the BFA in Dance and the BS in Dance 4-year programs. You will also find a link on pp. 19 to the MSU General Education Requirements. Your advisor will be one of the full-time Dance faculty members. Please consult with your advisor regularly in order to ensure that your class work meets your needs both artistically and academically.

Both Dance programs are rigorous, and the goal of the attached schedules is to assist you to be able to complete your studies in four years – with, of course, the requirement that you continually improve in technique and fully participate in the program and the department.

Please make sure to consult with your advisor EVERY semester, to ensure that you complete your coursework in a way that will allow you to graduate in a timely manner, and as a resource for such things as suggestions for summer intensives, and to discuss goals upon graduating.



“A violinist had a violin, a painter his palette. All I had was myself. I was the instrument I must care for”

~ Josephine Baker

**DEGREE INFORMATION- BFA OPTION IN DANCE**  
**Missouri State University – Department of Theatre and Dance**  
**FOUR-YEAR DEGREE PLAN -- BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS IN THEATRE AND DANCE**  
**Entering in Odd Years (ie. Fall 2023, Fall 2025, etc)**

Semester 1	Hrs	Semester 2: 1st BFA Review	Hrs
GEP 101 or UHC 110 GEN ED: ENG 110 or COM 115 GEN ED: MTH 130 or higher DAN 240 Introduction to the Profession DAN 220 Dance Improvisation Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216, 245, 225, and/or DAN 230) <i>Dance Practicum (3 required for BFA)</i>	2 3 3 1 3 3-6 (0-3)	GEN ED: Life Science (BIO 101, with/without BIO 111, <u>or</u> BIO 121) GEN ED: ENG 110 or COM 115 GEN ED: The Arts (DAN 180: Introduction to the Dance suggested) DAN 420: Choreographic Tools <b>DAN 372 Music Resources for Dancers</b> Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216, 245, 225, and/or DAN 230) <i>Dance Practicum (3 required for BFA)</i>	3-4 3 3 3 2 3-6 (0-3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>15-18</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>17-20</b>
Semester 3	Hrs	Semester 4	Hrs
GEN ED: Writing II <b>DAN 319: Contact Improvisation</b> THE 541 Theatre History I Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216/316, 245/345, 225/325, and/or DAN 230/330) Choose from: (THE 250/251 Stagecraft and Construction & Lab or THE 255/256 Lighting Design & Lab or THE 260/261 Costume Construction & Lab) <i>Dance Practicum (3 required for BFA)</i>	3 3 3 3-6 3 (0-3)	GEN ED: HST 121 or HST 122 GEN ED: Humanities (MUS 241 suggested); <u>or</u> , PED 250 (Applied Human Anatomy) Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216/316, 245/345, 225/325, and/or DAN 230/330 and/or Dance Elective)  GEN ED: Humanities (MUS 241 suggested); <u>or</u> , PED 250 (Applied Human Anatomy) <i>Dance Practicum (3 required for BFA)</i>	3 3 3-6  2 3 (0-3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>15-18</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>14-20</b>
Semester 5	Hrs	Semester 6	Hrs
GEN ED: PLS 101 Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216/316/416, 245/345/445, 225/325/425, and/or DAN 230/330/430 and/or Dance Elective) Choose one from: (THE 250/251 Stagecraft and Construction & Lab or THE 255/256 Lighting Design & Lab or THE 260/261 Costume Construction & Lab) <b>DAN 364 Applied Kinesiology for the Dancer</b>  <i>Dance Practicum (3 required for BFA)</i>	3 3-6 3 3 (0-3)	GEN ED: Cultural Competence GEN ED: Social & Behavioral Sciences Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216/316/416, 245/345/445, 225/325/425, and/or DAN 230/330/430 and/or Dance Elective) <b>DAN 552 Dance History Seminar</b> <b>DAN 348 Partnering</b> <i>Dance Practicum (3 required for BFA)</i>	3 3 3-6 3 3 (0-3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>12-18</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>15-18</b>
Semester 7	Hrs	Semester 8: Senior BFA Review	Hrs
GEN ED: Social & Behavioral Sciences GEN ED: Physical Science Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216/316/416, 245/345/445, 225/325/425, and/or DAN 230/330/430 and/or Dance Elective) <b>DAN 565 Dance Pedagogy</b> <i>Dance Practicum (3 required for BFA)</i>	3 3 3-6 3 0-3	GEN ED: Public Issues GEN ED: Physical Science Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216/316/416, 245/345/445, 225/325/425, and/or DAN 230/330/430 and/or Dance Elective) DAN 492 Senior BFA Review <i>Dance Practicum (3 required for BFA)</i>  <b>Total hours needed to graduate = 125, No less than 40 hours at 300+ level</b>	3 3-4 3-6 2 0-3
<b>Total</b>	<b>12-18</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>11-18</b>

\*bolded classes are on an every other year rotation

**DEGREE INFORMATION- BFA OPTION IN DANCE**  
**Missouri State University – Department of Theatre and Dance**  
**FOUR-YEAR DEGREE PLAN -- BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS IN THEATRE AND DANCE**  
**Entering in Even Years (ie. Fall 2024, Fall 2026, etc)**

Semester 1	Hrs	Semester 2: 1st BFA Review	Hrs
GEP 101 or UHC 110	2	GEN ED: Life Science (BIO 101, with/without BIO 111, <u>or</u> BIO 121)	3-4
GEN ED: ENG 110 or COM 115	3	GEN ED: ENG 110 or COM 115	3
GEN ED: MTH 130 or higher	3	GEN ED: The Arts (DAN 180: Introduction to the Dance suggested)	3
DAN 240 Introduction to the Profession	1	DAN 420: Choreographic Tools	3
DAN 220 Dance Improvisation	3	Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216, 245, 225, and/or DAN 230)	3-6
Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216, 245, 225, and/or DAN 230)	3-6	<i>Dance Practicum (3 required for BFA)</i>	(0-3)
<i>Dance Practicum (3 required for BFA)</i>	(0-3)		
<b>Total</b>	<b>15-18</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>15-19</b>
Semester 3	Hrs	Semester 4	Hrs
GEN ED: Writing II	3	GEN ED: HST 121 or HST 122	3
GEN ED: PLS 101	3	GEN ED: Humanities (MUS 241 suggested); <u>or</u> , PED 250 (Applied Human Anatomy)	3
THE 541 Theatre History I	3	Choose from: (DAN 216/316, 245/345, 225/325, and/or DAN 230/330)	3-6
Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216/316, 245/345, 225/325, and/or DAN 230/330)	3-6	Choose from: (DAN 216/316, 245/345, 225/325, DAN 230/330 and/or Dance Elective, and/or <b>DAN348: Partnering</b> )	
Choose from: (THE 250/251 Stagecraft and Construction & Lab or THE 255/256 Lighting Design & Lab or THE 260/261 Costume Construction & Lab)	3	<b>DAN 372 Music Resources for Dancers</b>	2
Lighting Design & Lab or THE 260/261 Costume Construction & Lab)	(0-3)	<i>Dance Practicum (3 required for BFA)</i>	(0-3)
<i>Dance Practicum (3 required for BFA)</i>			
<b>Total</b>	<b>15-18</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>12-18</b>
Semester 5	Hrs	Semester 6	Hrs
GEN ED: Physical Science	3	GEN ED: Cultural Competence	3
Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216/316/416, 245/345/445, 225/325/425, and/or DAN 230/330/430 and/or Dance Elective)	3-6	GEN ED: Social & Behavioral Sciences	3
<b>DAN 319: Contact Improvisation</b>	3	GEN ED: Public Issues	3
Choose one from: (THE 250/251 Stagecraft and Construction & Lab or THE 255/256 Lighting Design & Lab or THE 260/261 Costume Construction & Lab)	3	GEN ED: Humanities (MUS 241 suggested); <u>or</u> , PED 250 (Applied Human Anatomy)	3
	3	Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216/316/416, 245/345/445, 225/325/425, and/or DAN 230/330/430 and/or Dance Elective)	3-6
<b>DAN 565 Dance Pedagogy</b>	(0-3)	<i>Dance Practicum (3 required for BFA)</i>	(0-3)
<i>Dance Practicum (3 required for BFA)</i>			
<b>Total</b>	<b>15-18</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>14-20</b>
Semester 7	Hrs	Semester 8: Senior BFA Review	Hrs
GEN ED: Social & Behavioral Sciences	3	<b>DAN 552 Dance History Seminar</b>	3
GEN ED: Physical Science	3	Choose from: (DAN 216/316, 245/345, 225/325, DAN 230/330 and/or Dance Elective, and/or <b>DAN348: Partnering</b> )	3-6
Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216/316/416, 245/345/445, 225/325/425, and/or DAN 230/330/430 and/or Dance Elective)	3-6		2
<b>DAN 364 Applied Kinesiology for the Dancer</b>	3	DAN 492 Senior BFA Review	0-3
<i>Dance Practicum (3 required for BFA)</i>	(0-3)	<i>Dance Practicum (3 required for BFA)</i>	
		<b>Total hours needed to graduate = 125, No less than 40 hours at 300+ level</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>12-18</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>11-18</b>

\*bolded classes are on an every other year rotation



**DEGREE INFORMATION – BS IN DANCE**  
**Missouri State University – Department of Theatre and Dance**  
**FOUR-YEAR DEGREE PLAN -- BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN DANCE**  
**Entering in Odd Years (ie. 2023, 2025, etc.)**

*Note: Students are required to have a minor, not included in this plan. Students should schedule one course for their minor each semester.*

Semester 1	Hrs	Semester 2: 1st BFA Review	Hrs
GEP 101 or UHC 110	2	GEN ED: Life Science (BIO 101, with/without BIO 111, <u>or</u> BIO 121)	3-4
GEN ED: ENG 110 or COM 115	3	GEN ED: ENG 110 or COM 115	3
GEN ED: MTH 130 or higher	3	DAN 420: Choreographic Tools	3
DAN 240 Introduction to the Profession	1	<b>DAN 372 Music Resources for Dancers</b>	2
DAN 220 Dance Improvisation	3	Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216, 245, 225, and/or DAN 230)	3-6
Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216, 245, 225, and/or DAN 230)	3-6		
<b>Total</b>	<b>15-18</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>14-18</b>
Semester 3	Hrs	Semester 4	Hrs
GEN ED: Writing II	3	GEN ED: HST 121 or HST 122	3
GEN ED: PLS 101	3	GEN ED: Physical Science	3-4
GEN ED: The Arts (DAN 180: Introduction to the Dance suggested)	3	GEN ED: Humanities (MUS 241 suggested); <u>or</u> , PED 250 (Applied Human Anatomy)	3
Choose from: (DAN 216/316, 245/345, 225/325, DAN 230/330 and/or <b>DAN 319: Contact Improvisation</b> )	3	Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216/316, 245/345, 225/325, and/or DAN 230/330 and/or Dance Elective)	3-6
<i>Dance Practicum (1 required for BS)</i>	(0-3)	<i>Dance Practicum (1 required for BS)</i>	(0-3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>12-15</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>12-19</b>
Semester 5	Hrs	Semester 6	Hrs
GEN ED: Humanities (MUS 241 suggested); <u>or</u> , PED 250 (Applied Human Anatomy)	3	GEN ED: Cultural Competence	3
GEN ED: Physical Science	3	GEN ED: Social & Behavioral Sciences	3
Choose 1: (DAN 216/316/416, 245/345/445, 225/325/425, and/or DAN 230/330/430 and/or Dance Elective)	3	Choose from: (DAN 216/316/416, 245/345/445, 225/325/425, and/or DAN 230/330/430 and/or <b>DAN 348: Partnering</b> )	3
<b>DAN 364 Applied Kinesiology for the Dancer</b>	3	<b>DAN 452 Dance History Seminar</b>	3
<i>Dance Practicum (1 required for BS)</i>	(0-3)	<i>Dance Practicum (1 required for BS)</i>	(0-3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>12-15</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>12-18</b>
Semester 7	Hrs	Semester 8: Senior BFA Review	Hrs
GEN ED: Social & Behavioral Sciences	3	GEN ED: Public Issues	3
Choose 1: (DAN 216/316/416, 245/345/445, 225/325/425, and/or DAN 230/330/430 and/or <b>DAN 319: Contact Improvisation</b> )	3	Choose 1 from: (DAN 216/316/416, 245/345/445, 225/325/425, and/or DAN 230/330/430 and/or Dance Elective)	3
<b>DAN 565 Dance Pedagogy</b>	3	<b>DAN 350 Research Methods for Dance</b>	3
<i>Dance Practicum (1 required for BS)</i>	(0-3)	DAN 482 Senior BS Senior Project	2
		<i>Dance Practicum (1 required for BS)</i>	(0-3)
		<b>Total hours needed to graduate = 125, No less than 40 hours at 300+ level</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>9-12</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>11-14</b>

*Suggested Sequencing: 15-18 credit hours per semester, unless the student chooses to attend summer school.*

**DEGREE INFORMATION – BS IN DANCE**  
**Missouri State University – Department of Theatre and Dance**  
**FOUR-YEAR DEGREE PLAN -- BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN DANCE**  
**Entering Even Years (ie. 2024, 2026, etc.)**

*Note: Students are required to have a minor, not included in this plan. Students should schedule one course for their minor each semester.*

Semester 1	Hrs	Semester 2: 1st BFA Review	Hrs
GEP 101 or UHC 110	2	GEN ED: Life Science (BIO 101, with/without BIO 111, <u>or</u> BIO 121)	3-4
GEN ED: ENG 110 or COM 115	3	GEN ED: ENG 110 or COM 115	3
GEN ED: MTH 130 or higher	3	GEN ED: The Arts (DAN 180: Introduction to the Dance suggested)	3
DAN 240 Introduction to the Profession	1	DAN 420: Choreographic Tools	3
DAN 220 Dance Improvisation	3	Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216, 245, 225, and/or DAN 230)	3-6
Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216, 245, 225, and/or DAN 230)	3-6		
<b>Total</b>	<b>15-18</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>15-19</b>
Semester 3	Hrs	Semester 4	Hrs
GEN ED: Writing II	3	GEN ED: HST 121 or HST 122	3
GEN ED: PLS 101	3	GEN ED: Humanities (MUS 241 suggested); <u>or</u> , PED 250 (Applied Human Anatomy)	3
GEN ED: Public Issues	3	Choose 1 or 2 from: (DAN 216/316, 245/345, 225/325, and/or DAN 230/330 and/or <b>DAN 348: Partnering</b> )	3-6
Choose from: (DAN 216/316, 245/345, 225/325, DAN 230/330)	3	<b>DAN 372 Music Resources for Dancers</b>	2
<i>Dance Practicum (1 required for BS)</i>	(0-3)	<i>Dance Practicum (1 required for BS)</i>	(0-3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>12-15</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>11-17</b>
Semester 5	Hrs	Semester 6	Hrs
GEN ED: Humanities (MUS 241 suggested); <u>or</u> , PED 250 (Applied Human Anatomy)	3	GEN ED: Cultural Competence	3
GEN ED: Physical Science	3	GEN ED: Social & Behavioral Sciences	3
GEN ED: Physical Science	3-4	Choose from: (DAN 216/316/416, 245/345/445, 225/325/425, and/or DAN 230/330/430 and/or dance elective)	3
Choose 1: (DAN 216/316/416, 245/345/445, 225/325/425, and/or DAN 230/330/430 and/or <b>DAN 319: Contact Improvisation</b> )	3-4	<b>DAN 350 Research Methods for Dance</b>	3
<b>DAN 565 Dance Pedagogy</b>	3	<i>Dance Practicum (1 required for BS)</i>	(0-3)
<i>Dance Practicum (1 required for BS)</i>	(0-3)		
<b>Total</b>	<b>15-20</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>12-18</b>
Semester 7	Hrs	Semester 8: Senior BFA Review	Hrs
GEN ED: Social & Behavioral Sciences	3	Choose 1 from: (DAN 216/316/416, 245/345/445, 225/325/425, and/or DAN 230/330/430 and/or <b>DAN 348: Partnering</b> )	3
Choose 1: (DAN 216/316/416, 245/345/445, 225/325/425, and/or DAN 230/330/430 and/or Dance Elective)	3	DAN 482 Senior BS Senior Project	2
<b>DAN 364 Applied Kinesiology for the Dancer</b>	3	<b>DAN 452 Dance History Seminar</b>	3
<i>Dance Practicum (1 required for BS)</i>	(0-3)	<i>Dance Practicum (1 required for BS)</i>	(0-3)
		<b>Total hours needed to graduate = 125, No less than 40 hours at 300+ level</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>9-12</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>8-11</b>

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Placement in technique class levels is at the **discretion of the instructors**. It is expected that students will repeat dance classes at the same level before progressing to the next level.
  - **NOTE:** DAN 100 does NOT count toward the major. 100 level dance classes count only as electives in the Dance degree program, but may be required, depending on the dance level at which each major enters the program.
  - **NOTE:** The sample 4-year degree plan charts above list more than the required number of dance technique classes. This is because the dance faculty strongly suggests that all Dance majors should enroll in two technique classes each semester, so that they take at least one dance technique class each day throughout the four-year program.
- **Periodicity Warning: Certain classes are offered only during the fall or spring, and some are offered only every other year.**
  - **NOTE:** Please see your advisor early in your first year to discuss possible variations of your own degree plan, particularly if you have an interest in studying abroad. All statements in this document concerning requirements, prerequisites, conditions or other matters are for informational purposes and are subject to change. Effective academic advisement is a partnership, with advisees sharing in the responsibility.
- Other information important to completing your degree in a timely manner: Missouri State University General Education Requirements. You can access the General Education Worksheet at: [http://www.missouristate.edu/GeneralEducation/GenEd\\_Worksheet.htm](http://www.missouristate.edu/GeneralEducation/GenEd_Worksheet.htm)



*Every day brings a chance for you to draw in breath,  
kick off your shoes, and dance.  
~ Oprah Winfrey*

## **SENIOR PROJECTS**

Both Degree Programs

### **Bachelor of Fine Arts Candidates**

#### DAN 492: Bachelor of Fine Arts Senior Project

When: During your next-to-last or last semester at Missouri State University

- Register for DAN 492: Senior Project in Dance (you will need permission from the instructor, who will be your mentor for your project)
- See the Senior BFA Project Rubric and Guidelines on pp.21-23. Please make sure to see the appropriate rubric and guideline for your degree program.

What:

- In your 5th semester review, be prepared to discuss:
  1. What ideas do you plan to work with in this solo?
  2. Do you plan to work with any collaborators? If so, who? How do you imagine this collaborative relationship working?
  3. What kind of process will you be using to create and produce this work?
  4. What portfolio materials do you already have drafts of?
  5. What content do you need to collect to have a final draft of your portfolio? How do you plan to collect any missing material?
  6. What kind of sound score and/ or music do you plan on using (if any)?
  7. Come prepared with a single sentence encapsulating how you imagine yourself operating in the field after graduation.
- Complete a satisfactory project
- Prepare a self-evaluation for your 8th semester review
- Make appropriate technical progress (evaluated by the Dance Faculty).
- Complete a professional résumé and/or CV

Project Options:

- Self-choreograph a solo that you perform
- Ask someone else to choreograph a solo that you perform
- Choreograph a solo for someone else to perform

Your solo should be between 3-6 minutes. You should plan clothing/costuming and sound design, and production elements with your fellow BFA senior students.. Your virtual portfolio should be a personal website that includes updated headshot/s, dance photos, dance reel, and resume. You are welcome to include any other elements related to your professional goals, but the above are the only requirements.

**DAN 492 (1 credit hour)**  
**Senior Project Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Dance**

**REQUIREMENTS:**

- Turn in a prospectus and outline.
- Present a satisfactory project.
- Complete a professional website.
- Make appropriate technical progress (evaluated by the Dance Faculty).
- Prepare a professional résumé.

**PROJECT OPTIONS:**

- Self-choreograph a solo that you perform
- Ask someone else to choreograph a solo that you perform
- Choreograph a solo for someone else to perform

Your solo should be between 3-6 minutes. You should plan clothing/costuming and sound design, and work with fellow BFA DAN 492 students to coordinate your concert. Your virtual portfolio should be a personal website that includes updated headshot/s, dance photos, dance reel, and resume. You are welcome to include any other elements related to your professional goals, but the above are the only requirements.

**SENIOR BFA REVIEWS - TIMELINE FOR PROJECTS and CONCERTS**

Week 1	Meet with the instructor of the course (mentor) to discuss topic; identify performance space
Week 2	Turn in prospectus and outline
Week 5	Turn in copy of rehearsal schedule or project hours
Week 9	Work on professional website
Week 12	Turn in first draft of professional website and professional résumé to mentor, via e-mail, Second viewing and feedback session with mentor
Week 14	Present project/concert
Week 15	Present project/concert Turn in completed professional website and resume
Finals Week	Meet with Dance faculty for evaluation/assessment

Please Note: If the timeline of your presentation/project does not correspond with the above calendar, make sure that the Dance faculty is advised of dates and times one month prior to the event. Other dates will be adjusted as needed.

**SUMMARY OF PROJECT GUIDELINES:**

**Choreographic Projects:** Direct and choreograph a work that demonstrates an understanding of theory and practice.

**Performance Projects:** Perform a work that features your growth as a performer. You may self-choreograph or have someone else set the work on you. If you choose to request faculty to set work, you should notify them well in advance.

**Dance Film Projects –** Produce a three to seven-minute dance film using original choreography.

**Grade Distribution**

Fifth Semester Prospectus	5%	
Portfolio	30%	
Weekly Deadlines	10%	
Solo	55%	
		Total: 100%

\*note: a more detailed rubric with due dates will be given in syllabus for the dance projects course



BACHELOR of FINE ARTS PROJECT PROPOSAL  
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE  
MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

CANDIDATE'S NAME (include student ID number)

---

INTENDED DATE OF COMPLETION OF DEGREE

---

PROPOSED TITLE OF PROJECT

---

MENTOR'S NAME

---

CANDIDATE'S SIGNATURE

---

signature  
date

MENTOR'S SIGNATURE

---

signature  
date

## Bachelor of Science Candidates

### DAN 482: Bachelor of Science Senior Project

When: During your next-to-last or last semester at Missouri State University

- This is a one-semester project, to be completed in the student's final year. Register for DAN 482: Senior Project (you will need permission from the course instructor)
- See the Senior BS Project Rubric and Guidelines on pp.25-27. Please make sure to see the appropriate rubric and guideline for your degree program.

What:

- The Senior Project reflects a culmination of your studies at Missouri State University. It should focus on your individual interests with an in-depth investigation and analysis of that interest. You are encouraged to synthesize your interest in dance with your minor or second major.
- The BS Senior Project will be present in the form of a poster presentation. This poster will be printed for display. You will have 7-10 minutes to present your project.
- You are urged to use primary sources whenever possible and to explore past and present research that pertains to your topic.
- In your 5th semester review, be prepared to discuss:
  8. What ideas do you plan to work with in this poster presentation?
  9. What research methodology do you plan to use?
  10. What data do you need to collect to have a successful project? How do you plan to collect this data?
  11. Come prepared with a single sentence encapsulating how you imagine yourself operating in the field after graduation.
- Complete a satisfactory project
- Prepare a self-evaluation for your 8th semester review
- Make appropriate technical progress (evaluated by the Dance Faculty).
- Complete a professional résumé and/or CV

Project Options:

Possible topics include, but are not restricted to:

- Pedagogical theory and practice
- How dance affects psychological issues
- Historic research
- Liturgical dance
- Dance in society
- Kinesiology
- Dance therapy
- Choreographic trends
- Dance and media





## DAN 482 SENIOR BS PROJECT

### REQUIREMENTS:

- Turn in final update prospectus and outline
- Present a satisfactory poster presentation.
- Make appropriate research progress (evaluated by the Dance Faculty).
- Prepare a professional résumé and/or CV.

Senior BS projects will be presented as a concert of senior solos and presentations of poster posters. They will be shown on the Saturday afternoon of Spring Dance Concert in Cogger Theatre.

**Description:** The Senior Project reflects a culmination of your studies at Missouri State University. It should focus on your individual interests with an in-depth investigation and analysis of that interest.

You are encouraged, but not required to synthesize your interest in dance with your second major or minor. Possible topics include, but are not restricted to: pedagogical theory and practice, how dance affects psychological issues, historic research, liturgical dance, the role of dance in society, kinesiology, dance therapy, choreographic trends, dance and media, dance and advertising, etc. Your opinions are important but must be supported with scholarly research and logical analysis and interpretation.

- Present your research findings in an oral presentation of at least 10 minutes including time for questions.
- Include a visual poster component.
- Presentations will occur during the week of spring dance
- Prepare and submit a professional resumé and/or CV.

**Grading:** based on successful completion of the project, attention to guidelines, clarity of writing, and quality of research.

### SENIOR BS REVIEWS - TIMELINE FOR PROJECTS and CONCERTS

Week 1	Meet with the instructor of the course (mentor) to discuss topic
Week 2	Turn in prospectus and outline
Week 4	Turn in data/research collection (ie. transcribed interviews, annotated bibliography, charts/graphs, etc. )
Week 7	Turn in your first draft of your script and resume
Week 9	Turn in your first digital draft of your presentation. Feedback meeting with Mentor

Week 10	Turn in your second draft of script and resume
Week 13	Have poster professional approved and printed
Week 15	Presentation Week and final resume due
Finals Week	Meet with Dance faculty for evaluation/assessment

### Writing Guidelines

**Use Chicago style. For information, go to:** Owl Perdue

**Opening Remarks:** Introduce the points to be discussed.

**Structure:** Elaborate on each point, in the order presented in your introductory paragraph. Discuss each point.

**Avoid Repeating Yourself:** Avoid multiple sentences that say the same thing.

**Empty Sentences:** Watch out for sentences that contain no information and have no substance.

**Citations:** Be sure to site your sources in your poster using Chicago format.

**Proofread:** Check for grammatical errors, incorrect punctuation, and typos. Practice presenting your poster presentation out loud. Eliminate slang words and phrases. Take your script to the Writing Center, before sending it to the faculty for comments.

### Printing Posters

Posters should be printed in a medium size 48"x36". Visit the following site for more information:

<https://www.missouristate.edu/RStats/Academic-Posters.htm>

### Grade Distribution

Fourth Semester Field Review	5%
Fifth Semester Prospectus	5%
Final Poster Presentation	60%
Final Resume or CV	10%
Final Poster	10%
Weekly Deadlines	10%

Total: 100%

\*note: a more detailed rubric with due dates will be given in syllabus for the dance projects course

BACHELOR of SCIENCE RESEARCH PROJECT PROPOSAL  
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE  
MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

CANDIDATE'S NAME (include student ID number)

---

INTENDED DATE OF COMPLETION OF DEGREE

---

PROPOSED TITLE OF PROJECT

---

MENTOR'S NAME

---

CANDIDATE'S SIGNATURE

---

signature  
date

MENTOR'S SIGNATURE

---

signature  
date

## SCHOLARSHIPS/FINANCIAL AID

The Department of Theatre and Dance offers a number of scholarships to incoming and continuing students. The scholarships are listed on the department website, under the “Resources” button:  
<http://theatreanddance.missouristate.edu/scholarships.asp>

The scholarships include:

- Foundation scholarships, earmarked for specific programs
- Activity scholarships, including Regents scholarships
- Scholarships from the Judith Enyeart Reynolds College of Arts and Letters
- General scholarships from the university.

The deadline for applications from continuing students, for the NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR, is usually in February. Information will be posted on the TAD e-Update beforehand – or, you can ask the department office and/or the faculty for information.

Criteria for Dance Regents/Activities Scholarships include:

- Maintain an overall GPA of 2.50
- Earn at least a C in all DAN and THE courses required for the major
- Demonstrate a commitment to the department by auditioning for and participation in Theatre and Dance Department and Dance program productions and activities

Information about work/study scholarships is available from the Office of Financial Aid, in Carrington Hall.

Out of State Fee Waivers are awarded to incoming students who qualify, based on GPA and ACT/SAT scores. Renewal of university Out of State Waivers is automatically awarded to those who maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA.

Further information for first-year students is here:

<http://www.missouristate.edu/FinancialAid/scholarships/Freshman.htm>

Transfer students should consult this page on the MSU website:

<http://www.missouristate.edu/FinancialAid/scholarships/Transfer.htm>

*I had certain physical limitations that made me change the choreography for myself or made me more interested in choreography only rather than dancing. I have never been a person who wanted to just dance. I have always been interested in developing for other people.*

~ Katherine Dunham

## PERFORMANCE & EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

### Auditions

- A cumulative grade point average of 2.5 must be maintained in order to participate in all MSU Department of Theatre and Dance productions. (i.e., In order to be eligible for a fall production, the student's grade point average from the previous spring must be at least 2.5).
- All eligible BFA Dance Majors are **required** to audition for all dance concerts – unless they are already committed to another faculty approved departmental activity for that semester. Exceptions will only be made in cases of medical necessity, death in the family, academic probation, etc. Missing an audition may result in being placed on Probation which can result in not being able to register for DAN 482/DAN 492 Senior Projects.
- All Dance majors are encouraged to audition for every department production, but (after consulting with the director) majors may elect to refuse a role if cast in a play that contains material they find objectionable because of salacious content, offensive language, religious defamation, nudity, or other kinds of material that could be construed by a reasonable person as objectionable. You are also encouraged to audition for the experience if you do not want to be cast in a production.
- When participating in department Unified Auditions, Dance majors should follow the regulations for the Acting and Musical Theatre majors, and submit a professional headshot and resume at those auditions.
  - **Headshots**  
Yes! You need professional headshots. You also need a professional resume. The BFA Acting Guidelines has extensive information about how to prepare, shoot, and how to select images. That document is available on the Theatre and Dance Department website, under Department Documents.

### Callboards

The department has a callboard on the second floor of Craig Hall. A callboard is your primary means of communication with production staff on any production you are participating in. It has a variety of postings: departmental announcements, sign-up sheets for auditions, cast lists, and other important information. Professional performers check the callboard as soon as they arrive at the theatre. We encourage you to begin that practice here at MSU. You may also find dance specific announcements such as summer intensives located in McDonald 203. Please get in the habit of checking both locations every day.

### Fall and Spring Dance Concerts

The Fall and Spring Dance Concert are a part of the department's main stage production season, and is choreographed by MSU faculty, students, and guests. Student work will be adjudicated for the concerts, but will be shown in at least an informal lab showing. Auditions for this concert will be held during the second Friday during lab each semester.

-> Check the TAD e-Update and the Craig Hall callboard for information about auditions, casting and rehearsal times.

### **ACDA Regional Conference**

As a member of the American College Dance Festival Association, the MSU Dance program participates in the annual Regional Conference, which takes place during Spring semester. Three works are selected to be presented – two for adjudication, and the third for an informal (non-adjudicated) concert. In addition, there is usually a large variety of classes each day.

### **Summer Intensives in Dance / Study Abroad**

We strongly urge you to participate in summer intensive programs, to enrich your learning experience and expose you to a broader spectrum of dance and dance styles than can be found in Springfield. Companies and festivals throughout the country offer summer opportunities, some for college credit, and most have scholarships available. Ask your fellow students and the faculty for suggestions. A few examples of excellent programs are:

- American Dance Festival, Durham, NC: <http://www.americandancefestival.org>
- Ballet Magnificat: [http://www.balletmagnificat.com/E\\_summer.html](http://www.balletmagnificat.com/E_summer.html)
- Bates Dance Festival, Lewiston, ME: <http://www.batesdancefestival.org/>
- Boulder Jazz Dance Workshop, Boulder, CO: <http://www.boulderjazzdanceworkshop.com>
- DanceAfrica <https://www.bam.org/danceafrica>
- Doug Verone Dance Company: <http://dougveroneanddancers.org>
- Hubbard Street Dance Chicago: <http://hubbardstreetdance.com/home.asp>
- Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Lee, MA: <http://www.jacobspillow.org/>
- José Limón Dance Company: <http://www.limon.org>
- Jump Rhythm Dance Project intensives: <http://jrjp.org/>
- Salt Dance Fest: <http://dance.utah.edu/saltdancefest/>
- Seattle Festival of Dance Improvisation <https://summer.velocitydancecenter.org/sfdi/>
- Urban Bush Women Summer Leadership Institute  
<https://www.urbanbushwomen.org/summer-leadership-institute>
- In addition, Missouri State University offers Summer Semester and Intersession Courses, and the MSU Study Abroad Program provides students opportunities to study in other environments and cultures. For information, on Study Away Programs, go to:  
<http://international.missouristate.edu/studyaway/>

### **Apprenticeships/Internships**

Many companies provide apprenticeships and internships in a variety of areas. These opportunities may be found in publications like *Art Search* and *Dance Magazine*, to name a few. Other opportunities may be sought by checking out various web sites or by contacting a company directly.

## On Campus Opportunities Related to Dance



### MO State Dance Co.

MO State Dance Co. is a completely student run dance organization on campus at MSU. We are a dance loving group that started in 2018 to create more opportunities for our students. MO State Dance Co. acts as a liaison between dance students, dance alumni, and MSU Faculty in order to facilitate communication, organize events, and represent the university and the world of dance as a whole in our community. MSDC holds different events on and off campus to help MSU dancers who are planning their career, or looking to move freely. This organization also focuses on fundraising and coordinating these events, including shows, master classes, and student jams. Our organization is open and loves to spread the joy of dance to everyone, regardless of students major or time commitment! All Dance Majors and Minors at MSU are automatically a part of this organization. If you are interested in getting more involved or have any questions at all, feel free to email [mostatedanceco@gmail.com](mailto:mostatedanceco@gmail.com) or contact any of the Executive Board members.



### Tent Theatre

Tent Theatre is MSU's and the department's summer Equity repertory theatre, provides summer work opportunities for performers, crew members and those interested in marketing and arts management. Check the TAD e-Update for information, during Spring semester.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Studio Usage

*McDonald 203 is the main Dance rehearsal studio, and is available in the following order of priority:*

1. Spring Dance Concert / Fall Dance Concert rehearsals
2. Faculty research
3. Senior BFA Review projects rehearsals
4. Dance Composition II rehearsals
5. Any other times the studio is free may be used for other department-related activities, but must be scheduled through the Theatre & Dance office.

### Annex and Credo

1. For the Annex studios, please check with the Theatre & Dance office.

NOTE: For extra-curricular activities, including Greek Life, look for space in the Foster Family Recreation Center or Hammons Student Center.

### TAD e-Update, T&D Wrap, Facebook and Twitter

- Sign up to receive the department's weekly electronic newsletter: go to the department website, <http://www.theatreanddance.missouristate.edu>, enter your e-mail address in the "subscribe to e-News" field, click on "submit" and you will ALWAYS be in the loop!
- Join the department's Facebook page
- Watch the T&D Wrap (a bi-weekly video with information about upcoming events)
- Connect with the department's Twitter feed.
- Join the Facebook pages MOState Dance Program and MSU T&D Student Forum

### MST Connect

When you are about to graduate, open an account with this MSU T&D alumni/ae network: <http://www.mstconnect.com/nyc/index.html>. It's a great way to stay in touch and let the department know what you're doing.



*Groovin' loose or heart to heart  
We put in motion every single part  
Funky sounds wall to wall  
We're bumpin' booties, havin' us a ball.  
~ Shake Your Groove Thing by Peaches and  
Herb*



**LETTER OF AGREEMENT**  
**Acknowledgement of the Policies Presented in the Dance Guidelines**

I \_\_\_\_\_ (Please print name) have read the Dance Program Guidelines in full. I understand that I can address any questions I have regarding policy by communicating with the Dance Area Faculty or the Head of the Department of Theatre and Dance before this letter is signed and submitted, with written documentation provided, if needed.

By signing this letter I acknowledge that I comprehend and choose to abide by all the program policies contained within the aforementioned Guidelines, and that all exceptions must be requested in writing from the Dance Area Coordinator or the Head of the Department of Theatre & Dance. I also acknowledge that failure to abide by area guidelines may result in probation or suspension from the Dance Program at Missouri State University.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Please submit a signed copy of this letter to the Dance Program Coordinator by  
*the first Friday of the Semester.***

## CAREER PLANNING RESOURCES FOR DANCE MAJORS

### Career Opportunities in Dance

- Dancer
- Choreographer
- Teacher
- Ballet Mistress or Ballet Master
- Dance Captain
- Dance Librarian
- Dance Writer, Editor, Critic, Anthropologist, Historian
- Dance Technology (using and developing software, etc.)
- Rehearsal Director
- Videographer
- Artistic Director/ Entrepreneur

### Marketable Skills

- Commitment to a task
- Discipline
- Capacity to follow directions
- A strong work-ethic
- Creative problem-solving techniques
- Understanding of risk-taking strategies
- Developed capacity for organization, analysis and planning
- Ability to work independently
- Perseverance
- Self-reliance

### Related Careers

- Director
- Stage manager
- Arts administrator
- Fund-raiser
- Publicist
- Grants manager
- Musician
- Composer
- Artist
- Actor
- Script writer
- Costume designer
- Lighting designer
- Set designer
- Dance Therapist
- Pilates Instructor, Alexander Trainer, Feldenkrais Practitioner
- Physical Therapist
- Dance Medicine
- Physical Fitness or Athletic Trainer

### **Strategies for Enhancing Employability**

- Hone technical and performance skills: continue to train.
- Attend as many auditions as possible.
- Be informed. Research opportunities.
- Augment dance skills by taking singing and acting lessons.
- Take summer workshops and intensives. Attend conferences related to your areas of interest.
- Read bulletin board postings.
- Practice grant writing skills.
- Develop a professional resume.
- Produce a high-quality reel with samples of choreography and performance.
- Persevere. Persevere. Persevere.

### **Examples of Employers**

- Dance Companies
- Theatre Companies
- Summer Stock Theatre
- Trade Shows
- Musical Theatre Productions
- Music Video Producers
- Cruise Ships
- Public and Private Schools
- Dance Studios
- Colleges and Universities
- Newspapers and Journals
- Publishers
- Independent Choreographers
- Television Industry
- Movie Industry
- Public Relations Firms
- Producers

Be sure to reach out to the Career Center for services such as job search help, reviewing resumes, interview preparation and practice and more. This service can be utilized for current students and alum.  
<https://careercenter.missouristate.edu/>

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Chris Herr, Interim Department Head  
Craig 355  
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Other Useful Numbers  
McDonald 203  
Tel.: 417-836-5960

Campus Security  
Tel.: 417-836-5509  
In case of emergency, call 911

Magers Health and Wellness Center  
offers easily accessible health care  
Tel.: 417-836-4000  
<http://health.missouristate.edu/>