

DANCE

PREPARATION FOR THE MAJOR

High School Preparation

Recommended as part of or in addition to the UC admission requirements:

Biology,
Drama,
Available dance courses,
Available humanities courses.

Transfer Preparation

To make normal progress in the major, complete the following courses in your first two years:

Modern dance,
Intermediate modern dance,
Elementary ballet,
Intermediate ballet,
Improvisation,
Fundamentals of choreography,
Dance History,
Principles of music: rhythm,
Music appreciation,
Design fundamentals for dance,
Stage lighting design,
Theater workshop (3 quarter units),
Anatomy.

Please see the UCSB *General Catalog* (www.catalog.ucsb.edu) or your school counselor for more information on course preparation. California community college students should see www.assist.org.

Dance, the most ancient of the arts, is a vital and exciting art form that has been an integral part of all cultures throughout time. A language of expression based on movement, dance allows us to communicate with one another in a fundamental way. "To dance is to live" is a familiar phrase and, indeed, dance is a basic and important part of many individuals' existence. However, an extreme amount of discipline, inspiration, and daring are required to become a dancer.

UCSB's Theater and Dance Department offers two degrees in Dance: the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) and the Bachelor of Arts (BA). Both programs are studio centered and emphasize performance and choreography. Both require daily classes in modern dance and ballet. Program coursework includes theoretical as well as technical aspects of dance, and allows for breadth of experience in related arts and sciences.

The BFA degree is the more specialized and highly structured of the two programs. It is designed for students who aspire to professional performing or choreographic careers. Approximately 75 percent of the BFA student's undergraduate experience is in dance and related subjects.

The BA degree offers a strong dance component within a liberal arts education. The BA is less specialized, less structured, and has fewer major requirements than the BFA. The BA allows students to undertake coursework in related fields in order to prepare themselves for alternative dance careers such as dance therapy, dance administration, dance history, and dance education.

The Faculty

UCSB's Dance faculty includes practicing performers, choreographers, and research scholars. Faculty members tour internationally, and their works are performed by U.S. and European companies. Articles by Dance faculty have appeared in all of the major dance journals, and in books devoted to the art form.

The Majors

Students who would like to major in Dance must audition for placement in the four-year technique series. Students should audition in January or February preceding their admission to UCSB. Audition materials are available from the Theater and Dance undergraduate advisor. (Audition dates for Fall 2009 are Sunday, January 25, 2009, and Saturday, February 14, 2009. Register at www.theaterdance.ucsb.edu)

To prepare for the major, students must complete a variety of lower-division (freshman and sophomore level) Dance courses including the modern dance and intermediate ballet sequences, fundamentals of choreography and improvisation. Students must also complete courses in theater such as theater workshops and practicums, and anatomy.

Performance Opportunities

The department's performance-oriented dance programs offer ample opportunities for direct stage experience. These include the annual Main Stage dance concerts, studio concerts, workshops, and dramatic productions that utilize dance. A select group of students are chosen to form the UCSB Dance Company. This student company works

(over)

closely with Santa Barbara Dance Theater, a professional modern dance company in residence at UCSB, to learn select dances from the repertory. The UCSB Dance Company presents a variety of performances including an outreach performance program that tours local high schools and colleges. Exceptional student performers apprentice with the Santa Barbara Dance Theater, which tours throughout the state.

Special Projects

Dance majors nominated by faculty may undertake a senior honors project. The project must represent a significant advanced undertaking in either academic research or creative endeavor. Students who complete their project to the satisfaction of a three-member faculty committee are awarded Distinction in the Major upon graduation.

The Facilities

UCSB's Dance facilities feature a modern dance studio; a ballet studio with performance capabilities including audience seating and state-of-the-art lighting and sound systems; dressing rooms, a spacious lobby and box office, and an outdoor amphitheater. In the support areas for the dance studios are rehearsal rooms, fully equipped and staffed scenery and costume shops, laundry and dye rooms, dressing rooms, and various storage and office facilities.

The Hatlen Theater has a large proscenium stage and an auditorium seating 340 people. The hydraulically operated forestage extends the width of the proscenium and serves as an apron to the stage, an extension of the auditorium, or an orchestra pit. The lighting system is computer controlled. The fall and spring dance concerts are performed in the Hatlen Theater.

In spring 2007, a new **Theater and Dance Building** was opened that features a second ballet studio and a second modern dance space, along with a design drafting room, lighting lab, craft and work room, computer lab, an acting studio, and voice/movement studio. A 150-seat lecture hall and 60-seat classroom are used by the department as well as the campus community. The building also houses new faculty and administrative offices and a new and central box office.

Careers in Dance

Dance graduates have successfully pursued careers in dance as professional performers and choreographers. Alumni are members of dance companies in the U.S. and Europe. Graduates of the BA program are prepared for careers in dance therapy, dance or arts administration, dance criticism, and dance education. Graduates of both the BA and BFA programs are qualified to open their own dance studios and to teach in private institutions.

Students interested in teaching dance at the university should complete the PhD degree. Students interested in teaching at a community college should pursue graduate work at least through the master's degree. Teaching at the high school (secondary) level requires the California Single Subject Teaching Credential. Students interested in this last option should discuss their plans early in their academic careers with the credential advisor in UCSB's Gevirtz Graduate School of Education.

For further information on UCSB's dance majors, please call or write to:

Undergraduate Programs
Department of Theater and Dance
University of California, Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-7060
805/893-3241
email: rlee@theaterdance.ucsb.edu
website: www.theaterdance.ucsb.edu