

Dance Course Descriptions

Note: This program includes course requirements from more than one discipline. For complete course descriptions for this major, refer to each discipline within this *Catalog*.

DANC 1101/1102/2101/2102/3101/3102/4101/4102 Ballet Technique (3 units per semester, 8 semesters required)

Ballet technique is the foundation of the LINES/Dominican BFA program. Ballet class will be held five times a week for one hour and forty-five minutes. The intention of the program is that all applicants accepted will be capable of the advanced level ballet technique; therefore, the ballet curriculum is maintained at the advanced level throughout the four years of the program.

DANC 1201/1202/2201/2202/3201/3202/4201/4202 Modern Technique (1.5 units per semester, 8 semesters required)

Modern technique classes to be taken two or more times per week for one and a half hours throughout the program. The program will explore this ever-changing art form from a variety of perspectives. Students are exposed to past and current viewpoints in Modern dance technique, including Release technique, Horton and Cunningham, among others.

DANC 1301/1302/2301/2302/3301/3302/4301/4302 Gyrokinesis, Gyrotonics (1.5 units per semester, 8 semesters required)

Twice weekly 90 minute sessions in either GYROKINESIS® or GYROTONICS®. The GYROTONIC EXPANSION SYSTEM® (GES) is an exercise system utilizing specially designed equipment created to develop freedom of movement, strength with flexibility, and coordination. The GES is a core component of the curriculum employed to cultivate physical knowledge and awareness and to foster a healthy approach to all movement based work. GYROTONIC®/GYROKINESIS® courses follow a detailed progression over four years of the program.

DANC 1401/1402/2401/2402/3401/3402/4401/4402 Workshops (2 units per semester, 8 semesters required)

Each semester of Workshop will contain the creation of a new dance work on students by a faculty or guest choreographer. At least one semester a year will focus on the choreography of Alonzo King, either in the form of movement studies or the recreation of LINES Ballet repertory. Woven between these two main components is a progressive sequence of workshops exploring creativity and expressiveness. This includes Metaphor and Creative Process in the freshman year, Composition I and Improvisation in the sophomore year, Composition II and Improvisation in the junior year, all building to the Senior Project. Workshop includes pointe and variations classes, and contemporary and classical partnering.

DANC 3001 Dance & Spiritual Expression (3 units)

Drawing on the wisdom of Kimerer LaMothe, Friedrich Nietzsche, and other scholars, philosophers, and dancers, this course demonstrates the power of dance to open human beings to knowledge and experience that we would not otherwise have. In case studies drawn from around the world, we see dancing bodies as instruments of devotion, and as vehicles for traveling through different realms of reality. We see moving bodies as catalysts for spiritual change, and as vessels for religious meaning. We see women and men finding in dance a medium for expressing and becoming their highest ideals. The course is divided into three interrelated sections: “Dance in the World’s Religions” – “Dance in the Modern West: Religious Impulses and Aspects” – “Dance, Philosophy, and the Study of Religion.”

DANC 3002 Arts Management (1.5 units)

This course is intended to be a hands-on, practical approach to a broad range of skills and possibilities in the field of arts management. Because careers in dance are now very open, mutable, and interconnected—because being a dancer does not close you off from the world—this class will try to introduce a spectrum of potentially useful knowledge about working in the field of dance. Roughly half of the class will include talks, workshops, and projects with professionals from LINES and from the Bay Area dance community; you will learn from their experiences with grant-writing, touring, PR, bookkeeping, touring, fundraising, studio management, programming, marketing, dance film, event planning, and production. The other half of the class will focus on a set of skills designed to develop the clarity of your own vision of dance and your ability to articulate that vision through artist statements, press releases, dance criticism, and oral presentations.

DANC 3501 Dance History I (World) (3 units)

This course discusses the theory and development of dance from its evolution in anthropological sources to 20th century contemporary dance. It is a survey history course and therefore we will touch on the anthropological basis of dance and will

emphasize the history of classical ballet, American/European modern dance, African-Haitian dance and the American idioms of tap and jazz.

DANC 3502 Dance History II (3 units)

Historical, sociological, and cultural development of dance as a performing art in Western Europe and the United States of America including the cultural, aesthetic, structural, and functional contributions from Africa, the Caribbean, Asia and Latin America. While the course covers dance as a performing art from 1450 to the present, emphasis is on 20th century concert dance in the United States.

DANC 4991 Senior Project I (1 unit)

The culmination of the creative work of the program. Building on the knowledge and skills developed throughout the program, students, with the support of faculty, will develop and complete a work of choreography to be presented to the community. Emphasis will be placed on the creation of a highly personal, layered work, with all theatrical elements such as location, score, lighting, and costuming considered. Included in the Senior Project is a written explanation of the origins, impulses, and choices made, as well as an oral presentation that may include a question/answer session with viewers.

DANC 4993 Senior Project II (2 units)

The culmination of the creative work of the program. Building on the knowledge and skills developed throughout the program, students, with the support of faculty, will develop and complete a work of choreography to be presented to the community. Emphasis will be placed on the creation of a highly personal, layered work, with all theatrical elements such as location, score, lighting, and costuming considered. Included in the Senior Project is a written explanation of the origins, impulses, and choices made, as well as an oral presentation that may include a question/answer session with viewers.