

# Dance BA Catalog, 2025-26

## MAJOR/MINORS

- PROFESSOR: Jeffery Bullock (chair and director, M.F.A. program)
- VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR: Penelope Freeh (assistant director, M.F.A. program)

The Hollins dance department creates an environment of learning where dance is a part of academic life and is both physically and intellectually challenging. The program seeks to provide students with the necessary skills to participate, understand, and even thrive in the world of contemporary dance and academic study (ADD). Students prepare to reach beyond assumed limits of understanding about dance through course work and ongoing exposure to professionals and scholars in the field of modern and contemporary dance, combined with opportunities both on and off campus. By taking advantage of a variety of techniques, performance experiences, and in-depth creative process studies, students are prepared to transfer skills and knowledge in a variety of ways to meet the ever-changing needs and challenges of young artists in today's world.

Serious dance students attend the American Dance Festival at Duke University to study intensively during the summer and participate in the January Short Term Intensive dance experiences in New York. These experiences range from apprenticeships with professional companies to abroad study in countries such as France or the Czech Republic.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR A MAJOR IN DANCE (B.A.):

At least 46 credits

### STUDIO COURSES:

12 credits, with at least 8 credits from:

- DANC 225: Movement Studio II (4)
- DANC 325: Movement Studio III (4)
- Additional studio courses up to a total of 12 credits. DANC 225 and DANC 325 may be repeated for credit

### CORE COURSES:

28 credits

- Two dance history courses from
  - DANC 237: Dance History I (4)
  - DANC 239: Dance History II (4)
  - DANC 241: Dance History, Theory, and (Con)temporary Culture (4)
- DANC 240: Imaginative Thinking, Moving, and Crafting I (4)
- DANC 280: Composition I (4)
- DANC 340: Imaginative Thinking, Moving, and Crafting II (4)
- DANC 380: Composition II (4)
- DANC 470: Advanced Senior Seminar/Senior Project (2)
- DANC 480: Advanced Senior Seminar/Senior Project (2)
- or DANC 490: Senior Honors Project (4) – replacing DANC 470 (2) and DANC 480 (2)

### **ELECTIVE COURSES:**

- 6 credits of dance electives

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR A MINOR IN DANCE:**

24 credits

- 16 credits in areas of movement studio and/or performance
- 8 credits in areas of imaginative thinking, moving, and crafting and/or dance history

### **MUSICAL THEATRE PERFORMANCE CERTIFICATE**

The Musical Theatre Performance certificate is being phased out in 2023-24 to give us the opportunity to redesign this program. Currently declared students will be supported to the completion of this program, but we will not be accepting any new declarations for this certificate.

### **COURSES IN DANCE:**

#### **DANC 125: MOVEMENT STUDIO 1 (4)**

This class offers pathways to imagine the body's expressive potential and encourages naturalness and spontaneity of movement through dance. No experience necessary. May be repeated for credit. Offered Term 1. (CRE)

## **DANC 165: MUSICAL THEATRE DANCE STYLES (2)**

This studio course will expose students to various dance styles often found in musical theatre choreography, including jazz, ballet, and tap. Students will learn basic techniques, while acquiring a vocabulary and awareness of the styles frequently used in musical theatre. Also listed and described as MUS 165 and THEA 165. Open to first-year students.

## **DANC 175: INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF ARTS ADMINISTRATION (4)**

Also listed and described as ART/FILM/MUS/THEA 175. No prerequisite. (r)

## **DANC 225: MOVEMENT STUDIO II (4)**

This class is designed to challenge and expand the performer's understanding of movement possibilities. Both Western and non-Western dance techniques will be examined. Studio training will be supported by readings and/or viewings about dance artists from around the world. Students also build awareness through written responses to the work. May be repeated for credit. Open to first-year students. Prerequisite: DANC 125 for one term or permission. Offered Term 2. (CRE)

## **DANC 237: DANCE HISTORY I (4)**

A survey of the development of dance from its beginnings to the rise of ballet and to the revolutionary beginning of the 20th century. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. Offered Term 1 in rotation with DANC 239: Dance History II. (f, w, x, r, AES, DIV)

## **DANC 239: DANCE HISTORY AND THEORY II (4)**

Intensive study of new dance/performance works and choreographers/directors who articulate and embody the 20th-century dance movement, which includes the development of modern dance and the evolving ballet forms and traditions as we know them today. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. Offered Term 1 in rotation with DANC 237: Dance History I. Offered Term 1. (f, w, x, r, AES)

## **DANC 240: IMAGINATIVE THINKING, MOVING, AND CRAFTING I (4)**

Designed for students with or without previous movement training. Assignments encourage individual expression. Students begin to build a conceptual and kinesthetic awareness of creating and organizing from both traditional and nontraditional sources for expressive purposes. May be repeated for credit. Open to first-year students with strong interest in performance studies. Offered Term 2. (CRE)

## **DANC 241: DANCE HISTORY, THEORY, AND (CON)TEMPORARY CULTURE (4)**

This course directs the focus of dance history and theory towards (con)temporary society; researching and rethinking: dance histories, liveness and the temporary, protest art and performances/practices from a variety of artistic, cultural, and political vantage points. Topics for Dance History III will vary and change by semester according to the interest and expertise of faculty and/or guest artists. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite.

Offered Term 1 in rotation with DANC 237: Dance History I and DANC 239: Dance History II.

## **DANC 276: PHILANTHROPY AND THE ARTS (4)**

Also listed and described as ART/FILM/MUS/THEA 276. Offered Term 2.

## **DANC 280: DANCE COMPOSITION I (4)**

This course introduces foundational theories and practices for creating dance compositions. Through composition exercises and locating a variety of sources for movement invention, students will consider choreographic forms and conceptual frames informing choreographic studies. Compositional experiences will be shaped and guided by identifying and articulating aesthetic preferences, while developing viewing skills for giving and receiving critical feedback. Prerequisite: DANC 125, DANC 225 and/or DANC 325.

Offered Term 2.

## **DANC 290: INDEPENDENT STUDY (2 OR 4)**

Independent study conducted below the advanced level. Application must be made with faculty prior to registration. Offered any term.

## **DANC 325: MOVEMENT STUDIO III (4)**

This class is for advanced students. It is designed to integrate the ideas of phrasing, rhythmic clarity, and stylistic interpretation as a means of developing expressive range while moving through space. There will be strong emphasis on technical execution of movement, as well as integrating ideas of functional anatomy, kinesthetic awareness, and visualization. May be repeated for credit. Open to first-year students with permission.

Prerequisite: DANC 225 or audition. Offered both terms. (CRE)

## **DANC 340: IMAGINATIVE THINKING, MOVING, AND CRAFTING II (4)**

Extended exploration of theories, improvisations, and compositions of movement. May be repeated for credit. Open to first-year students. Prerequisite: DANC 240 or permission. (AES)

## **DANC 380: DANCE COMPOSITION II (4)**

This course is a continuation of theories and practices introduced in Dance Composition I. Compositional study will deepen to consider expansive and complex approaches to dance making. Dance Composition II will focus on

locating and nurturing individual choreographic voices, while expanding movement vocabulary, choreographic form, and expressive arrangement. Experiences will be shaped and guided by identifying and articulating aesthetic preferences, while developing skills for giving and receiving critical feedback. Prerequisite: DANC 280. Prerequisite: DANC 225 and/or DANC 325.

## **DANC 385: NEW WORK: RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE (4)**

Focusing on the creative process with a strong emphasis on the relationship between research, performance, and practice, this course will integrate students into a creative process culminating in the manifestation of a new dance/performance work. This course extends ways of considering and illuminating creative processes that evidence the choreographic. Directed and facilitated by department faculty, the final project will be shared in an informal/formal showing. Prerequisite: DANC 225 and 325. Corequisite: DANC 225 or 325. Open to first-year students with permission. Offered Term 1.

## **DANC 390: INDEPENDENT STUDY IN DANCE (2 OR 4)**

Independent study conducted at the advanced level. Application must be made with faculty prior to registration. Offered any term.

## **DANC 399: INTERNSHIP (4)**

May be proposed in any term. Application must be made with faculty prior to registration.

## **DANC 470: ADVANCED SENIOR SEMINAR (2)**

Seminar meets weekly as a group to discuss topics that relate directly to student projects. Original creative projects must be approved by the faculty. Creative work culminates in both written and performance work. During terms of enrollment in DANC 470, students must be enrolled in a movement studio practice course: DANC 225 (4 credits) or DANC 325 (4 credits). Offered Term 1.

## **DANC 480: ADVANCED SENIOR SEMINAR II (2)**

This seminar, continuing processes from DANC 470, works to support and mentor the student through a capstone thesis project. Time will be spent making connections between independent student/creative work and larger issues in the field: new research in dance studies, concerns of professional practice, alternative venues vs. accepted larger

performance spaces, and the role(s) of dance in the US and abroad. This class is designed to meet the needs of each student on these projects. During terms of enrollment in DANC 470, students must be enrolled in a movement studio practice course: DANC 225 (4 credits) or DANC 325 (4 credits). Offered Term 2.

**DANC 490: ADVANCED SENIOR SEMINAR/SENIOR HONORS PROJECT (2, 2)**

Seminar as above. During terms of enrollment in DANC 470, students must be enrolled in a movement studio practice course: DANC 225 (4 credits) or DANC 325 (4 credits). Requires year-long project by invitation of the faculty.