

Dance Coursework

Syllabi

Each course instructor must supply enrolled students with a course syllabus in a timely manner that meets the requirements consistent with University of Minnesota policies and practice. For more information on this go to:

http://www.policy.umn.edu/groups/senate/documents/policy/syllabusrequirements_pol.cfm

Dance Program Attendance Policy

1. Class attendance is essential in all dance program courses unless otherwise indicated in the syllabus. The majority of coursework takes place in the classroom.
2. With few exceptions, there are no make-up classes in dance program courses, particularly in studio based courses in which in-class activity makes up the primary activity of any particular course.
3. Authorized Dance Program or University activities do not count as absences.
4. Promptness is defined as being in the studio or classroom, ready to work, at the starting time of the class. Anything later than that is a tardy. Three tardies may equal one absence.
5. Partial classes may count as absences. Please note that chronic partial class attendance and/or tardiness will impact a student's individual grading. A grade of 'N' or 'F' will be given for the course if absences equal 20% or more of the total class meetings.

Grading

The Dance Program Grading Policy is consistent with University of Minnesota grading policy. For more information go to:

http://www.policy.umn.edu/groups/senate/documents/policy/gradingtranscripts_pol.cfm

Dance Incomplete Policy and Guidelines

An Incomplete grade 'I' is assigned at the discretion of the instructor when, due to extraordinary circumstances, a student is prevented from completing the work of the course on time. A student should not presume an incomplete will be given if he or she cannot establish extraordinary or extenuating circumstances which led to her or his inability to satisfactorily complete a course's requirements.

An Incomplete requires a written agreement between the instructor and student, an 'Agreement for Completion of Incomplete Work', including specific expectations, assignments and deadlines for completing coursework for a grade. If a student does not fulfill the agreement for completion of incomplete work, the "I" grade will be change to an "F" grade.

This policy complies with relevant University of Minnesota grading policy. For more information go to:

Dance Class Levels and Placement Policies

1. All multi-leveled dance technique courses, including Modern, Ballet, Jazz, and African Diasporic Movement above level one, require a placement audition.
2. Dance major-leveled technique courses – level three and above – require an audition. Level two (non major-leveled) courses do not fulfill the prerequisite for level three technique courses.
3. Technique placement levels are valid for one year (two semesters) from placement audition date.
4. Technique placement for Dance major-leveled courses are evaluated on a semester-to-semester and annual basis by Dance faculty.
5. Students who disagree with the placement assessment of individual or collected faculty are encouraged to speak with their faculty and are welcome to audition at a scheduled group placement audition for evaluation by the entire adjudication faculty.
6. Placement in Modern 7 and Modern 9 will be determined by in-class placement and modern technique faculty adjudicator recommendation at the start of the academic year. All students enrolled in Modern 6 and 8 during spring semester register for Modern 5 in the subsequent fall semester.
7. Students who wish to take a Dance course at a level different from faculty placement recommendations or suggested course sequencing (either above or below their recommended course level) must consult both the instructor of the course they wish to take and the instructor of the course for which they are recommended/sequenced. Students should communicate the rationale for desired change with both instructors; requests may be shared with appropriate curriculum heads, the Dance faculty advisor or the Director of Dance. A request to participate in a different level or take class with another instructor will be evaluated based on available course seats or class size, impact on pedagogy, and/or impact on a student's graduation planning and progression.
8. University Dance Theatre casting may impact technique classes to allow dancers to take class with an artist in residence when appropriate for casting. Decisions regarding individual students' class changes will be made by University Dance Theatre Director in consultation with the modern technique faculty and the Director of Dance.

Dance Registration and Permission Number Policies

Dance major students receive registration priority for DNCE courses, particularly those required for successful and timely completion of their major program. Non-Dance major students may register for DNCE courses for which they meet prerequisites and that have open seats. These processes are guided by University of Minnesota registration calendar. The course prerequisite "audition" means participation in a Dance Major Technique Placement of Major audition for placement levels in Modern, Ballet, Jazz or African Diasporic Movement. Information on auditions is online at dance.umn.edu. All students who register for DNCE courses must meet course prerequisites. The course instructor is the final authority on who is or is not permitted to enroll in the course. The Dance Program Specialist distributes permission numbers for all DNCE courses unless otherwise arranged with individual instructors.

For fall semester courses:

- Queued registration begins in early April at which time Dance major students exclusively may request and receive permission numbers via the Dance Program Permission Number Request Form at dance.umn.edu. Non-Dance major students may not register for major required DNCE courses at this time.
- Seats for incoming Dance major students are set aside based on results of the December and February auditions, and anticipated outcome of August/September audition.
- Open registration begins in late April, at which time non-Dance major students may request and receive permission numbers via the Dance Program Permission Number Request Form at dance.umn.edu.

For spring semester courses:

- Queued registration begins in early November at which time Dance major students exclusively may request and receive permission numbers via the Dance Program Permission Number Request Form at dance.umn.edu. Non-Dance major students may not register for major required DNCE courses at this time.
- Open registration begins in early December, at which time non-Dance major students may request and receive permission numbers via the Dance Program Permission Number Request Form at dance.umn.edu.

For DNCE courses that do not have prerequisites that are full, students are encouraged to sign up on the wait list or attend class the first day to speak directly with the instructor. After the first day, instructors provide the Dance Program Specialist names of students who have permission to register. It is the responsibility of the student to either complete the Dance Program Permission Number Request Form at dance.umn.edu or contact the Dance Program Specialist to request a permission number.

Registration Deadlines

Registration deadlines can be found at:

<http://onestop.umn.edu/registration/change/index.html>

Dance Course Prerequisites and Sequencing

Dance Program coursework has been designed to be completed over the span of four years. Dance major students are strongly encouraged to utilize the BFA or BA four year plans and individual planning worksheets completed by the Dance Faculty Advisor at the time of the submitted Dance Major Form, along with online planning tools such as Graduation Planner (http://onestop.umn.edu/degree_planning/graduation_planner.html)

Dance majors are expected to take required Dance coursework in the designed timeline, sequencing and schedule.

Dance students are required to take sequential courses in the stated order, successfully fulfilling the noted prerequisites necessary to move on to the next course level. Core curricular coursework in Dance, including academic and composition courses, may not be taken out of sequential order or without completing stated prerequisites with the exception of extraordinary circumstances in consultation with the appropriate teaching faculty and approval by the Director of Dance.

Injuries and Illnesses

Injuries that prevent participation in the requirements of a studio-based course will be evaluated on a situation –specific basis considering the advice of a student’s medical professional(s), semester timeframe and the potential for a student to complete the requirements of the course. An injured student should continue to observe a course in which she or he is enrolled unless the injury makes that impractical or risks further injuring the student. A student who sustains an injury that will cause her/him to miss more than 20% of the classes may be encouraged to withdraw from the course for medical reasons.

Out of consideration of classmates and instructors, students who are ill with an infectious condition should not attend class.