

DANCE MAJOR

Admissions

Admission Requirements and Procedures

Students interested in the Ailey/Fordham B.F.A. program are expected to meet the following general criteria:

- Superior talent and potential for a performing career as a dance artist, and good technique training in modern dance and classical ballet
- Evidence of academic ability as described in the Admission chapter of this bulletin

Candidates should complete the following admission procedures:

- Submit the dance application to the Ailey School by November 1 and the academic application to the Fordham University Office of Admission also by November 1. Applicants should apply for need- and merit-based financial assistance by February 1. Those applicants with questions may contact the Office of Undergraduate Admission at enroll@fordham.edu or 718-817-4000.
- Take the dance audition by invitation in New York or another city in January, February, or March.

While this program does not have a definitive age limit, B.F.A. students are expected to be of an appropriate age to be able to participate fully in all aspects of the program and accomplish the rigorous dance requirements for graduation within the established time frame. Students who wish to transfer into the B.F.A. program must satisfy the dance and academic criteria for advanced standing at both the Ailey School and Fordham University. The program's four-year length of study may be shortened to three years in the case of very advanced dance students with strong previous undergraduate records. Ailey and Fordham are committed to excellence through diversity. Male-identifying students and students of color are especially encouraged to apply.

Students in good academic standing may pursue a second major or add a minor to their course of study. Many students have pursued African and African American Studies, economics, English, math, new media & digital design, psychology, etc. However, students must continue to prioritize the requirements of the Ailey/Fordham B.F.A. in Dance program.

Students with dance potential who do not meet the B.F.A. admission criteria are encouraged to audition for the Ailey School's other professional training programs and to reapply to the B.F.A. program.

CIP Code

50.0301 - Dance, General.

You can use the CIP code to learn more about career paths associated with this field of study and, for international students, possible post-graduation visa extensions. Learn more about CIP codes and other information resources.

Requirements

Please note that each course number describes a course that runs for one semester, either fall or spring.

Academic Courses

Course	Title	Credits
Core Curriculum ¹		
ENGL 1102	Composition II	3
ENGL 2000	Texts and Contexts	3
THEO 1000	Faith and Critical Reason	3
PHIL 1000	Philosophy of Human Nature	3
Understanding Historical Change (HC attribute)		3
Social Science (SSCI attribute)		
Foreign Language ²		6 to 8
2 courses in any modern or classical language or one advanced course for advanced language students		
Advanced Disciplinary Study (one of the following):		3
PHIL 3000	Philosophical Ethics	
Sacred Texts and Traditions (STXT attribute)		
Values Seminar (VAL attribute)		
Dance Academics		
DANC 1720	Anatomy and Kinesiology I	6
& DANC 1721	and Anatomy and Kinesiology II	
MUSC 1210	Music for Dancers I	6
& MUSC 1211	and Music for Dancers II	
DANC 2001	World Dance History	6
& DANC 2010	and Black Tradition in American Dance	
THEA 4301	Performance and Art	3
Electives		
Any two liberal arts courses ³		6 to 8

¹ Specific information about core requirements can be found on the following pages: Composition II; Texts & Contexts; Faith & Critical Reason; Philosophy of Human Nature; Understanding Historical Change; Social Science; Philosophical Ethics; Sacred Texts and Traditions; Values Seminar

² More information about the foreign language requirement can be found on the Fordham website. When referencing this page, please note that B.F.A. students must only complete two courses of a foreign language; a single five-credit, 1001-level course of a foreign language also fulfills the requirement.

³ To view possible liberal arts courses, visit department pages.

Dance Technique and Creative Courses

In their first year, all students are required to take ballet and either Horton or modern daily. Thereafter, students are required to take ballet, Horton, and modern each semester, reaching the most advanced level in a minimum of two of these three major techniques during the senior year.

Course	Title	Credits
Major Dance Techniques		
<i>Ballet</i>		
DANC 1501	Ballet I	6
& DANC 1502	and Ballet II	
DANC 2510	Ballet III	6
& DANC 2511	and Ballet IV	
DANC 3501	Ballet V	6
& DANC 3502	and Ballet VI	

DANC 4510 & DANC 4511	Ballet VII and Ballet VIII	6
<i>Horton</i>		
DANC 1601 & DANC 1602	Horton I and Horton II	6
DANC 2610 & DANC 2611	Horton III and Horton IV	4
DANC 3601 & DANC 3602	Horton V and Horton VI	4
DANC 4610 & DANC 4611	Horton VII and Horton VIII	4
<i>Modern</i>		
DANC 1701 & DANC 1702	Modern I and Modern II	5
DANC 2710 & DANC 2711	Modern III and Modern IV	4
DANC 3701 & DANC 3702	Modern V and Modern VI	4
<i>Pointe or Jumps and Turns</i>		
DANC 2530 or DANC 1520	Pointe I Jumps and Turns I	0
DANC 2531 or DANC 1521	Pointe II Jumps and Turns II	0
DANC 2535 or DANC 2520	Pointe III Jumps and Turns III	0
DANC 2536 or DANC 2521	Pointe IV Jumps and Turns IV	0
<i>Partnering</i>		
One of the following courses:		1
DANC 3740	Modern Partnering I	
DANC 1911	Improvisation II (effective Spring 2021)	
DANC 4950	New Directions Choreography Lab (effective Spring 2021)	
Other Dance Techniques		
DANC 2420 & DANC 2425	Jazz I and Jazz II	4
DANC 2430	West African Dance	2
Somatic Courses		
Select one of the following:		2
DANC 1620 or DANC 1621	Body Conditioning I Body Conditioning II	
DANC 1630 or DANC 1631	Barre a Terre I Barre a Terre II	
DANC 1640 or DANC 1641	Yoga I Yoga II	
DANC 1650 or DANC 1651	Gyrokinesis I Gyrokinesis II	
Creative Courses		
DANC 1910	Improvisation	1
DANC 1920 & DANC 1921	Dance Composition I and Dance Composition II	4
DANC 2021 & DANC 2022	Dance Composition III and Dance Composition IV	4
Performance		

DANC 3410 & DANC 3411	Repertory Workshops I and Repertory Workshops II	4
DANC 4810 & DANC 4811	Senior Project in Performance and Senior Project in Performance	6
Capstone		
DANC 4001	Senior Seminar	3
DANC 4040	Dance Methodology	2

Learning Goals

The Ailey/Fordham B.F.A. in Dance program trains students to hone their professional skills, prepare for life as a professional dancer, and be among the vanguard of the finest and most versatile dancers. Students follow a diverse curriculum that includes a carefully designed sequence of dance and liberal arts courses, encouraging students to achieve their artistic and academic potential.

Students will be exposed to a variety of academic disciplines that will help them cultivate the critical intelligence and creative imagination necessary for them to flourish as artists and humans. They will be immersed in diverse academic learning experiences that encourage curiosity, animate broad and deep engagement, develop writing, research, and analytical skills, and foster a commitment to social justice.

Students will develop a deep scientific understanding of the body and its movements in their study of anatomy and kinesiology. Students will also garner a broad understanding of the world history of dance and music, and in particular the important history and legacy of African and African American dance, music, and other cultural forms that inform the teachings and ethos of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and its Ailey School.

Availability

The major in dance is available at Fordham College at Lincoln Center (FCLC).

Sample Curriculum

Year 1

Term 1		Credits
DANC 1501	Ballet I	3
DANC 1601	Horton I	3
DANC 1630	Barre a Terre I	2
DANC 1910	Improvisation	1
DANC 2530	Pointe I	0
DANC 1720	Anatomy and Kinesiology I	3
ENGL 1102	Composition II	3
HIST 1100	Understanding Historical Change: American History	3

Credits

18

Term 2

DANC 1502	Ballet II	3
DANC 1602	Horton II	3
DANC 2430	West African Dance	2
DANC 2531	Pointe II	0
DANC 1721	Anatomy and Kinesiology II	3
ENGL 2000	Texts and Contexts	3

SOCI 1025	Sociology of American Culture (Social Science Core)	3
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Credits	17
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Year 2**Term 1**

DANC 2510	Ballet III	3
DANC 2610	Horton III	2
DANC 1701	Modern I	2
DANC 2535	Pointe III	0
DANC 2420	Jazz I	2
DANC 3540	Ballet Partnering I	1
DANC 2021	Dance Composition III	2
MUSC 1210	Music for Dancers I	3
THEO 1000	Faith and Critical Reason	3

Credits	18
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Term 2

DANC 2511	Ballet IV	3
DANC 2611	Horton IV	2
DANC 1702	Modern II	3
DANC 2536	Pointe IV	0
DANC 2425	Jazz II	2
DANC 1921	Dance Composition II	2
MUSC 1211	Music for Dancers II	3
PHIL 1000	Philosophy of Human Nature	3
AFAM 1650	Black Popular Culture (Liberal Arts Elective)	4

Credits	22
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Year 3**Term 1**

DANC 3501	Ballet V	3
DANC 3601	Horton V	2
DANC 2710	Modern III	2
DANC 3410	Repertory Workshops I	2
DANC 2021	Dance Composition III	2
DANC 2001	World Dance History	3
SPAN 1001	Introduction to Spanish I (Foreign Language Core; equivalent to two courses)	5

Credits	19
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Term 2

DANC 3502	Ballet VI	3
DANC 3602	Horton VI	2
DANC 2711	Modern IV	2
DANC 3411	Repertory Workshops II	2
DANC 2022	Dance Composition IV	2
DANC 3740	Modern Partnering I	1
DANC 2010	Black Tradition in American Dance	3
THEA 4301	Performance and Art	3
PHIL 3000	Philosophical Ethics (Advanced Disciplinary Study)	3

Credits	21
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Year 4**Term 1**

DANC 4510	Ballet VII	3
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DANC 4610	Horton VII	2
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DANC 3701	Modern V	2
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DANC 2650	Dunham Technique	2
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DANC 4810	Senior Project in Performance	3
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DANC 4001	Senior Seminar	3
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DANC 4040	Dance Methodology	2
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DANC 4000	Art and Ethics (Senior Values Seminar)	4
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Credits	21
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Term 2

DANC 4511	Ballet VIII	3
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DANC 4611	Horton VIII	2
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DANC 3702	Modern VI	2
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DANC 4030	Limon Technique	2
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DANC 3499	Independent Study Choreography	2
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DANC 4811	Senior Project in Performance	3
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VART 1135	Visual Thinking (Liberal Arts Elective)	3
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Credits	17
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Total Credits	153
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