

DANCE - B.F.A.

College of the Arts

School of Theatre and Dance - Dance Division
www.kent.edu/theatredance

About This Program

Pursue your passion for dance with the Dance B.F.A. program. Develop your skills as a performer and choreographer and prepare for a career in the dance industry. [Read more...](#)

Contact Information

- **Tony Hardin** | ahard14@kent.edu
- Speak with an Advisor
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
 - In person
- **Location:**
 - Kent Campus

Applications to the B.F.A. in Dance are not being accepted starting with spring 2026 admission term.

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

Art, drama, and music teachers, postsecondary

- 5.6% faster than the average
- 116,300 number of jobs
- \$69,690 potential earnings

Choreographers

- 14.0% much faster than the average
- 5,500 number of jobs
- \$43,680 potential earnings

Dancers

- 2.3% slower than the average
- 11,400 number of jobs
- \$N/A potential earnings

Accreditation

National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD)

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

Admission Requirements

Applications to the B.F.A. in Dance are not being accepted starting with spring 2026 admission term.

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students who graduated from high school three or more years ago.

Admission to this major is selective. Students must audition before being admitted to the Dance major. More information about dance auditions can be found on the school website.

International Students: All international students must provide proof of proficiency of the English language (unless they meet specific exceptions) through the submission of an English language proficiency test score or by completing English language classes at Kent State's English as a Second Language Center before entering their program. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
DAN 27074	DANCE COMPOSITION I	3
DAN 27150	KINESIOLOGY FOR DANCERS	3
DAN 37035	DANCE COMPOSITION II	2
DAN 37070	DANCE COMPOSITION III	2
DAN 37072	DANCE AND TECHNOLOGY	2
DAN 37092	KENT DANCE ENSEMBLE (ELR) (taken six times) ¹	6
or DAN 37192	DANCE PRACTICUM - PERFORMANCE (ELR)	
DAN 37292	DANCE PRACTICUM - TEACHING (ELR)	1
DAN 37392	DANCE PRACTICUM - CHOREOGRAPHY (ELR)	1
DAN 47050	BALLET 4	1-3
DAN 47051	MODERN 4	1-3
DAN 47060	PROFESSIONAL ASPECTS IN DANCE	2
DAN 47063	DANCE HISTORY I	3
DAN 47070	JAZZ 4	2
DAN 47163	DANCE HISTORY II (WIC) ²	3
DAN 47299	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS CAPSTONE (ELR)	1-3
MUS 22111	UNDERSTANDING WESTERN MUSIC (KFA)	3
or MUS 22121	MUSIC AS A WORLD PHENOMENON (KFA)	
NUTR 23511	SCIENCE OF HUMAN NUTRITION (KBS)	3
THEA 11725	FUNDAMENTALS OF THEATRE DESIGN AND PRODUCTION	3
Dance (DAN) Upper-Division Elective (30000 or 40000 level)		
Ballet Electives, choose from the following: ³		
DAN 17011	BALLET 1	
DAN 27050	BALLET 2	
DAN 37069	BALLET 3	
DAN 47050	BALLET 4	
Modern Electives, choose from the following: ³		
DAN 17002	MODERN 1	12
DAN 27051	MODERN 2	
DAN 37051	MODERN 3	
DAN 47051	MODERN 4	

Jazz Electives, choose from the following: ^{3,4}		6	critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.
DAN 17005	JAZZ 1		
DAN 27070	JAZZ 2		
DAN 37148	JAZZ 3		
DAN 47070	JAZZ 4		
Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)			
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1	
Kent Core Composition		6	
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning		3	
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (minimum one course from each)		6	
Kent Core Social Sciences (must be from two disciplines)		6	
Kent Core Basic Sciences (must include one laboratory)		3-4	
Kent Core Additional		6	
General Electives (total credit hours depends on earning 120 credit hours, including 39 upper-division credit hours)		16	
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		120	
¹ Students must take a minimum six semesters of DAN 37092 or DAN 37192. Maximum 8 credit hours of DAN 37192 may be applied toward major requirements.			
² A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.			
³ Students must be enrolled in a minimum of one 90-minute daily dance technique course each semester. Promotion to the next level of technique is at the discretion of the dance faculty. Students may take technique courses an unlimited number of times for credit toward their program requirements.			
⁴ Students may substitute a musical theatre dance style course for any of the four required semesters of jazz with approval.			
Progression Requirements			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion to the next level is at the discretion of the dance faculty. Students must be enrolled in daily 90-minute dance technique courses each semester until graduation. All ballet and modern courses must be taken for a minimum 2 credit hours. Students enter on a probationary status and must maintain GPA requirements and professional standards as indicated in the student handbook in order to be allowed to audition for concerts and progress through to graduation. All students in the Dance major must audition for and perform when cast in all Dance Division concerts. Students may petition for an exception due to either injury or an approved performance opportunity outside of Kent State. 			
Graduation Requirements			
Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA		
2.500	2.000		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students must participate in dance faculty juries and an annual review. Successful completion of DAN 47299 (culminating experience) is required. 			
Roadmap			
This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. Students will work with their advisor to develop a sequence based on their academic goals and history. Courses designated as			
Semester One			
DAN 37092	KENT DANCE ENSEMBLE (ELR) or DAN 37192	1	or DANCE PRACTICUM - PERFORMANCE (ELR)
NUTR 23511	SCIENCE OF HUMAN NUTRITION (KBS)	3	
THEA 11725	FUNDAMENTALS OF THEATRE DESIGN AND PRODUCTION	3	
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1	
Jazz Elective		2	
Kent Core Requirement		3	
Kent Core Requirement		3	
Credit Hours		16	
Semester Two			
DAN 37092	KENT DANCE ENSEMBLE (ELR) or DAN 37192	1	or DANCE PRACTICUM - PERFORMANCE (ELR)
DAN 47063	DANCE HISTORY I	3	
Ballet Electives		3	
Jazz Elective		2	
Modern Electives		3	
Kent Core Requirement		3	
Credit Hours		15	
Semester Three			
DAN 27074	DANCE COMPOSITION I	3	
DAN 37092	KENT DANCE ENSEMBLE (ELR) or DAN 37192	1	or DANCE PRACTICUM - PERFORMANCE (ELR)
MUS 22111	UNDERSTANDING WESTERN MUSIC (KFA) or MUS 22121	3	or MUSIC AS A WORLD PHENOMENON (KFA)
Ballet Electives		3	
Modern Electives		3	
Dance (DAN) Upper-Division Elective (30000 or 40000 level)		1-3	
Credit Hours		14	
Semester Four			
DAN 27150	KINESIOLOGY FOR DANCERS	3	
DAN 37035	DANCE COMPOSITION II	2	
DAN 37092	KENT DANCE ENSEMBLE (ELR) or DAN 37192	1	or DANCE PRACTICUM - PERFORMANCE (ELR)
Ballet Electives		3	
Jazz Elective		2	
Modern Electives		3	
Credit Hours		14	
Semester Five			
DAN 37070	DANCE COMPOSITION III	2	
DAN 37092	KENT DANCE ENSEMBLE (ELR) or DAN 37192	1	or DANCE PRACTICUM - PERFORMANCE (ELR)
DAN 47070	JAZZ 4	2	
Ballet Electives		3	
Modern Electives		3	
Kent Core Requirement		3	
Credit Hours		14	
Semester Six			
DAN 37072	DANCE AND TECHNOLOGY	2	

DAN 37392	DANCE PRACTICUM - CHOREOGRAPHY (ELR)	1	Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) (min one course each)	9
DAN 47050	BALLET 4 or or MODERN 4	1-3	Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) (must be from two disciplines)	6
DAN 47051			Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) (must include one laboratory)	6-7
Kent Core Requirement		3	Kent Core Additional (KADL)	6
Kent Core Requirement		3	Total Credit Hours:	36-37
General Electives		6		
	Credit Hours	16		
Semester Seven				
DAN 37292	DANCE PRACTICUM - TEACHING (ELR)	1		
DAN 47050	BALLET 4 or or MODERN 4	1-3		
DAN 47051				
DAN 47060	PROFESSIONAL ASPECTS IN DANCE	2		
DAN 47163	DANCE HISTORY II (WIC)	3		
Kent Core Requirement		3		
General Electives		5		
	Credit Hours	15		
Semester Eight				
DAN 37092	KENT DANCE ENSEMBLE (ELR) or DAN 37192 (ELR)	1		
DAN 47299	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS CAPSTONE (ELR)	1-3		
Kent Core Requirement		3		
Kent Core Requirement		3		
Kent Core Requirement		3		
General Electives		5		
	Credit Hours	16		
	Minimum Total Credit Hours:	120		

University Requirements

All students in a bachelor's degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements. Please see Program Requirements for details.

Flashes 101 (UC 10001)	1 credit hour
Course is not required for students with 30+ transfer credits (excluding College Credit Plus) or age 21+ at time of admission.	
Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)	varies
Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience.	
Kent Core (see table below)	36-37 credit hours
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course
Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.	
Upper-Division Requirement	39 credit hours
Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate.	
Total Credit Hour Requirement	120 credit hours

Kent Core Requirements

Kent Core Composition (KCMP)	6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR)	3

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Perform a wide range of dance works with an intentional focus on the inclusion of Western and non-Western dance forms.
2. Articulate and communicate an embodied understanding of diverse dance forms; their histories, including the role of oppression; and their relationship and representation in the contemporary era of dance.
3. Articulate and demonstrate dance theory, aesthetics, pedagogy and choreography.
4. Create, revise, reflect and present choreography.

Program Policies

Physical Activity and ROTC Courses

No more than 4 credit hours of Physical Activity, Wellness and Sport (PWS) courses or the first 16 credit hours of ROTC courses—Aerospace Studies (ASTU) and Military Studies (MSCI)—may apply to the 120 credit hours required for graduation.

Veterans who have completed a minimum of one year of active duty may receive PWS credit for military basic training according to branch of service, as follows:

- Army and Marine Corps, 3 credit hours;
- Navy and Coast Guard, 2 credit hours;
- Air Force, 1 credit hour.

Requirement Audit

Upon completion of 60 credit hours, each student is required to contact the College of the Arts Advising office to obtain a current evaluation of progress toward completion of the student's chosen degree program. Requirement evaluations are not a substitute for meeting with a faculty advisor. Students may access GPS (Graduation Planning System) audit through their FlashLine account which provides them with information about their academic progress. Questions about GPS audits are answered in the College of the Arts Advising office.

Full Description

The Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Dance develops technically sound, intellectually diverse and creatively expressive dance artists who can contribute significantly to the art form and society. The curriculum provides students with opportunities for strong and varied technical preparation in contemporary dance forms, including modern, ballet, jazz and improvisation. Opportunities for performance and choreography, along with dance theory courses, complete a degree focused on the artist/scholar.