Dance (DAN)

Minor in Dance

The Center for Dance, Movement and Somatic Learning

College of Arts and Sciences

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The minor in dance provides an approach to the educational experience of dance that integrates movement, thought, sensation, and feeling. Through the use of a global lens, students build upon traditions from numerous dance cultures and use them as a catalyst for performance, experimentation, research and learning.

Stony Brook University’s Dance Program enables and encourages students to move toward their human potential through studies in movement and dance. Through active experiences in theory, technique, creative process, performance, and craft, students are given opportunities to work, play, explore, and delight in the action and discipline of embodied thinking and dance performance.

The curriculum offers courses that encourage students to embrace a life-long journey through intellectual, creative, and performance challenges. The dance minor examines the practice and study of movement and dance, with the detail of technique, form, content, structure, shape, energy, creativity, craft, design, rhythm, and dynamic quality. But the goal of the study is to enable students to become more fully human, with all of the intelligence, discipline, playfulness, and purpose necessary to inspire work in a number of disciplines and career paths.

Past dance minors have embarked on careers in performance, company management, research, business, teaching, and numerous other contributions to society.

Requirements for the Minor in Dance (DAN)

All courses offered for the minor must be passed with a letter grade of C or higher. At least 12 of the 24 credits must be taken at Stony Brook.

Completion of the minor requires 24 credits.

1. DAN 102 Introduction to World Dance Cultures
2. DAN 264 Movement Awareness and Analysis
3. One of the following:
   DAN 164 Tap Technique and History
   DAN 165 Contemporary Dance I
   DAN 166 Ballet Technique I
   DAN 167 Jazz Dance Technique I
   DAN 168 World Dance I
4. One of the following:
   DAN 365 Contemporary Dance II
   DAN 366 Ballet Technique II
   DAN 367 Jazz Dance Technique II
   DAN 369 World Dance II
5. One of the following:
   DAN 465 Contemporary Dance III
   DAN 467 Jazz Dance Technique III
6. DAN 368 Dance Improvisation
7. DAN 353 Special Topics in Dance Performance*
8. DAN 400 Performance Dance Ensemble

*Note: Only the 3-credit version of DAN 353 will fulfill the requirement for the minor.
DAN

Dance

DAN 167 - D: Jazz Dance Technique I
The fundamentals, technique, and history of jazz dance. Basic principles of alignment, centering, placement, and jazz technique are covered. The historical component includes various styles within the field of jazz dance, individual artists who have contributed to the field, and the place of jazz dance in society and culture at large. Formerly offered as THR 167. Not for credit in addition to THR 167.

3 credits

DAN 168 - D: World Dance I
An introduction to dance traditions around the globe. Cultural values, religious beliefs, and social systems are investigated for their influence on the dance. Formerly offered as THR 168. Not for credit in addition to THR 168.

3 credits

DAN 169 - J: World Dance II
The fundamentals, technique, and history of a specific non-Western dance style. Lectures cover the origins of the dance form, the people who perform the dance, and the place of the dance in society and culture. Studio training includes the physicality of the dance. May be repeated as the topic changes. Formerly offered as THR 369. Not for credit in addition to THR 369.

Prerequisites: Completion of D.E.C. categories A, B, and D

3 credits

DAN 165 - D: Contemporary Dance I
The fundamentals, technique, and history of modern dance. Basic principles of alignment, centering, placement, and modern technique are introduced. The historical component includes various styles within the field of modern dance, individual artists who have contributed to the field, and the place of modern dance in society and culture at large. Formerly offered as THR 164. Not for credit in addition to THR 164.

3 credits

DAN 166 - D: Ballet Technique I
The fundamentals, technique, and history of ballet. The course covers the development of body alignment through stretching and strengthening exercises; simple barre exercises, center floor combinations, and movement phrases to music. The historical component includes the development of ballet from the 15th century to the present day. Various styles, companies, techniques, and individual artists are discussed. Formerly offered as THR 166. Not for credit in addition to THR 166.

3 credits

DAN 164 - D: Tap Technique and History
The fundamentals, technique, and history of tap dance. Basic technique, time step, and combinations are covered. The historical component traces the development of tap from its roots in the music of jazz to present-day expressions. Various traditional styles, individual artists, and current trends are discussed. Formerly offered as THR 102. Not for credit in addition to THR 102.

3 credits

DAN 162 - D: Intro to World Dance Cultures
An introduction to the properties and elements of dance in order to understand and appreciate it in a variety of contexts. Dance is considered as art, recreation, social interaction, and entertainment through investigation of societal attitudes, cultural norms, and creative styles of individuals. Formerly offered as THR 102. Not for credit in addition to THR 102.

3 credits

DAN 264 - D: Movement Awareness and Analysis
A course covering the fundamentals of movement, linking theory and techniques from the disciplines of dance and theatre. Using anatomical principles to understand effective use of the skeletal and muscular systems, students are guided, through an interplay of theory and practical work, toward efficient posture and movement habits and test the presence, action, and performance necessary for effective communication and the development of a physical language. Formerly offered as THR 264. Not for credit in addition to THR 264.

3 credits

DAN 353: Special Topics in Dance Performance
A concentration in one aspect of dance. May be repeated as the topic changes. Formerly offered as THR 353.

Prerequisite: Permission of instructor

1-3 credits

DAN 365: Contemporary Dance II
Further development of modern dance training, devoted to improvement of style, technique, and physical and mental focus. Formerly offered as THR 365. Not for credit in addition to THR 365.

Prerequisite: DAN 165 (or the former THR 165)

3 credits

DAN 366: Ballet Technique II
Further development of ballet training, devoted to improving style, technique, physical and mental focus. Formerly offered as THR 366. Not for credit in addition to THR 366.

Prerequisite: DAN 365 (or the former THR 365)

3 credits

DAN 367: Jazz Dance Technique II
Further development of jazz dance training, devoted to improvement of style, technique, and physical and mental focus. Formerly offered as THR 367. Not for credit in addition to THR 367.

Prerequisite: DAN 167 (or the former THR 167)

3 credits

DAN 368: Dance Improvisation
The practice of dance and movement investigation through discipline, spontaneity, and awareness. Skills in improvisation will be developed through creative projects and experiments in dance. Formerly offered as THR 368. Not for credit in addition to THR 368.

Prerequisite: DAN 165, 166, or 167 (or the former THR 165, 166, or 167)

3 credits

DAN 369 - J: World Dance II
The fundamentals, technique, and history of a specific non-Western dance style. Lectures cover the origins of the dance form, the people who perform the dance, and the place of the dance in society and culture. Studio training includes the physicality of the dance. May be repeated as the topic changes. Formerly offered as THR 369. Not for credit in addition to THR 369.

Prerequisites: Completion of D.E.C.

3 credits

DAN 400: Performance Dance Ensemble
Concentrated development of dance technique and performance skills through rehearsal and presentation of choreography. May be repeated once. Formerly offered as THR 400. Not for credit in addition to THR 400.

Prerequisites: Audition; permission of instructor

3 credits

DAN 465: Contemporary Dance III
Advanced study in modern dance techniques, combining dance training, compositional skills, and performance technique. Formerly offered as THR 465. Not for credit in addition to THR 465.

Prerequisite: DAN 365 (or the former THR 365)
DAN 467: Jazz Dance Technique III
Advanced study of jazz techniques, combining dance training, compositional skills, and performance techniques. Formerly offered as THR 467. Not for credit in addition to THR 467.

Prerequisite: DAN 367 (or the former THR 367)

3 credits

DAN 468: Choreography
Training in the craft of choreography, the creation of dance, using applied dance techniques, improvisational tools, perceptual skills, and investigations. Students create studies and original dance compositions and critique the various developmental stages in order to modify and expand their creations. The theory presented contains basic aesthetic concepts that contribute to the structure and form of dance. Formerly offered as THR 468.

Not for credit in addition to THR 468.

Prerequisite: DAN 465 or 467 (or the former THR 465 or 467)

3 credits

DAN 475: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum I
Work with a faculty member as an assistant in one of the faculty member's regularly scheduled classes. The student is required to attend all the classes, do all the regularly assigned work, and meet with the faculty member at regularly scheduled times to discuss the intellectual and pedagogical matters relating to the course. Not for major credit. Not for credit in addition to THR 475.

Prerequisites: Dance minor; U3 or U4 standing; permission of instructor and department

3 credits, S/U grading

DAN 476: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum II
Work with a faculty member as an assistant in one of the faculty member's regularly scheduled classes. Students assume greater responsibility in such areas as leading discussions and analyzing results of tests that have already been graded. The course in which the student is permitted to work as a teaching assistant must be different from the course in which he or she previously served. Not for major credit. Not for credit in addition to THR 476.

Prerequisites: DAN 475; permission of instructor and department

3 credits, S/U grading

DAN 487: Independent Research
Designing and developing a research project selected by the student in consultation with a faculty member. May be repeated.

Prerequisite: Permission of department

0-6 credits

DAN 488: Internship
Participation in a professional organization that creates and presents public performances, creates and presents, to the public, works in the media arts, or concerns itself with the management or funding of arts organizations. Students are required to submit written progress reports to their department sponsors and a final written report to the department faculty. Supplementary reading may be assigned. May be repeated up to a limit of 12 credits. Not for credit in addition to THR 488.

Prerequisite: Permission of department

0-6 credits, S/U grading