



Dance Department's 2016-17 Annual Assessment Report

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Introduction

Dance is the premiere academic discipline embracing movement as a way of thinking and learning, and as a form of intelligence. We use movement as a means of critical thinking and creativity to support student development in areas beyond dance including group dynamics, problem solving, and public presentation.

The Dance Department at UO has a unique position in the SOMD. When the College of Human Development and Performance was closed in response to Ballot Measure 5 in 1990 (legislation that established limits on Oregon's property taxes on real estate), the Department of Dance was the single intact unit that was preserved from the College. We were administratively re-aligned in the School of Music. We were added to SOM as a small, semi-autonomous unit unlike any other units in the School. Our histories have been evolving ever since as evidenced by Dean Foley's initiative in the early 2000's to rename the School of Music as the School of Music and Dance. And our histories continue to evolve and co-evolve.

All in all, 2016-17 has been a productive year for the Dance Department, even as we are faced with seismic reductions in support and funding. At this point in our evolution, the Department of Dance is intensely focused on curriculum development, specifically revision of our BA/BS degree plan. We are responding to pressures from parents and students, forces from within the SOMD, and changes dictated by UO's central administration. Reductions in our Graduate Teaching Fellowship program and in our part time non-tenure track faculty lines have reduced our effective instructional force to nearly half of its previous level. And yet, for the most part, we have, and will continue to, maintain our historical level of productivity. To accomplish this, full time tenure track faculty in Dance will take on heavy teaching loads; perform extensive service in support of Dance Department productions, curriculum development, and program promotion; and maintain rigorous research agendas to produce the creative works and public performances that are the matrix of our discipline.

Below I describe the Dance Department's 2016-17 assessment and BA/BS revision in 5 sections:

- Learning objectives assessed for this report
- Assessment activities
- Actions taken based on assessment analysis
- Other efforts to improve the student educational experience
- Plans for next year

DEPARTMENT OF DANCE

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Learning objectives assessed for this report

For the past 3 years we have been methodically working through a comprehensive revision of our BA/BS degree plan. Our revised program goals follow.

Students graduating with a BA or BS in Dance will be able to:

- Write and speak eloquently about the field of dance from a liberal arts perspective.
- Identify major periods in dance history and compare their philosophical and cultural context.
- Apply study in music and science to enhance the dance experience.
- Begin graduate studies or other professional careers.
- Practice and teach disciplined technical training and creative processes involved in the artistry of dance.
- Perform, choreograph, and produce concert dance.
- Integrate related arts and disciplines into creations that celebrate dance as a unique art form.

Assessment activities

Our needs assessments and design processes have been informed by and incorporated feedback from students and parents, Department faculty and SOMD concerns, national trends in comparable programs and NASD standards

Actions taken based on assessment analysis

We have investigated and analyzed multiple approaches to structuring an undergraduate major in dance for the 21st Century. We believe our new plan for a BA/BS in Dance at UO best integrates our requisite content into our core courses and intensifies our focus. Our revised plan compares favorably with leading program designs around the nation and is in line with NASD recommendations. Our new plan will guarantee graduation in 4 years for UO students who stay on schedule and in 2 years for qualified LCC or other community college transfer students. We hope for an influx of new majors because of this redesign and in particular because it is minor/certificate/double major friendly. The design of the new BA/BS in Dance allows for ample elective credits that are open for adjunct pursuits (i.e., double majors/minors/certificate programs); studies in diversity including theories and practices in world forms, improvisation, and vernacular expression; flights of intellectual curiosity; and self-development.

With the loss of our GTF's and NTTF FTE, integrating and intensifying the focus of our major allows us to better invest in full time TTF contributions to general education requirements by utilizing TTF's to teach our group satisfying courses more frequently. As we move forward in this new model we anticipate a favorable shift in the dance TTF salary per student credit hour ratio.

Other efforts to improve the student educational experience

Through our new design we aim to stabilize our core schedule for consistency term-to-term and year-to-year. This will help students best predict their academic plans over their time at UO. We have initiated and will continue to foster ambitious community outreach and collaborations. Through these affiliations we are establishing internship activities for our students while simultaneously enhancing a connection between community students and UO. Our goals are to better place Dance graduates in dance related endeavors, and to better recruit dance majors from our immediate community and from both rural communities of Oregon as well as our population centers.

Plans for next year

In 2017-18 we will implement our revised BA/BS program. We are planning ongoing and year-end assessment of these changes. Because we are a relatively small group overall, we will be working as a "committee-of-the-whole" to assess implementation of our revised degree plan and accomplishment of our goals for it. We conduct multiple student assessments throughout a year. We will share and document student strengths and weaknesses observed as they progress through the revised plan. We will dig deeper into issues that seem to need revision and we will aim to better design courses and curricular maps that meet the needs of our students. We will establish our assessment procedures as perennial activities.

Special Note

We are extremely proud to report that Shannon Mockli, Associate Professor of Dance, was honored with one of only two Herman Awards given this year for Distinguished Teaching. Congratulations to Shannon. I look at this award for Shannon as confirmation of the value dance students place on their UO experiences in dance.

REVISED BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DANCE beginning fall 2017

YEAR 1

FALL COURSES	CREDITS	MILESTONES
Foreign Language	5	Pass with a C- or better
Writing	4	Pass with a C- or better
Arts & Letters Group	4	Pass with a C- or better Recommend DAN 251 or DAN 301
Electives	4	Pass with a C- or better Recommend Dance electives DANC 170 & DANC 172
		Maintain an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher
TOTAL	17	

WINTER COURSES	CREDITS	MILESTONES
Foreign Language	5	Pass with a C- or better
Arts & Letters Group	4	Pass with a C- or better
Social Science Group	4	Pass with a C- or better
Electives	4	Pass with a C- or better Recommend Dance electives DANC 170 & DANC 172
		Maintain an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher
TOTAL	17	

SPRING COURSES	CREDITS	MILESTONES
Foreign Language	5	Pass with a C- or better
Writing	4	Pass with a C- or better
Social Science Group	4	Pass with a C- or better
Electives	4	Pass with a C- or better Recommend Dance electives DANC 170 & DANC 172
		Maintain an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher
TOTAL	17	

REVISED BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DANCE beginning fall 2017 continued

YEAR 2

FALL COURSES	CREDITS	MILESTONES
Foreign Language	4	Pass with a C- or better
Arts & Letters Group	4	Pass with a C- or better Recommend a multicultural course that doubles for A&L group
Science Group	4	Pass with a C- or better Recommend DAN 260
Electives	4	Pass with a C- or better Recommend DANC 270, 255, 272, and/or 271
		Maintain an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher
TOTAL	16	

WINTER COURSES	CREDITS	MILESTONES
Foreign Language	4	Pass with a C- or better
Science Group	4	Pass with a C- or better
Social Science Group	4	Pass with a C- or better Recommend a multicultural course that doubles for Soc Sci group
Multicultural Course	4	Pass with a C- or better
Electives	4	Pass with a C- or better Recommend DANC 270, 255, 272, and/or 271
		Maintain an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher
TOTAL	16	

SPRING COURSES	CREDITS	MILESTONES
Foreign Language	4	Pass with a C- or better
Science Group	4	Pass with a C- or better
Multicultural Course	4	Pass with a C- or better
Electives	4	Pass with a C- or better Recommend DANC 270, 255, 272, and/or 271
		Maintain an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher Identify a minor, certificate program, or double major
TOTAL	16	

REVISED BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DANCE beginning fall 2017 continued

YEAR 3

FALL COURSES	CREDITS	MILESTONES
DAN 394	3	Pass with a C- or better
DAN 255	3	Pass with a C- or better
Arts and Letters Group	4	Pass with a C- or better
Social Science group	4	Pass with a C- or better
Electives	2	Pass with a C- or better
		Maintain Good Academic Standing
TOTAL	16	

WINTER COURSES	CREDITS	MILESTONES
DAN 394	3	Pass with a C- or better
DAN 351	3	Pass with a C- or better
DAN 453	3	Pass with a C- or better
Science Group	4	Pass with a C- or better
Electives	3	Pass with a C- or better
		Maintain Good Academic Standing Complete General Education Requirements
TOTAL	16	

SPRING COURSES	CREDITS	MILESTONES
DAN 394	3	Pass with a C- or better
DAN 352	3	Pass with a C- or better
DAN 256	3	Pass with a C- or better
Electives	7	Pass with a C- or better
		Maintain Good Academic Standing Recommend a Degree Audit
TOTAL	16	

REVISED BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DANCE beginning fall 2017 continued

YEAR 4

FALL COURSES	CREDITS	MILESTONES
		Recommend audits of majors(s), minor, and/or certificate programs
DAN 407	1	Pass with a C- or better
DAN 408	1	Pass with a C- or better
DAN 494	3	Pass with a C- or better
DAN 452	3	Pass with a C- or better
DAN 458	3	Pass with a C- or better
Electives	5	Pass with a C- or better
		Maintain Good Academic Standing
TOTAL	16	

WINTER COURSES	CREDITS	MILESTONES
		Apply for graduation
DAN 360	4	Pass with a C- or better
DAN 407	1	Pass with a C- or better
DAN 408	4	Pass with a C- or better
DAN 494	3	Pass with a C- or better
Electives	4	Pass with a C- or better
		Maintain Good Academic Standing
TOTAL	16	

SPRING COURSES	CREDITS	MILESTONES
DAN 407	1	Pass with a C- or better
DAN 408	4	Pass with a C- or better
DAN 454	3	Pass with a C- or better
DAN 494	3	Pass with a C- or better
Electives	5	Pass with a C- or better
		Maintain Good Academic Standing Complete major(s), minor, and/or certificate programs
TOTAL	16	