

Dance, M.F.A.

The M.F.A. program is an intensive program requiring a core of courses in studio and academic areas. The student's individual area of interest is explored through the thesis project in the second year. Projects or written theses may be pursued in choreography, video choreography, dance training, dance history and theory, ethnography, dance science, dance reconstruction, and dance and digital technology.

Applicants for admission to the degree program must meet the general requirements for admission to graduate study and hold a B.A. or B.F.A. in Dance or the equivalent. Candidates must meet the minimum requirements for the B.A. in Dance at UCI. Proposals for three choreographic works that could be completed in the graduate program must be submitted. An audition in ballet and modern technique is required for admission and is held in winter quarter. At this audition, applicants must also present a prepared five-minute choreographed piece, which may be a solo performed by the applicant, or a videotape of the applicant's choreography. Interviews with faculty are conducted following the audition, and applicants are given a short writing exercise.

General Degree Requirements

Normally two years of residence are required. Each candidate must enroll for three courses each quarter for six quarters, exclusive of summer sessions.

In the second year, satisfactory attainment must be demonstrated by a major thesis; in choreography this consists of the composition and production of a choreographic work; in other areas, such as dance history, dance training, or dance science, this consists of a written thesis or a comprehensive project in a chosen area of study. All theses must be defended in a one-hour oral examination which may also test the candidate's general knowledge in the area.

The normative time to degree for students in the M.F.A. program is two years. Residence is required. The normative time to degree can be extended to three years only when a student requests extra time for more involved thesis research through a petition to the Chair of the Department. The maximum time to degree is three years. Students who do not complete the degree in three years will be dropped from the program.

Specific Degree Requirements

Seventy-two quarter units in graduate or approved upper-division undergraduate courses must be completed with a grade of at least B in each course. No more than 20 units in upper-division courses may count toward the degree. Fulfillment of the technique course requirements must be approved by the faculty advisor.

A. Complete the following:

DANCE 201	Seminar in Kinesiology for Dance
DANCE 222	Musical Resources
DANCE 225	Seminar in the Teaching of Dance Techniques
DANCE 261A- 261B	Graduate Studio in Choreography and Graduate Studio in Choreography
DANCE 281	Dance and Video Technology
DANCE 282	Seminar in Movement Analysis
DANCE 283	Critical Issues in Dance
DANCE 284	Bibliography and Research
DANCE 286	Thesis
DANCE 296	Proseminar in Dance History

Also required: Six courses chosen from any graduate or upper-division dance technique course.

By the end of their first year, students will choose their area of study for their thesis. Students who wish to produce a choreographic thesis must apply to the graduate choreography advisor during winter of their first year. The faculty will review the applications and will consider the quality of the student's work in DANCE 261, as well as the choreographic proposal, in making their selection.

Graduate students are encouraged to apply for teaching assistantships in areas such as notation, dance science, history, music for dancers, choreography, world dance, dance video, critical issues, and all technique classes. Students with expertise in any of these areas are given special consideration.