INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

Students in the Dance and Performance Studies major will engage with dance on physical, intellectual, and aesthetic levels, growing not only as performers but also as artists, thinkers, makers, viewers, and participants in the artistic event. The practical focus of the major is on the performance and choreography of contemporary dance and dance theater. Equally important is the study of theater and dance theory, history, culture, and literature.

Many of our graduates have gone on to careers in professional dance companies. Other students have gone on to graduate study in a wide variety of arts-related fields and have developed careers in universities, nonprofits, and professional fields in health care, education, and business.

Embrace the dynamic journey, the interdisciplinary creativity, and most importantly, the supportive community of TDPS.

This is your invitation to explore, discover, and thrive!

– Gilberto Martinez Martinez, Dance and Performance Studies Major

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Already have an intended major but interested in Dance and Performance Studies? Consider adding DPS as a double major or a minor.
- As either a major or minor in Dance and Performance Studies, you will study with nationally and internationally known faculty respected for their scholarly research and creative work.
- The dance training and academic courses offered by our department are rigorous and geared toward the student who is interested in learning about dance and performance from multiple perspectives.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

- Get involved in student-led performance groups and our annual dance concert where students perform in faculty and guest-artist repertory pieces.
- Attend a myriad of diverse and exciting events including lectures, workshops, and performances.
- Bring together your undergraduate experience with an Advanced Study Opportunity (Capstone).
DANCE AND PERFORMANCE STUDIES
Bachelor of Arts

DESIGN YOUR JOURNEY

FIRST YEAR
- Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plans.
- Review major and college requirements.
- Enroll in LKS 1.
- Take THEATER 60: Introduction to Technical Theater and Production as soon as you can to get involved in department shows.

SECOND YEAR
- Talk to TDPS peer advisors about options and possibilities.
- Complete the lower division prerequisites and declare the major.
- Start talking about ideas for an Honors Project or Thesis (THEATER H195A/B).

THIRD YEAR
- Focus on upper division requirements.
- Review your degree progress with your major and college advisor.
- Ask your major advisor about Advanced Study Opportunities (Capstones).
- Take online summer courses like THEATER 117AC or 118AC to free up time your final year.

FOURTH YEAR
- Do a degree check to ensure you are on track to graduate.
- Complete any “bucket list” courses.
- Finish remaining major, college, and campus requirements.
- Complement your major with a certificate, course thread, or summer minor.

EXPLORE YOUR MAJOR

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

Jobs and Employers
- 3D Film Production Asst., LBNL
- Adj. Faculty, Monterey Peninsula CC
- Art Manager, Trinity Repertory Co. Coordinator, SF Opera
- Dancer, LevyDance Company
- Dancer, Washington Commanders (NFL)
- EMT, ProTransport 1
- Filmmaker
- Instructor, Alameda School of Music
- Marketing Asst., Joe Goode Group
- Member, San Francisco Ballet
- Software Engineering Intern, Zillow

Graduate Programs
- Dance, Masters, Mills College
- Drama & Theater Arts, Masters, American Conservatory Theater
- Journalism, Masters, Columbia Univ.
- Social Sciences, Masters, UC Berkeley

Examples gathered from the First Destination Survey of recent Berkeley graduates.

Connect and Build Community
- Get involved mentoring with Berkeley Connect.
- Find study groups, tutoring, and academic support at the Student Learning Center.
- Attend all productions in the department.
- Attend TDPS Welcome Back Celebration in August for prospective and returning students.

Discover Your Passions
- Discover new interests in a Freshman Seminar or student-run DeCal course.
- Visit the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarships.
- Add zest to your curriculum—take courses you never imagined taking.

Engage Locally and Globally
- Attend the Calapalooza student activities fair and get involved with a student organization.
- Find service opportunities through the Public Service Center.
- Explore study, internship, and research abroad options with Berkeley Study Abroad.

Reflect and Plan Your Future
- Visit Berkeley Career Engagement and the Career Counseling Library.
- Develop a plan for getting career ready.
- Set up a Handshake account and sign up for CareerMail.
- Explore career fields in the Career Connections Networking Series.

Explore Options with a TDPS peer advisor.

Get involved in department shows.

Attend all productions in the department.

Join a performing arts groups on campus like AFX Dance or Dancework.

Get to know professors and graduate student instructors during their office hours.

Sign up for the TDPS email list and start attending department events.

Talk to TDPS peer advisors about options and possibilities.

Complete the lower division prerequisites and declare the major.

Start talking about ideas for an Honors Project or Thesis (THEATER H195A/B).

Get back by becoming a TDPS peer advisor.

Share your ideas with the department for future events, shows, and guest speakers.

Get support for your thesis project in the Townsend Honors Thesis Workshop.

Connect with alumni groups and build your network as you prepare to graduate.

Experience life at another UC or college on a summer minor.

Gain experience as a TDPS peer advisor.

Conduct informational interviews with people in those fields.

Discuss graduate school options with advisors and professors.

Create or update your resume and LinkedIn profile.

Attend career and graduate school fairs.

Learn about career fields and conduct informational interviews with people in those fields.

Discuss graduate school options with advisors and professors.

Create or update your resume and LinkedIn profile.

Attend career and graduate school fairs.

Utilize job board tools in your job search.

Ask professors and graduate student instructors for recommendation letters.

Attend Employer Info Sessions and On-Campus Recruiting.

Apply to jobs, graduate school, and other opportunities.

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