

## GRADUATE CURRICULUM: MFA DEGREE

The MFA in Dance is a minimum 61 credit terminal degree taking three years of residency in the Department of Modern Dance to complete. For those who come with extensive professional experience and/or great determination to finish in less time, it may be possible, with faculty permission, to complete the degree in 4 or 5 semesters. It is strongly recommend taking three years in order to maximize the artistic growth and development opportunities that the program offers. A core curriculum is required of all MFA students. The curriculum is designed to provide both breadth and depth in the field of modern dance, cultivating excellence in artistry and education.

### Core Curriculum Requirements:

<u>Course Number</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Credits</u>
D6110-6160	Grad Modern Dance Technique	12 (see notes)
D6210	Grad Dance Workshop I	3
D6211	Grad Dance Workshop II	3
D6212	Creative Projects Laboratory	1
D6410	Explorations in Dance and Digital Media	3
D6310	Research Design	3
D6320	Aesthetics and Criticism	3
D6510	Grad Teaching Methods	3
D6530	Dance Administration in Academe	3
D6950	Thesis Research Studio	1
D6970	Thesis Research - Masters	6-12 (see notes)
D6340	Dance and Community (grad seminar)	3
D6430	Screendance (grad seminar)	3
D6330	Dancing Bodies (grad seminar)	3

**Modern Dance Electives:** If undergraduate course work does not include Dance History, Movement in Culture or Kinesiology, these courses will be required for the MFA degree and counted as elective hours. If a candidate is seen to lack necessary writing skills based upon their course work first semester, a writing course will also be required. Deficiencies in any other curricular areas that the faculty identify as needing to be addressed as per expectations of an MFA degree, may result in the candidate being required to take additional course work as specified by the faculty. Candidates are encouraged to take electives both within and outside of the Department that relate to their main interest areas. Departmental electives include:

D6710	Grad Apparatus Conditioning	1-3
D6730	Grad Dance Performance (PDC)	1-3
D6610	Graduate Kinesiology I	2

D6620	Graduate Kinesiology II	2
D6350	Graduate Movement in Culture	3
D6360	Graduate Dance History	3
D6520	Advanced Principles of Teaching	1-2
D6961	Integrated Arts (summer honors program)	3
D6630	Research Teaching Kinesiology	2

Graduates may also take any undergraduate dance course offerings of interest, e.g. Lighting/Production or West African Dance. To receive graduate credit for these classes, the candidate should take the class as a graduate independent study D6951. The candidate should first inform the graduate advisor of their intent to take an undergraduate course for credit.

### **MFA Degree Requirements Listed by Semester**

<b><u>Year One Autumn:</u></b>		<b><u>Units</u></b>
D6210	Graduate Workshop I	3
D6410	Explorations in Dance and Digital Media	3
D6310	Research Design	3
D6110-6150	Modern Dance Technique Electives (not encouraged)	3
<b><u>Year One Spring:</u></b>		
D6211	Graduate Workshop II	3
D6510	Grad Teaching Methods	3
D6120-6160	Modern Dance Technique	3
D6330	Dancing Bodies	3
Or		
D6320	Aesthetics/Criticism Electives	3 2-5
<b><u>Year Two Autumn:</u></b>		
D6212	Creative Projects Laboratory	1
D6110-6150	Modern Dance Technique	3
D6430	Screendance	3
	Electives	2-6
<b><u>Year Two Spring:</u></b>	Thesis proposals written and presented	

Preliminary research done on thesis

<b>D6950</b>	<b>Thesis Research/Studio</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>D6320</b>	<b>Aesthetics/Criticism</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Or</b>		
<b>D6330</b>	<b>Dancing Bodies</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>D6120-6160</b>	<b>Modern Dance Technique</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>D6340</b>	<b>Dance &amp; Community</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>Electives</b>	<b>2-6</b>

**Year Three Autumn:** Thesis creative work completed and writing begun

<b>D6530</b>	<b>Dance Administration in Academe</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>D6970</b>	<b>Thesis Research - Masters</b>	<b>2-6</b>
	<b>Electives</b>	<b>2-6</b>

**Year Three Spring:** Written thesis completed and orals held

<b>D6970</b>	<b>Thesis Research - Masters</b>	<b>3-6</b>
	<b>Electives</b>	<b>3-6</b>

**Please note:**

The above schedule is based upon graduation after 6 semesters of study. Graduating in an alternative number of semesters will consequently reconfigure the above information.

Graduate requirements may be waived or re-configured for students who present solid rationale for their requests. Rationale is usually based on proficiency in a given area of the curriculum and/or the specific interests in a student's research and thesis focus. To make changes to the MFA graduate requirements, first consult with your graduate advisor. Approval for curricular changes is made by submitting a student request and/or by agreement of the full faculty through the assistance of the graduate advisor.

Graduate students may enroll for a maximum of 16 credit hours/semester. Those with graduate assistantships must enroll for a minimum of 9 credit hours/semester.

A student may take more than 12 accumulative credits of Modern Dance Technique and/or Thesis Research – Masters, though only a maximum of 12 credits of each may be applied to the required 61 credits needed for program completion. In the final semester of the program, graduates may elect to take an alternative technique class. See the graduate advisor for further information.

All Graduate Teaching Assistants who serve as the primary teacher of a course must register for 1 credit of Advanced Principles of Teaching (D6855) for the first two

semesters in which they teach. TA's will not need to register for this course more than twice, regardless if they teach in more than two semesters.

The Department of Modern Dance requires all graduate students entering the program in the fall of 2009 to have an Apple laptop. This laptop will be a necessity for several of the courses in the Dance MFA curriculum. All returning graduate students are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the special prices available on Apple laptops due to the College laptop initiative. If you have any questions please contact Brent Schneider, Associate Dean at [HYPERLINK](#)

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