

THEATRE MAJOR: DANCE OPTION (B.A.)

<https://cola.unh.edu/theatre-dance/program/ba/theatre-major-dance-option>

Description

The Theatre Major: Dance Option at UNH is designed to prepare students for dynamic careers in dance and related fields, including performance, choreography, and education. The program features a comprehensive curriculum encompassing diverse dance styles such as Ballet, Pointe, Jazz, Tap, Musical Theatre, and Aerial Dance. Students benefit from the expertise of distinguished faculty and a wide array of performance opportunities, including the UNH Dance Company Concert, Ballet Showcases, and Dance and Aerial Showcases. Additional opportunities include internships, guest artist workshops, and global exposure through study-abroad programs like The London Experience. Alumni from the program have excelled in prestigious venues such as Boston Ballet, Cirque du Soleil, Broadway, and major networks like ABC, HBO, and Disney, exemplifying the program's excellence in preparing students for competitive careers.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Minimum Credit Requirement: 128 credits

Minimum Residency Requirement: 32 credits must be taken at UNH

Minimum GPA: 2.0 required for conferral*

Core Curriculum Required: Discovery & Writing Program Requirements

Foreign Language Requirement: Yes

All Major, Option and Elective Requirements as indicated.

*Major GPA requirements as indicated.

Major Requirements

In the freshman and sophomore years, students should enroll for at least two major and two Discovery courses per semester.

The minimum grade requirement for major courses is C- per course. Any grade lower than C- will not count toward the major.

The required minimum overall GPA in major coursework is 2.0.

Under department policy, students who complete both COMM 401 American Sign Language I and COMM 502 American Sign Language II satisfy the bachelor of arts language proficiency requirement.

All majors must take courses in the following areas: performance, design/theatre technology and theory/history as well as fulfill between four and eight practicums and complete a capstone course. Although timing will vary with each option, it is strongly suggested that all introductory courses be taken prior to the end of the student's sophomore year. Students must also complete a digital portfolio that demonstrates fulfillment of student learning outcomes related to their area of study.

Candidates for a degree must satisfy all of the University Discovery Program requirements in addition to satisfying the requirements of each individual major program. Bachelor of arts candidates must also satisfy the foreign language proficiency requirement.

Theatre department majors may use one major-required course to satisfy one Discovery Program category requirement.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
THDA 459 or THDA 460	Stagecraft Elements of Design	4
THDA 487	History of Dance	4
THDA 551	Acting I	4
THDA 589	Practicum (A - C) ¹	1
THDA 795W	Independent Study	2
THDA 799 or THDA 798	Capstone Project Senior Thesis	2
Theory Courses		
THDA 633	Dance Composition	4
THDA 732	Choreography	4
THDA 786	Dance Pedagogy	4
Fine Arts		
Select 8 credits from the following:		8
THDA 444B	Famous Dancers of the 20th Century	
THDA 459	Stagecraft	
THDA 460	Elements of Design	
THDA 546	Costume Design for the Theatre	
THDA 548	Stage Lighting Design and Execution	
THDA 555	Acting The Song	
THDA 564	Compocinema	
THDA 655	Musical Theatre Scene Study	
Performance		
Select 16 credits from the following:		16
THDA 462	Ballet I	
THDA 463	Theatre Dance I	
THDA 562	Ballet II (May be repeated to 16 cr)	
THDA 563	Theatre Dance II (May be repeated to 16 cr)	
THDA 576	Pointe	
THDA 662	Ballet III (May be repeated to 16 cr)	
THDA 663	Theatre Dance III (May be repeated to 16 cr)	
THDA 665	Aerial Dancell (May be repeated to 16 cr)	
Total Credits		53

¹ The practicum ensures a breadth of experience in the major, including sets, costumes, lighting, props, box office, marketing, and performing. Students must register for practicum every semester. They are notified of their practicum assignment at the beginning of each semester.

Degree Plan

Sample Degree Plan

This sample degree plan serves as a general guide; students collaborate with their academic advisor to develop a personalized degree plan to meet their academic goals and program requirements.

First Year

Fall		Credits
THDA 459 or THDA 460	Stagecraft or Elements of Design	4
Performance Course		4
Discovery Course		4
Language Course		4

THDA 589	Practicum	1
Credits		17
Spring		
THDA 551	Acting I	4
Performance Course		4
Discovery Course		4
Language Course		4
THDA 589	Practicum	1
Credits		17
Second Year		
Fall		
THDA 487	History of Dance	4
THDA 633	Dance Composition	4
Performance Course		4
Discovery Course		4
THDA 589	Practicum	1
Credits		17
Spring		
THDA 732	Choreography	4
Performance Course		4
Discovery Course		4
Discovery Course		4
THDA 589	Practicum	1
Credits		17
Third Year		
Fall		
THDA 786	Dance Pedagogy	4
Performance Course		4
Fine Arts Elective Course		4
Discovery Course		4
THDA 589	Practicum	1
Credits		17
Spring		
THDA 799 or THDA 798	Capstone Project or Senior Thesis	2
Performance Course		4
Fine Arts Elective Course		4
Elective in Theatre or Dance		4
THDA 589	Practicum	1
Credits		15
Fourth Year		
Fall		
Performance Course		4
Elective in Theatre or Dance		4
Discovery Course		4
THDA 589	Practicum	1
Credits		13
Spring		
THDA 799 or THDA 798	Capstone Project or Senior Thesis	2
Performance Course		4
Elective in Theatre or Dance		4

Discovery Course		4
THDA 589	Practicum	1
Credits		15
Total Credits		128

Student Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes On completion of the B.A. in Theatre, students will:

- Recognize and distinguish between various styles and forms of theatre or dance that have shaped the evolution of these disciplines.
- Effectively communicate artistic ideas and/or critical analysis of theatre or dance works through appropriate oral, written or practical means.
- Demonstrate knowledge and fundamental skill level of the basic areas of theatre or dance production in areas related to performance, design, technology or management.
- Create and demonstrate informed and personal artistic choices in coursework and productions (i.e., design, dance, directing, acting).

On completion of the option in Dance, students will:

- Develop an awareness of proper dance technique, physical expression and kinesthetic exploration.
- Apply choreographic phrases and compositional skills through performance.
- Demonstrate a foundation in dance pedagogy.
- Demonstrate a reflective and critical awareness of dance history.
- Effectively apply dance principles to critical writing via journals, performance critiques, and research assignments.

Disclosures

Professional Licensure/Certification Disclosures

The University of New Hampshire offers a number of academic programs designed to lead to professional licensure or certification in New Hampshire. However, completing a UNH degree/program does not guarantee professional licensure or certification. Eligibility may also depend on factors like years of work experience, professional examinations, passing a background check, and other criteria.

UNH does not guarantee that its professional licensure programs will satisfy the criteria of professional licensure boards in other states. Some states maintain different requirements for professional licensure or certification and requirements can change frequently. Federal regulations require the University to make public disclosure of certain information regarding professional licensure or certification programs, regardless of the modality the program is offered (i.e., in-person or online). The University provides guidance below but recommends students contact their state/territory licensing or certification board to ensure a program meets specific state/territory requirements.

Visit the Office of the Registrar's [website](#) for information about whether this program meets professional licensure requirements in your state.