

Bachelor of Fine Arts

(BFA) in Dance

May 2021

Requirements for students matriculating Fall 2021 and after

- I. **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:** The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance degree program is for students seeking careers as professionals in the dance field. Students pursue their goals within the artistic and intellectual climate of a major research university and work with a diverse group of accomplished faculty who ensure expert direction in all three areas of the curriculum: performance and choreography, pedagogy, and dance theory. Students applying to the BFA in Dance must submit an application to Mason Gross School of the Arts and participate in an audition.
Just 45 minutes from New York City, Mason Gross Dance enrolls a cohort of approximately 30-35 students each year in the BFA degree program. BFA dance majors pursue their studies in a dedicated community that prioritizes their development as future artists, educators, and scholars. Students are guided to extend and refine their artistic potential through work in multiple studios and performance facilities. The Dance Department regularly hosts dance companies, dance practitioners, and scholars who are internationally renowned in the field, offering students opportunities to work side-by-side on the stage and in the classroom with professional choreographers, dance educators, and dance scholars.
- II. **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:**
 - i. **Guest Artist and Scholars:** Mason Gross Dance invites multiple guest artists and scholars to campus each year to engage students through repertory residencies, master classes, and guest lectures.
 - ii. **The Soma Center and Somatic Teacher Training:** In the fully-equipped Soma Center, students access Pilates conditioning with certified practitioners, and strength training and rehabilitation with a licensed Athletic Trainer. Students can pursue two distinct somatic teacher training programs—in Pilates and Yoga—which allows them to enhance their career options through specialized knowledge and skills.
 - iii. **Five-Year BFA/EdM in Dance Education Program:** This joint-degree track is an exceptional opportunity to earn an undergraduate degree in dance in a conservatory setting and a master's degree in education in five years at a cost savings. Students on the five-year BFA/EdM track overlap degree requirements at two different schools: Mason Gross School of the Arts and Rutgers Graduate School of Education (GSE). The BFA degree is conferred by Mason Gross at the end of the senior year. The [EdM degree](#) is conferred by the GSE after an additional year of graduate studies. The five-year program leads to a bachelor's degree, a master's degree, and New Jersey teacher certification in Dance.

- iv. **Study Abroad:** BFA juniors and seniors may study abroad. Options include: the DanceJerusalem program in Israel, which is facilitated by the Rothberg International School, Hebrew University and the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance; the Accademia dell'Arte program in Arezzo, Tuscany, Italy; or the Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in London, United Kingdom.
- v. **Dance & Parkinson's Program:** Mason Gross Dance partners with the New Jersey Parkinson's Disease Information and Referral Center at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital to provide movement classes for people with Parkinson's disease. Students interested in careers in dance therapy and/or dance as a mode of creative wellness have opportunities to gain experiential learning through participation as assistants.
- vi. **International Dance Studies online certificate (4 courses):** BFA undergraduate students can cultivate historical and cultural contextualization of world dance practices through elective dance studies courses about India, Istanbul, Israel, Africa and the African diasporic influence on Broadway jazz. As BFA students are required to complete Dance History: World Survey in their 3rd year (spring semester), completing the Certificate requires only 3 additional courses from the 5 listed above.

III. HOW TO APPLY: To be considered for admission to the program, applicants must provide the following:

1. Rutgers University Application: [Rutgers University Application](#). The university application requires the following:
 - a. \$70 Rutgers application fee
 - b. Self-Reported Academic Record (SRAR) – for current high school students
 - c. Official high school transcript or GED results – recommended for all transfer applicants, required for transfer applicants who, after high school graduation, have completed fewer than 24 college credits.
 - d. English proficiency test scores are required of [international applicants](#)
2. Mason Gross Supplemental Application: Five business days after submitting the Rutgers University application, applicants will be emailed a link to submit a Mason Gross supplemental application that includes:
 - a. \$40 dance audition fee
 - b. Dance questionnaire
 - c. Resume and headshot
 - d. Recorded audition video (outlined below)
 - e. Optional video – Original choreographies, solo performances in dance forms of any kind, etc.
 - f. Interview and information session

For details about the recorded audition requirements, visit: [MGSA Dance Admissions](#)

IV. BFA Dance Major Curriculum: Students must complete a minimum of 120 credits to earn the BFA Degree in Dance. This includes 99 Dance credits (including 8 credits of Dance electives) and 33 credits of liberal arts, over a 4-year program. Minimum GPA requirement: 2.0. **Students must earn a C grade or better in the core curriculum (see table below) or repeat the course. Students must be registered for a minimum of 12 credits each semester to achieve full-time status.**

Semester	Course Number	Course Name	Credits	
			Course Credit	Total
Year 1 Fall	07:206:130	African Diasporic Movement Practices 1	1.5	11.5
	07:206:131	Classical/Traditional Movement Practices 1	1.5	
	07:206:132	Contemporary Fusion Movement Practices 1	1.5	
	07:206:133	Somatic Movement Practices 1	1.5	
	07:203:115	Introduction to Dance Studies	3	
	07:206:142	Improvisation 1	2	
	07:206:101	*Concussion Awareness	0	
	07:206:100	**Dance Assembly	N.5	
Year 1 Spring	07:206:146	African Diasporic Movement Practices 2	1.5	13.5
	07:206:147	Classical/Traditional Movement Practices 2	1.5	
	07:206:148	Contemporary Fusion Movement Practices 2	1.5	
	07:206:149	Somatic Movement Practices 2	1.5	
	07:206:145	Performance Skills 1	2	
	07:206:126	Rhythm for Dancers	2	
	07:206:100	**Dance Assembly	N.5	

Year 2 Fall	07:206:260	African Diasporic Movement Practices 3	1.5	11.5
	07:206:261	Classical/Traditional Movement Practices 3	1.5	
	07:206:262	Contemporary Fusion Movement Practices 3	1.5	
	07:206:263	Somatic Movement Practices 3	1.5	
	07:206:243	Improvisation 2	2	
	07:206:402	Laban/Bartenieff for Dance and Dance Education	3	
	07:206:101	*Concussion Awareness	0	
	07:206:100	**Dance Assembly	N.5	
Year 2 Spring	07:206:264	African Diasporic Movement Practices 4	1.5	10.5
	07:206:265	Classical/Traditional Movement Practices 4	1.5	
	07:206:266	Contemporary Fusion Movement Practices 4	1.5	
	07:206:267	Somatic Movement Practices 4	1.5	
	07:206:235	Choreography 1	2	
	07:206:245	Performance Skills 2	2	
	07:206:325	****Kinesiology-Dance	3	
	07:206:100	**Dance Assembly	N.5	

Year 3 Fall	07:206:346	African Diasporic Movement Practices 5	1.5	13.0
	07:206:347	Classical/Traditional Movement Practices 5	1.5	
	07:206:348	Contemporary Fusion Movement Practices 5	1.5	
	07:206:334	Choreography 2	2	
	07:206:319	Sound & Movement	3	
	07:206:237	***Dance Production	3	
	07:206:101	Concussion Awareness	0	
	07:206:100	**Dance Assembly	N.5	
Year 3 Spring	07:206:356-8	Intensive study in 2 Movement Practices	3 credits total	16
	07:206:345	Advanced Improvisation	2	
	07:206:441	Dance History: World Survey	3	
	07:206:431	OR Dance History ONLINE: World Survey (For EdM Tracking students OR by permission of the department)	3	
	07:206:237	***Dance Production	3	
	07:206:352	Teaching as an Artist	3	
	07:206:100	**Dance Assembly	N.5	

Year 4 Fall	07:206:416-8	Advanced Study in one or two movement practices	8 credits total	10.0
	07:206:450	Dance Capstone 1	2	
	07:206:442	Dance History: 1900-Present	3	
	07:206:432	OR Dance History Online: 20 th Century (For EdM Tracking students OR by permission of the department)	3	
	07:206:101	*Concussion Awareness	0	
	07:206:100	**Dance Assembly	N.5	
Year 4 Spring	07:206:426	African Diasporic Movement Practices 8	1.5	9.0
	07:206:427	Classical/Traditional Movement Practices 8	1.5	
	07:206:428	Contemporary Fusion Movement Practices 8	1.5	
	07:206:451	Dance Capstone 2	2	
	07:206:161	****Production Study	2	
	07:206:100	**Dance Assembly	N.5	

- *Students are required to take 07:206:101 Concussion Wise EVERY Fall semester. The course is a Pass/Fail course and does not count towards total credits for graduation.
- **Students are required to pass 07:206:100 Dance Assembly EVERY SEMESTER. This is a Pass/No Credit course and does not count towards total credits for graduation.
- ***Dance Production – students may take this course in either Fall or Spring semester during their Junior year.
- ****These courses also fulfill liberal arts requirements.

Electives

8 credits of dance electives are required from the options below:

History of Broadway Dance Online – 07:203:132 (Fall/Spring)	Dance in Istanbul Online: Whirling, Belly-dancing and Revolving around East & West – 07:203:133 (Fall/Spring)
Dance in Israel Online: Body, Ideology and Culture – 07:203:134 (Fall/Spring)	Dance Forms of Africa Online – 07:203:135 (Fall/Spring)
Dance in India Online – 07:203:136 (Fall/Spring)	Pilates Mat (can repeat for credit) – 07:203:160 (Fall/Spring)
Yoga for Wellness (can repeat for credit) – 07:203:170 (Fall/Spring)	Performance Studies Online 07:203:190 (Fall/Spring)
*Ballet Jumps, Turns & Partnering (can repeat for credit) – 07:206:155	Jazz Dance (can repeat for credit) - 07:206:274 (Fall/Spring)
Ballet 6 (can repeat for credit) - 07:206:311 (Fall/Spring)	Ballet 7 (can repeat for credit) – 07:206:312 (Spring)
Neuroscience in Partnership with Dance – 07:206:325 (Fall)	Adaptive Movement Through Dance – 07:206:326 (Fall)
Dance Workshop (audition required) – 07:206:328 (Fall)	Video for Dance – 07:206:344 (Fall/Spring)
University DanceWorks (audition required & can repeat for credit) – 07:206:360 (Fall/Spring)	Dance Repertory (audition required) - 07:206:363 (Fall/Spring)
History & Culture of Integrated Dance Online – 07:206:370	Introduction to Immersive Performance 07:206:399 (Fall/Spring)
Independent Dance Study (open to 3 rd and 4 th year dance majors, department approval required before registration) – 07:206:447/448 (Fall/Spring)	Special Topics in Dance – 07:206:495 (Fall/Spring)

* Ballet Jumps, Turns & Partnering for incoming students require two semesters (1 year) of ballet technique OR permission of instructor. Continuing BFA students require the completion of one semester of Ballet 6 OR permission of instructor.

V. LIBERAL ARTS: Students must complete the Core Requirements [33 Liberal Arts Credits]

Part I 24 credits	A.	Natural Science (3 credits)	
		Kinesiology-Dance	
	B.	Social Science and History (6 credits)	
		General Psychology (Required for students tracking into the EdM Program in Dance Education)	
	C.	Arts and Humanities (6 credits) Some possible courses that will complete the requirement for Arts & Humanities (online formats of these courses are also an option)	
		Intro to Music	Intro to World Music
		Theater Appreciation	
	D.	Liberal Arts Electives (9 credits) The courses listed below are just some of the options available at Rutgers to fulfill Liberal Arts Elective requirements. Both online and face-to-face courses are options.	
		Social Media for the Arts (online) *Does not count towards GSE Liberal Arts credits	Psychology
		Africana Studies	Sociology
		Comparative Literature	Journalism and Media Studies
		Puerto Rican and Hispanic Caribbean Studies	Art History
Women's and Gender Studies		Intro to Music Theory	
Introduction to Disability Studies			
Part II 9 Credits	A.	Writing and Communication (3) – Expository Writing	
	B.	Literature or Second Writing Intensive Course (3) – Research in the Disciplines	
	C.	Quantitative/Technical Skills (3) – Dance Production	