

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 7916S
Date of Senate Approval 04/14/16

Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

IDC 2/APC 67 (DAN): Move the Dance minor from Health and Wellness

Effective Date: Fall 2016

1. Delete: On p. 154, the second paragraph:

“The Health and Wellness Department also offers a minor in Dance. The minor in Dance provides students the opportunity to acquire and refine the technical skills necessary to realize the broadest possible range of movement options, develop a capacity for expression through dance, understand the connections among the various fields of study involved with dance production, acquire experience as teachers, performers and choreographers and prepare for advanced study in Dance and other related arts.”

Delete: On pp. 155-157, the descriptions of the Minor in Dance and courses in Dance

2. Add: After p. 115, after the entry for Computer Science

DANCE

Assistant Professor Bambara (Director)

As a performing art that encompasses creation, performance and critical analysis, dance holds an important place in a liberal arts education. By integrating embodied practices with scholarly inquiry, the dance program aims to give students the tools to create, think and contribute in a positive way to the worlds in which we live. Exposing students to a variety of ways to approach questions in dance through practice, theory, dance-making, and analysis allows them to bridge the intersections of dance as a discipline. Students are exposed to the breadth of dance in the world from varying cultures and perspectives, including cutting edge and experimental forms, as well as methodological and practical tools in dance-making, research and presentation, all embedded in our curriculum and ideology.

The dance minor at UNC Asheville prepares students to have a developed knowledge of their bodies as dancers and to be collegiate dance-makers who are connected to a question-based approach to research in movement and writing. Importantly the dance minor helps students articulate their voices in the world through a burgeoning dialogue between dance movement practices, engaged scholarship and creative processes.

Minor in Dance

18 hours including: one course from DAN 140 or 240, one course from DAN 250 or 251, DAN 312 and 330; completion of one of the following groups: DAN 136, 236 and 340; or 137, 237 and 342; or 138, 238 and 342; and a minimum of 4 additional elective hours in DAN. Special Topics courses may be substituted with written permission from the program director.

University-wide minimum requirements for a minor: 1) one-half of the hours required for a minor must be completed in residence at UNC Asheville, to include at least 6 hours at the 300-400 level; 2) students must have a cumulative grade-point-average of at least 2.0 on minor courses taken at UNC Asheville.

Courses in Dance (DAN)

Note: Only four semester hours of 100-level HW activity courses and 100-level DAN courses can be used toward the minimum number of hours required for a degree.

136 Beginning Jazz Dance (1)

Students will develop improved strength, flexibility, stamina and functional alignment as they become familiar with the classic jazz postures, positions and vocabulary. Students will conduct and present research of one aspect of the history of concert jazz dance as part of this course. Odd years Fall.

137 Beginning Contemporary Dance (1)

Introduction to Cunningham, Graham and Limon techniques--three of the major techniques of Modern Dance--as a way to compare and contrast aesthetic possibilities of western concert dance. Emphasis will be on individual exploration of movement as a way of understanding one's physical, social, intellectual, emotional and spiritual dimensions. No previous dance training is required. Fall.

138 Beginning Ballet (1)

Introduction to classical ballet through technical instruction, anatomical and aesthetic foundation, and elementary vocabulary. Particularly suited to non-dancers interested in developing flexibility and strength. No previous dance training is required. Fall.

140 Roots of Jazz (2)

Historical survey of vernacular dance in the U.S. starting with the African roots of Jazz Dance and continuing with the study of the major social dances from the 1800's through contemporary social/street dance. The legacy of vernacular dance in the evolution of Concert Jazz Dance will be examined. No previous dance training is required. No credit given to students who have credit for DAN 135. Odd years Spring.

236 Intermediate Jazz Dance (2)

Students will deepen their familiarity with the style, technique, and rhythmic structures of jazz dance with emphasis on enhancing movement capabilities and personal expression. This course assumes familiarity with the terminology of jazz dance and with the basic coordinations and positions used in this form. The intermediate level moves at a substantially faster pace than Beginning Jazz Dance. Recommended prerequisite: DAN 136 or previous experience. Even years Spring.

- 237 Intermediate Contemporary Dance (2)**
An intermediate level course that builds on the fundamentals introduced in DAN 137 and extends the dancer's movement vocabulary by introducing additional techniques of the modern and post- modern periods. Techniques will vary and may include Horton, Hawkins, Dunham, Taylor or Contact Improvisation. The student is expected to be familiar with the vocabulary of concert dance technique. The course assumes a fundamental knowledge of classical dance positions and terminology. Recommended prerequisite: DAN 137 or previous experience. Even years Fall.
- 238 Intermediate Ballet (2)**
An intermediate level course that builds on the fundamentals introduced in DAN 138. Extends the dancer's movement vocabulary by introducing more nuanced use of the upper body along with more complicated and extended sequences. Recommended prerequisite: DAN 138 or previous experience. Even years Spring.
- 240 World Dance Traditions (2)**
Through readings, videos, and studio explorations, students will investigate the aesthetics and techniques central to each dance form in the context of its culture, while analyzing the phenomenon of syncretism in the evolution of contemporary concert forms. Odd years Fall.
- 250 Concert Production (2)**
Students will assist faculty and guest choreographers in the creation and performance of two pieces. Students will assume some of the duties of production including publicity, programming, coordination with the technical crew, assisting with lighting and house management, as well as attending weekly rehearsals. Course may be repeated once for credit. Odd years Spring.
- 251 Community Outreach (2)**
Students will present a lecture and demonstration introducing dance as an art form to local young audiences. Students will create original choreography for performance in UNC Asheville concerts. Suitable for dancers with intermediate or advanced technical ability. Odd years Fall.
- 312 Dance Composition (2)**
An introduction to the elements, strategies and techniques used in the art of making dances. Classes will include guided exploration and improvisation, and will focus on movement invention rather than movement instruction. Students will explore physical, social and emotional territories through dance invention. Even years Fall.
- 330 History of Dance (3)**
A discussion of the ways in which humans have used movement to create and regulate their societies, commune with their gods, and order their life experiences during celebration and mourning. The course focuses primarily on the history of what has evolved into Western Concert dance. Odd years Spring.

340 Jazz Dance Repertory (2)

Students will generate original choreography and explore classic choreography from film and musical sources. This course requires intermediate technical skill and is intended for dancers capable of working with extended sequences. Even years Fall.

342 Contemporary Dance Repertory (2)

Development of performance skills for intermediate and advanced dancers through rehearsals and performances of a significant dance work choreographed by dance faculty and/or guest artists. This course combines techniques of advanced ballet with advanced contemporary styles. Intermediate or advanced technique is required. Spring.

345 Research in Dance (2)

Students will research one topic in depth. Research may take the form of choreography, dance film or video, academic research or a combination. Prerequisite: DAN 330. See department chair.

171-3, 271-3, 371-3, 471-3 Special Topics in Dance (1-3)

Courses not otherwise included in the catalog listing but for which there may be special needs. May be repeated for credit as subject matter changes. See department chair.

178, 378 Liberal Arts Colloquia (LA 178, 378) (3-4)

Courses offered to fulfill Liberal Arts Core requirements. See Liberal Arts section of catalog for course descriptions. May not be used to fulfill major or minor requirements.

Impact:

No resource implications. This document simply removes the dance minor from the Department of Health and Wellness into a free-standing program.

Rationale:

Dr. Celia Weiss-Bambara was hired as Assistant Professor of Dance, beginning in Fall 2015. Since she is not housed in the Department of Health and Wellness, it makes no sense for the dance curriculum to remain in the Department of Health and Wellness. The Dance program will be a free-standing program, offering a minor in Dance, and in the Humanities program area, reporting to the Dean of Humanities, appropriate for a performing arts discipline.