DANCE MINOR

Requirements
Director: Ms. Kristin Degnan-Boonin
Faculty of Practice: Mariani

Total minimum number of credits required for a minor in dance — 18

Wilkes University provides a comprehensive minor program in the field of dance, with classes in Classical Ballet, Modern, Jazz and Tap Dance. In order to satisfy the requirements for the Minor in Dance, students must take 18 credits of dance at a level above DAN 100, at least 3 of which must be DAN 320 Dance Composition.

DAN. DANCE

DAN-100. DANCE APPRECIATION: COMPREHENSIVE DANCE FORMS
Credits: 3
This course provides a general introduction to classical ballet, modern dance and jazz dance. It is designed to provide a structured, personal engagement in dance whose objective is the acquisition, at each individual student's pace, of the qualities of grace, physical stamina, muscular and ligament flexibility, and movement musicality.

DAN-120. TAP DANCE
Credits: 3
In this course, students will acquire and develop tap dance technique through drills and exercises, and will develop an appreciation of the rich history of tap dance in America through lectures, videos, demonstrations and readings.

DAN-210. MODERN DANCE I
Credits: 3
This course provides the student with the fundamentals of modern dance based on the methodology of Lester Horton. It is designed to provide an experimentation structure and professionally-informed exploration of the art of modern dance. Its objective is the acquisition, at each individual student's pace, of the qualities of grace, physical stamina, muscular alignment, flexibility, and movement musicality. This course also introduces fundamentals of contemporary dance allowing the student to investigate how this genre of dance has pulled elements of movement from classical, modern and jazz styles.

DAN-211. MODERN DANCE II
Credits: 3
This course is the sequel to DAN-210, providing the truly committed student with the opportunity, at an intermediate level, for an even more substantive and diversified participatory engagement in modern and contemporary dance. It engages the student-dancer in highly individualized movements based on personalized, multi-faceted, and changing artistic standards.

Pre-Requisites
DAN-210 or permission of instructor.

DAN-220. ADVANCED TAP
Credits: 3
In this course, students will acquire and develop advanced tap dance technique through drills and exercises, and will develop an appreciation of the rich history of tap dance in America through lectures, videos, demonstrations and readings.

Pre-Requisites
DAN-120 or permission of instructor.

DAN-230. JAZZ DANCE I
Credits: 3
The first course involving an intensive and progressively challenging engagement in jazz technique and performance utilizing a fusion of methodologies all of which are ballet based. This course is designed for the student with limited dance experience, still having a basic understanding of ballet terminology and body placement. Core skills as well as body conditioning are emphasized, investigating different genres within the context of the jazz discipline. Classical Jazz, Musical Theatre Jazz, Video Style Jazz, and Lyrical Styles of Jazz will be introduced.

DAN-231. JAZZ DANCE II
Credits: 3
The second in the progressively demanding courses in the four-semester sequence in which students are intensively engaged in learning and executing jazz techniques and performance skills by utilizing a fusion of methodologies, all of which are ballet based. Through the study of jazz dance techniques as systematized using various methods, students are encouraged to perceive the nature of dance movement and to acquire some proficiency in its application to stage performance and achieve greater awareness of body structure and function. Select choreographers, directors, and teachers will play a significant role in the material chosen for this course.

Pre-Requisites
DAN-230 or permission of instructor.

DAN-250. CLASSICAL BALLET I
Credits: 3
The first course in the study of the theory and techniques of Russian classical ballet, as pursued in the curricula of the schools of the Bolshoi and Kirov Ballets and derived from the methodology devised by Agrippina Vaganova and Cecchetti.

DAN-251. CLASSICAL BALLET II
Credits: 3
This course is designed to build on the foundation acquired in DAN-250 for an intensive intellectual, emotional, and physical engagement in the study of the theory and techniques of Russian classical ballet, as pursued in the curricula of the schools of the Bolshoi and Kirov Ballets and derived from the methodology devised by Agrippina Vaganova and Cecchetti.

Pre-Requisites
DAN-250 or permission of instructor.
DAN-310. MODERN DANCE III  
Credits: 3  
This is an advanced course in modern dance, affording the student the opportunity to engage, experientially, in some of the more technically and choreographically demanding and innovative aspects of modern dance. In the exploration of these movement elaborations, the aesthetic vision of the choreographers may be perceived, especially in terms of how they adapted much of the disciplined technique of classical ballet in an exciting syncretic fusion.  

Pre-Requisites  
DAN-211 or permission of instructor.  

DAN-311. MODERN DANCE IV  
Credits: 3  
An advanced level course in Modern Dance technique. In addition to continued study of the concepts from DAN-310, specific contemporary styles will be explored.  

Pre-Requisites  
DAN-310 or permission of instructor.  

DAN-320. DANCE COMPOSITION  
Credits: 3  
An introduction to the craft of making dance works. Class emphasis is on developing movement material, structuring solid dance works and documenting the creative process. A writing component is required.  

Pre-Requisites  
DAN-120 or permission of instructor.  

DAN-330. JAZZ DANCE III  
Credits: 3  
Jazz Dance III is third in the progressively demanding courses in the four-semester elective sequence in which students are intensively engaged in learning and executing jazz techniques and performance skills using various methodologies, all of which are ballet based. Students at this level are expected to have a greater understanding of ballet terminology and body placement. Emphasizing a blending of theory and practice, this course is intended to encourage students to explore another dimension of personal fulfillment while cultivating realistically their potential as physically coordinated, aesthetically sensitive, poised, and graceful persons, with a deeper understanding of dance as recreation vs. dance in a professional environment relating to theatre studies. Within this course, the student will investigate the intent of the choreographer and director as well as experience the choreographic process itself. Creativity, logic, and reasoning skills will be enhanced, with the intention of aiding the student in transferring these aspects to their chosen major. Select choreographers, directors, and teachers will play a significant role in the material presented, with the expectation of the student delving more deeply into the creative process of dance.  

Pre-Requisites  
DAN-231 or permission of instructor.  

DAN-331. JAZZ DANCE IV  
Credits: 3  
The fourth level in the progressively demanding courses in the four-semester elective sequence in which students are intensively engaged in learning and executing jazz techniques and performance skills per various methodologies, all of which are ballet based. At this level, the student is expected to have an adequate knowledge of ballet terminology, body placement, and body conditioning, with a focus on transferring these skills to choreography, improvisation, class structure, and the creative process itself. This course is intended to take the dance student to a higher level of physical and creative awareness. A greater understanding of physics, as it relates to dance, kinesiology, anatomy, and the processing of more intricate exercises and combinations are a major focus. Once again, select choreographers, directors, and teachers, will play a significant role in the material presented. A deeper understanding of a person’s creative potential will be investigated, using life experiences of selected persons.  

Pre-Requisites  
DAN-330 or permission of instructor.  

DAN-350. CLASSICAL BALLET III  
Credits: 3  
This course is designed to build on the foundation laid in DAN-251. Course presentation will employ lecture, demonstration, and studio exercises designed to explore the movement dynamics that are especially appropriate to the classical dance genre. The objective of this course is the continued individually paced development of the qualities of grace, physical stamina, muscular and ligament flexibility, and movement musicality, especially via direct and active engagement in classical dance technique.  

Pre-Requisites  
DAN-251 or permission of instructor.  

DAN-351. CLASSICAL BALLET IV  
Credits: 3  
This course is designed to continue to build on the foundation laid in DAN-350. Special emphasis will be given in this course to the development of sound classical ballet technique (per a modified Vaganova methodology) as the foundation for the cultivation of poise, stage presence, kinetic flexibility, and physical stamina.  

Pre-Requisites  
DAN-350 or permission of instructor.