Student Opportunities

Dancing Uphill
Each spring the Dance Program presents Dancing Uphill, an event that features UVM student performers in faculty, guest artist, and student choreography.

Site Performance Project
Each fall, the Dance Program presents a faculty-directed site-specific dance/movement performance. Students engage in the opportunity to work closely with the faculty member in research, creation, and public presentation; the performance takes advantage of the numerous historic and scenic campus/community locales.

American College Dance Association (ACDA)
UVM is an institutional member of ACDA. College dance students attend the ACDA regional conference offered each spring at various campuses throughout New England, and enjoy the opportunity to take classes with professionals and present works from their university dance programs. Our Dance Program commits to bringing original work created by UVM students to ACDA each year. Four UVM student choreographers have been chosen for ACDA regional “best of” Gala Concerts.

Vermont College Dance Festival
Each fall, dance students and faculty from a variety of Vermont colleges/universities gather to participate in performances, master classes/workshops, and student-centered discussions or feedback sessions.

Minor in Dance
Students minoring in dance have full access to all the program has to offer, including courses and all special performance and creative opportunities. The minor in dance can be tied to a variety of majors in order to shape interesting career paths and/or prepare students for exciting interdisciplinary graduate work.

Eighteen credits in dance comprised of:
- Three credits in dance history
- Six credits in contemporary dance technique
- Three credits in dance composition
- Six credits from remaining dance courses

There is no audition required to declare a dance minor.

Contact
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Faculty

Paul Besaw
Choreography
Dance History
Contemporary Dance Technique

Clare Byrne
Contemporary Dance Technique
Improvisation
Ballet
World Dance

Selene Colburn
Research & Performance
Site-Based Performance

Paula Higa
Ballet
Brazilian Dance
Contemporary Dance Technique

Fabio Nascimento
Capoeira

Julie Peoples-Clark
Pilates
Yoga

Lynn Ellen Schimoler
African Forms
Contemporary Dance Technique

Elizabeth Seyler
Argentine Tango
World & Social Dance

Lois Trombley
Hip-Hop
Discover Dance

The UVM Dance Program is open to all students, both those new to dance and those who have had previous studies in dance. The mission of the Program is to provide students with the opportunity to expand and develop their knowledge of dance as a performing art form.

The heart of the Program lies in modern/contemporary dance. Practice and theory are embedded in all dance courses. Students learn applied knowledge in the art of dance through courses in contemporary dance technique, improvisation, composition, site-based performance, and participation in yearly performances. Students also critically examine dance in courses that emphasize history, cultural traditions, and creative research. Courses in ballet, hip hop, musical theatre dance, and a wide variety of world dance forms provide students with the opportunity to learn about a broad spectrum of dance forms.

The UVM Dance Program places special emphasis on student creative work, which includes choreography and research, and encourages interdisciplinary approaches to studying dance. The Program works very closely with our colleagues in Music to combine original and/or live music with dance creation at every opportunity. And the Program engages with the wider dance world through professional guest choreographers and master class instructors, as well as attendance at university dance conferences.

Through physical/creative action and engaged inquiry, it is the goal of the Program to facilitate rich and meaningful interaction amongst faculty, guest, and student artists.

Paul Besaw
Program Director
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