



Lighting and photo by Cris Dopher ©2009

M.A. Programs in Dance Education

Teaching Dance K-12 (Teacher Certification)
Higher Education and the Professions
- special concentration: ABT Ballet Pedagogy

Program Director: Susan R. Koff, Ed.D.

Our Dance Education Programs provide high quality professional development in the theory and practice of dance education for teachers, administrators, performing artists, and research scholars in the fields of dance and education. Our goal is to facilitate the development of creative and critical thinking abilities, thereby increasing your knowledge and expertise in dance and dance education. Our approach integrates the developing mind and body in the context of cultural practices.

What degree programs are offered?

NYU Steinhardt offers master's (MA) programs in Dance Education. The focus of these degree tracks is to infuse dance discipline knowledge with research knowledge in order to transform the way educators understand and teach dance. The curriculum allows the dancer to master her craft with coursework in choreography, technique, and improvisation. Courses in teaching methods, curriculum development, and multicultural practices enable deep understanding of learning and teaching processes. Theory and methods courses develop students' skills in research-based inquiry to enhance their own teaching and create new knowledge in the field of dance education.

Master of Arts Programs:

- Teaching Dance, K-12 (34 credits): for educators who seek professional teacher certification
- Teaching Dance K-12 (40 credits): for those seeking initial teacher certification
- Teaching Dance in Higher Education and the Professions, with a special concentration in ABT Ballet Pedagogy (36 credits)

Our three programs of study share an identical sequence of core courses: Methods & Materials, Composition/Teaching Performance, Technique & Pedagogy, Laban Movement Analysis, Research in Dance Education, and Seminar in Dance Education. In addition, students take specialized and elective courses specific to each program.

How long do the programs take?

Students have the freedom to determine which semesters they will enroll full-time (12 or more points) or part-time (9 or less points).

- Teaching Dance K-12 with Teacher Certification (40 credits) = 2 years, full-time
 - Teaching Dance K-12 in-service (34 credits) = 1 1/2 years, full-time
 - Teaching Dance in Higher Education and the Professions (36 credits) = 1 1/2 years, full-time
-

Required Courses May Include:

- Artistic Resources for Dance Education
- Improvisation
- Intermediate & Advanced Technique & Pedagogy
- Composition/Teaching Performance of Dance
- Methods and Materials for Teaching Dance
- Teaching Dance in Higher Education
- Teaching Creative Movement
- Jazz Dance in Higher Education
- Introduction to Laban Movement Analysis
- Research in Dance Education
- Independent Research & Study
- Seminar in Dance Education

Current Offerings Include:

- Anatomy & Kinesiology
- African Dance
- Hip Hop
- Tap Fusion
- Music for Dance
- Human Development in the Arts
- Principles of Dance/Movement Therapy
- Dance for the Special Child
- Fieldwork in Dance: Higher Education & Professions
- Fieldwork in Dance: Elementary/Secondary
- Student Teaching in Dance
- A Wide Variety of Interdepartmental Courses

Advanced Certificate Option:

The Advanced Certificate in Teaching Dance, All Grades is designed for prospective students who have earned an M.A. or M.F.A in Dance, and who wish to be certified in Teaching Dance, All Grades (Pre-K-12). Rather than earn an additional Master's degree, students in this program would take courses (20 credits minimum) that provide the supplementary educational theory, pedagogical development and instructional practice necessary to fulfill requirements currently in place for New York State Certification in Teaching Dance, All Grades.

Which Program is best for me?

Teaching Dance K-12: Our two MA programs in K-12 Dance Education are for dancers who want to become certified to teach dance in public schools (40 credit program) or for teachers of dance who hold initial teacher certification and seek professional certification (34 credit program). Graduates are eligible for initial or professional teacher certification in New York State. Reciprocity with other states is available.

Teaching Dance in Higher Education & the Professions (36 credits): This MA program is ideal for those who wish to prepare for doctoral study, teach in higher education, or develop and administer dance education programs for cultural institutions or schools of dance. Students in this program are typically artists who have been working professionally as performers or choreographers and would like to focus on pedagogy and research. Higher Education MA students are seeking to build alternative skills in teaching and scholarship and to gain a competitive edge through research in the higher education field. Graduates are immediately employable for full-time positions at community colleges and for adjunct positions at institutions of higher education. This program is also attractive to those who aim their career toward the "professions" -- directing education programs at cultural institutions, developing private schools of dance, or developing community programs that interface with boards of education.

Teaching Dance in Higher Education and the Professions: ABT Ballet Pedagogy (36 credits): This innovative concentration is for students intending to teach in private studios conservatories, and community settings as teaching artists. The dance teaching aspect of this curriculum is taught by American Ballet Theatre master teachers who emphasize the development of the ballet dancer. Pedagogy and research are complemented with arts management courses to fully prepare the graduate for private sector employment. The culminating project is the creation of a dance curriculum. The applicant for this track is an accomplished ballet dancer who wants to develop pedagogical content in this art form. In addition to the MA degree in teaching dance in higher education and the professions, the graduate receives an ABT Ballet Pedagogy certificate.

Individualize My Program of Study

The extent to which you can pursue specific interests within our programs depends on your prior experience and the specific requirements of our curricula.

For the MA program in Teaching Dance in Higher Education and the Professions, your prior experience in dance, administration, and other areas will determine how much you can individualize your program of study.

Students in our M. A. programs in Teaching Dance K-12 must complete specific courses as mandated by New York State teacher certification requirements. Students may pursue their own interests and professional needs through careful selection of electives.

All programs allow students to take courses outside of dance education. Students can elect from a wide array of courses in the Department of Music and Performing Arts Professions, the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, the Tisch School of the Arts' Program in Performance Studies, and the Gallatin School of Individualized Study.

Can I Still Perform?

The mission and vision of our program rests on the belief that pedagogy, research, and artistic development are intertwined. We strongly encourage and support our students' artistic development. Along with core artistry/creative inquiry courses that aim to stretch students' artistry, we offer a number of extra-curricular performance opportunities.

We produce two concerts annually. The Distinguished Faculty Concert gives students the opportunity to perform in faculty choreography. The MA Student Concert is an opportunity to both choreograph and perform in student works. Only NYU students and alumni may perform in our concerts, ensuring that our students will have many performance opportunities.

Kaleidoscope Dancers for Children is a student performance group that learns repertory, develops new works, designs lesson strategies, and performs for K-12 students. Each spring, groups of school children attend our studios to closely interact with our dancer/educators.

Our faculty and alumni often invite our students to perform in professional venues. If you want to continue performing professionally, you may wish to consider part-time study which may include summers. Students may also take two leaves of absence for one semester each to fulfill commitments such as touring.



How to Apply

The successful applicant is inquisitive and seeks greater pedagogical knowledge to combine with developed artistic capabilities.

The successful applicant for the concentration in ABT Ballet Pedagogy is an accomplished ballet dancer who wants to develop ballet curricula and teach ballet.

Visit www.steinhardt.nyu.edu/application to access the application or contact the Office of Graduate Admissions at 212 998 5030.

The application deadline is February 1 for fall admission and November 1 for spring admission.

Further Information

Visit www.steinhardt.nyu.edu/music/dance, call 212 998 5400, or send an email to steinhardt.dance@nyu.edu.



NEW YORK UNIVERSITY