

# DANCE MAJOR ANNUAL REVIEW

## Policies and Procedures April 2016

### Bachelors of Fine Arts (BFA) ANNUAL REVIEW • SOPHOMORE PROGRESS JURY • PROGRESSION STANDARDS

### Bachelors of Science (BS) SOPHOMORE REVIEW

#### **PART ONE:**

#### **Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA)**

#### **ANNUAL REVIEW, SOPHOMORE PROGRESS JURY & PROGRESSION STANDARDS**

#### **Purpose:**

- The BFA Annual Review provides two important functions for all BFA dance majors enrolled in the Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance at Wayne State University: 1) programmatic evaluation and assessment of each student; and 2) self- reflection and informed direction for the student's future progress.
- The BFA Annual Review in Dance is to determine each BFA dance major's progress in the Dance Program's academic, technical, and performance areas. Outcomes of the annual review may be one of the following: *Exceeds Expectations*; *Meets Expectations*; and *Below Expectations*. The BFA Annual Review does not provide academic, technical or performance feedback or detailed/in-depth comments. For academic progress, see James Fortune, Department Student Advisor; progress in technique should be discussed with your most recent technique teacher.

#### **When:**

All BFA dance majors must submit an Annual Review Portfolio (ARP). Each student is responsible for compiling their own ARP, based on the template below. **All portfolios are due in the Theatre and Dance Office on designated date (per announcement).** Faculty will review all student ARP's after Winter Term Exam week.

#### Assessment may include:

- Classroom Approach
- Academic Progress
- Rehearsal Behavior & Skills

- Performance Progress
- Choreographic Skills & Progress
- Contribution to the Theatre and Dance Department & College environment

\* Each student will receive a copy of the Faculty Assessment Response form.

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***BFA Student Annual Review Portfolio Template:*** All BFA dance majors must use this template to compile their portfolios; Sections 1-5 are required.

### **BFA Portfolio Sections**

**1. Modern & Ballet Evaluation Forms** (from your instructor) Technical progression; acquisition of standardized skills.

**2. Transcript/Grades:** Provide a complete transcript of all courses completed. All Dance Majors: must earn C or above in all majors' courses. For BFA Majors: must earn B+ or above in technique & choreography. For students on departmental probation: Show accomplished improvement based upon stipulations of the probation (expectations and timeline).

### **3. Student Achievements**

- Performance
- Production
- Extra-Curricular
- Artistic
- Academic/Scholarly
- Other: Actively engaged and contributing to company, repertory, student choreography, and/or stage management, design (publicity, graphics, costume, lighting, digital dance, etc.), scholarship or research (Undergraduate Research Grant/Forum, Honors, etc.). Any endeavors beyond the set curriculum (i.e. conferences, festivals, artistic work, teaching, dance in community, or outreach service)

### **4. Student Challenges**

Student's critical self-assessment and self-direction are evaluated; identification of progression obstacles is important

- in class and rehearsal
- scheduling/time management
- other

### **5. Beneficial Experiences & Developing Career Goals**

Self-reflection \* self-determination through goal-setting

## 6. Other

### Items that you would like to share with the faculty

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#### **BFA Progression Standards**

The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance degree is the professional degree program for those students with evidence of exemplary previous training, as well as the talent and ability to complete the rigorous professional degree program at Wayne State University. To these

ends, the following BFA Progression Standards apply to all prospective and current students in the FA program in the Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance.

#### **For Prospective Students:**

BFA Entrance Audition:

- All prospective dance majors are required to audition for the dance program for the coming year; the audition includes ballet, modern and improvisational dance techniques. In addition, those applying for the BFA degree or departmental scholarships must provide a web link to an uploaded solo (three-minute maximum) of them dancing. Additionally, each prospective BFA student will be interviewed (approximately 10-15 minutes) by a faculty member in order to gain more insight into the student's goals and aspirations for pursuing a professional degree in dance;
- All BFA candidates should exhibit strong technical skills and artistry;
- It is strongly recommended that BFA candidates perform their own choreographic work in the solo video submitted with their application;
- Following the formal audition and interview, candidates will also have the opportunity to interface with current dance majors in informal groupings throughout the department's facilities.

#### **For Current Students:**

BFA Application & Audition for Current BS Students:

Dance faculty will extend BFA audition invitations to current first-year BS dance majors whom the faculty believe may be suitable for admission to the BFA program in dance. Invitations will be announced in late March of each year. Invited first-year students interested in making the switch to BFA MUST complete and submit the following

documents by April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year:

- BFA Professional Goals Statement: A two-page statement of professional goals and career aspirations and evidence of BFA-caliber technique, performance and academic accomplishments;
- Current Transcripts: copies, unofficial;
- Choreograph and perform a 3-minute solo, submitted to the Dance Faculty via

YouTube or Vimeo link.

### **Minimum BFA Grade Standard for Progression**

In addition to the University requirement that all majors' coursework be completed with a grade of C or higher, all BFA students must earn the grade of B+ or higher in all technique and choreography classes. Earning a grade of B or lower in technique or choreography courses will result in automatic departmental BFA probation. BFA students on probation must rectify substandard grades within the following semester in order to maintain BFA degree status.

#### **Summer Study**

The dance faculty strongly recommends that all BFA students attend summer dance intensives for further study and professional development. Students should meet with faculty advisors early in the Winter semester to explore summer study and performance opportunities.

#### **Scholarships for BFA students**

Talent Scholarship Awards are prioritized for BFA students. Summer Study Awards are normally (but not necessarily) prioritized for outstanding BFA students. These funds are limited and may not be available every year, but every student may apply. BFA students seeking financial assistance for international study should contact the Department Chair.

### **BFA Sophomore Progress Jury**

The BFA Sophomore Progress Jury occurs during the Annual Review process each year. **In addition to the BFA student's Annual Review Portfolio (ARP), all sophomore BFA dance majors must submit a Choreography and Performance Video.** The BFA Sophomore Progress Video must include the student's final choreography projects from DNC 2500: Choreography I and DNC 3500: Choreography II. When appropriate, the student may also include an optional feature performance excerpt (solo, duet) in the video. Maximum length of the Sophomore Progress Video is 10 minutes.

The video itself should be uploaded to YouTube or Vimeo (with the privacy settings on "Unlisted" if you wish), and the link should be sent to the Dance Faculty Head by due date.

**All BFA Annual Review Portfolios and BFA Sophomore Progress Videos are due in the Theatre and Dance Office no later than the designated due date (per announcement).** For sophomore BFA students, the outcome and recommendation for further continuation in the BFA program will be based on Sophomore Progress Jury. Students who do not evidence adequate progression (per departmental and WSU

policy) will be required to change their degree program track to the Bachelor of Science (BS) degree.

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## **PART TWO: Bachelors of Science (BS) SOPHOMORE REVIEW**

(No submission materials are required from the BS student)

All Bachelor of Science (BS) dance majors are reviewed at the conclusion of the sophomore year. BS students who do not receive a SATISFACTORY progress assessment will be placed on probation or may be removed from the BS degree program. BS students receiving an UNSATISFACTORY progress review may complete the dance minor, with permission from the dance faculty. The BS Sophomore Review evaluates the student's work in the following areas:

### **GPA & Number of Credit Hour Completed**

In order to be eligible for a SATISFACTORY review, BS students should maintain a 3.0 GPA and have successfully completed at least 50 credit hours.

### **Minimum Grade Standard for Progression**

Wayne State University requires that all majors' coursework be completed with a grade of C or higher. A grade of C- or lower in a required course means the student must retake the course and receive a grade of C or higher.

### **BS Professional Core Courses & Grades**

Five core courses are at the center of the BS degree: DNC 1819; DNC 3810; DNC 4910; DNC 5910; and DNC 5998. These courses must be taken as scheduled on the student's 4YR BS Plan. If a course is not taken as scheduled, the student's progression will be in jeopardy and the student will be placed on probation.

### **Career Path Identified**

In DNC 1810, BS students are required to identify their dance profession career path and to create a personalized 4YR Plan, indicating additional courses within and outside of the Theatre and Dance Department, as well as summer study, intensives, and potential internships or fieldwork opportunities.

### **BS Progression Decision**

Sophomore BS students who do not evidence adequate progression (per departmental and WSU policy) will be placed on probation for one semester, and/or be removed from the BS program. For those students placed on probation: if evidence of progress is not shown at the conclusion of the probation semester, the student is subject to removal from the BS degree program. At the dance faculty's discretion, some students may be permitted to complete the dance minor.

**Internship or Fieldwork or Apprenticeship for DNC 5910: Professions Seminar**

By July 15<sup>th</sup> after the BS student's JUNIOR YEAR, all BS students must have identified and confirmed with the BS program faculty advisor (Dr. Risner) an internship, apprenticeship or fieldwork experience as the centerpiece of the DNC 5910: Professions Seminar course to be taken in Fall Semester of the senior year.