

University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance

Department of Dance Master of Fine Arts in Dance Student Handbook

AY 2015-2016

Department of Dance Faculty and Staff 2015-2016

	Name	Uniqname	Indi Number
Chair	Jessica Fogel, Professor	jfogel	611
Staff	Megan McClure (Dance), Administrative Coordinator	mcmegan	
Faculty	Melissa Beck, Lecturer II	mlbeck	601
	Amy Chavasse, Associate Professor	chavasse	608
	Mary Cole, Lecturer IV	mcole	036
	Clare Croft, Assistant Professor	chcroft	619
	Bill DeYoung, Professor	bdyj	615
	Beth Genné, Professor	genne	612
	Jillian Hopper, Lecturer	jhopper	
	Sean Hoskins, Lecturer	hoskinss	
	Angela Jamison, Lecturer	angelasj	
	Slavka Jelinkova, Lecturer	slavka	
	Angela Kane, Professor	atkane	603
	Amber Kao, Lecturer	amberkao	
	Christian Matijas Mecca, Associate Professor	xmecca	607
	Judy Rice, Associate Professor	jrrice	602
	Stephen Rush, Professor of Music (Dance/Music Technology)	srush	
	Biza Sompa, Lecturer II	bizajb	604
	Peter Sparling, Professor	petespar	614
	Sandra Torijano, Associate Professor	torid	609
	Amy West, Lecturer I	alwest	
	Khita Whyatt, Lecturer I	khitaw	200
	Robin Wilson, Associate Professor	robinwil	118

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Department of Dance Mission Statement

The University of Michigan's Department of Dance is committed to excellence, innovation, learning in action, and entrepreneurship. Our mission is to bridge dance practice and scholarship, and to foster interdisciplinary inquiry. As an internationally renowned faculty, we bring a challenging range of perspectives to our teaching and research, and we continually re-examine our curriculum in order to prepare both young and mature dancers for careers in an ever-evolving field.

Dance Student Assembly Mission Statement

The Dance Student Assembly (DSA) is the official student government in the Department of Dance at the University of Michigan. In addition to its officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer), each year group in the BFA and MFA program has at least one representative. The DSA is committed to building an environment that represents undergraduate and graduate student interests, concerns, and issues that relate to policies within the Department of Dance. Members report to and collaborate with the Chair of the Department on a regular basis, allowing the DSA to act as a liaison between students and the faculty. This relationship assists in shaping policy that responds to and reflects student needs. Moreover, the DSA organizes student activities, keeps students informed of Department events, provides an open forum for students to voice opinions, and strives to incorporate other departments in the School of Music, Theatre & Dance. The DSA encourages active participation in the Department of Dance, student and faculty projects, and provides a nourishing, learning environment for all.

Graduate Advisor's & Graduate Director

Each graduate student is appointed an individual advisor from among the full-time faculty. The individual advisor meets periodically with his or her advisee to provide guidance on the successful completion of the degree and professional development. Students are responsible for making appointments with his/her individual advisors to discuss aspects of the program and progress towards the degree.

The individual advisor should be a first point of contact and is a resource for curricular policies and procedures. The Graduate Director can provide an overview of the MFA program as a whole. The Graduate Director is the main point of contact with the Rackham Graduate School and will also meet regularly with all Graduate Students throughout the year as a component of the Dance Student Association to discuss interests, concerns and issues as they apply to graduate studies in Dance.

Department of Dance Code of Ethics

The Department of Dance strives to sustain a lively community of artists and scholars who value self-expression, independent thinking, and a diversity of creative responses to their academic and professional endeavors. This dynamic environment brings with it the responsibilities for mutual respect and a code of ethics. Policies for attendance, dress code, grading, evaluation and student/faculty interaction are outlined herein. The Dance Student Assembly (DSA) acts as a liaison with faculty and the Chair to address issues and grievances, and as an important means of communication back to the student body.

The SMTD Rackham Handbook lists its Graduate student policies including: Academic Code of Conduct; Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy; Non-Academic Conduct; and Dispute Resolution Policy and Procedures. For information about resolving disputes, please visit the Rackham web site @ rackham.umich.edu/policies/dispute resolution.

In congruence with these policies, the Department asks of its faculty and students that they participate actively in building and maintaining a community with equal opportunity and responsibility for all, celebrating difference and the particular demands of the artistic pursuit on uniquely individual human beings.

See SMTD Handbook for complete Code of Ethics.

The Department is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD). Student's may also want to access NASD's website @ nasd.arts-accredit.org.

The Department follows the University's Academic Conduct policies as articulated in the SMTD Student Handbook. Please pay particular attention to the section on plagiarism.

Dress Code for Studio Courses

All students are expected to follow the directions of their individual instructor regarding appropriate and acceptable wear in class. In general, it is expected that students dress for technique classes so that the instructor is able to clearly see—without obstruction—the body at work: its articulations, alignment, points of movement initiation, and paths of completion.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all scheduled class sessions within each course. It is also expected that students will take as much advantage as possible of master classes, guest lectures and residencies, and other special events that may occur both within courses and outside the auspices of a particular course. Since courses in the Department have a variety of structures, instructors in the first week of class will indicate in writing the specific attendance/participation requirements for each course. When the instructor considers the number of late arrivals, early departures, and/or absences excessive, and when a student's absence from a course endangers his/her satisfactory academic progress and/or the work of other students, the instructor may submit a written report at mid-term to the student's advisor, the Department's Director of Graduate Studies, and the office of the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies. In no case can a student expect to earn a passing grade without consistent attendance and class participation.

Excused absences include absences on the part of pre-approved University or Departmental functions, and absences for religious holidays (see below for more details). Students are required to notify faculty in advance of these excused absences. Email the professor promptly, in as much advance of an absence as possible. If a student must be absent, it is his/her responsibility to be prepared to execute or discuss any material missed.

Absences Due to Injury or Illness

In the case of injury of illness, the student must have a physician's written excuse to sit out of a class, and if possible the student is expected to attend the class and take notes. If infectious, stay at home and do not spread germs and illness. Injured students will be permitted to sit out of a technique class or studio class for a period of up to two weeks, after which they may be advised to drop the class. Injuries incurred in class should be reported to the teacher immediately, followed by treatment at the University's Health Center at Arts Med, or from the student's personal physician.

Religious Holidays

It is the policy of the University of Michigan to make every reasonable effort to allow members of the University community to observe their religious holidays without academic penalty. Absence from classes or examination for religious reasons does not relieve a student from responsibility for any course work required during the period of absence. If a student expects to miss classes, examinations, or other assignments as a consequence of religious observance, s/he will be provided a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the student's obligation to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates on which s/he will be absent. If a student is absent on days of examinations or class assignments, s/he shall be offered an opportunity to make up the work without penalty, unless it can be demonstrated that a makeup opportunity would constitute a disadvantage to other students or an unreasonable burden on the faculty. Should disagreement arise over what constitutes an unreasonable burden or any aspect of this policy, parties involved should contact the Department Chair, the Dean of the School, or the University Ombudsman.

University-related Absence

When absent from class on behalf of the University of Michigan, it is the expectation that the student will make alternative arrangements for fulfilling class assignments. The alternative arrangement should not unduly inconvenience either faculty members or other students. It is the student's obligation, if s/he expects to miss classes, examinations, or other assignments as a consequence of representing the University, to provide his/her individual advisor with reasonable notice for dates of anticipated absences and to work with course instructors to obtain assignments so as to prepare the necessary academic material. Additionally, it is the student's responsibility to know, be prepared to execute or discuss any material missed.



All student absences on behalf of the University during the academic year need prior approval from the School's Executive Committee. Students are required to provide details of the event (e.g., purpose, location, dates).

The following text is from Section 39 of the SMTD Faculty Handbook, *Policy for Student Requests for Absence from Class for Tours, Trips, and Other Events*:

A detailed memorandum of request to the Executive Committee shall be forwarded to the Dean of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance. Following review and approved by the Executive Committee, the requestor will be notified of the decision, and the requestor will compose a memorandum for the <u>Dean's signature</u>.

- A. The memo should be addressed to <u>relevant</u> University faculty (list all names) requesting that the students involved be excused from class. The memo should state the name of the group (e.g., Creative Arts Orchestra), reason for the request (e.g., East Coast tour), and names of the students involved. A copy of the itinerary must be attached to the memo or inserted on the back.
- B. Once the Dean signs the memo, the requestor will make copies for the students, who in turn will meet with their instructors and provide each with a copy of the memo.
- C. Students are responsible for obtaining permission for the absence and for ensuring that all course work is completed in a timely manner.

Injury Policy

Should an injury occur, take the following steps:

- 1. If experiencing acute pain, swelling, spasms, or a broken bone stop dancing immediately.
 - Acute Muscle and Tendon Tears (have these diagnosed by a doctor)
 - The first 72 hours are the most critical. If the student keeps dancing during that time, it may lead to a serious injury that could become chronic. Pain is the body's way of saying something is wrong. Rest for the first 72 hours. Do not stop moving altogether but do gentle movements that do not cause pain. Do not over-stretch the affected area. As time goes on, the student may experience the absence of pain or inflammation. This is not a sign that the student is completely healed. Continue a gradual progression of increased movement and keep in touch with doctors and/or physical therapists.
- 2. Inform the instructor and Department Administrator immediately and assess the gravity of the situation.
- 3. If the injury occurred on the University's Campus the student must fill out an accident report with the Department Administrator.
- 4. If the student sees a doctor and/or a physical therapist, make sure to get a written diagnosis so the instructors can work with the prescribed rehabilitation plan.
- 5. Remember, we are teachers not doctors or physical therapists so the student needs to seek professional help and keep the instructors informed of the diagnosis and/or the therapist's plan of action.
- 6. Keep an injury journal to track progress. Track pain and activity levels.
- 7. If the student needs to sit out, ask the instructor how s/he would like the injured student to use class time effectively. Possible options are: taking detailed notes on observation of the class section; performing the upper body movements sitting in a chair (or lower body movements without upper body depending on the site of the injury); doing exercises recommended by the physical therapist; assisting the teacher; researching the injury and writing a paper; attending physical therapy (only in extreme cases during class time); or other activities per the instructor.
- 8. MedSport at Domino Farms provides physical therapy for dancers. The Department of Dance's main point of contact at MedSport is Kristen Schuyten: kbalfour@umich.edu. The phone number at MedSport is 877-877-9333 or (734) 930-7400. See Appendix F for further information.

Expectations

In addition to policies stated elsewhere in this handbook, Dance MFA's are expected to:

- Assist/lead in the late August/early September new MFA orientation.
- Assist as needed during all BFA and MFA auditions.
- Be an example to the undergrads (both BFA Dance and non-major students).
- Work closely with the individual advisor on program requirements, pathways and career plans.
- Assist/lead feedback sessions at the BFA WIPs.
- Regularly check and use the UMICH email for all Department communications and practice good email etiquette.
- Regularly check the Department's Google calendar to keep up to date with Department events.
- Attend Friends of Dance event(s).
- Attend all Department forums.
- Attend all BFA and MFA Works-in-Progress.
- Attend all Research in Action colloquiums.
- In the event that a student cannot attend an event, email the Dance faculty and Grads explaining the absence.

Graduate Student Instructors

Graduate Student Instructors (GSIs) have a significant responsibility as teachers of non-major Dance courses within the Department. These courses provide graduate students with the opportunity to deepen their proficiency as teachers, develop their teaching philosophies, develop new courses, and convey their passion for the field to their students. GSI teaching will be assigned and mentored by Dance faculty. GSIs are also encouraged to draw upon the resources of the Center for Research in Learning and Teaching (CRLT), which provides workshops and guidance for a variety of teaching issues. For more information, please visit: crlt.umich.edu/index.php.

CRLT also produces a GSI guidebook that can be accessed online: crit.umich.edu/gsis/gsi_guide.php.

GSI Canceled Class Policy

In the event that a GSI is unable to teach a class due to illness they should report this ASAP to the Department Administrator and the Graduate Director (mcmegan, jkfogel). The Department should make every reasonable effort to hold the class – given the size of classes for non-Dance majors, a make-up session is hard to schedule – and may ask the student to help identify a substitute. If unable to identify a substitute or another non-major class that the students can join, the GSI should email the students immediately informing them of the cancelation and assign an outside assignment to make up for the loss of class time.

Course Schedule & Registration

Registration Process

- 1. Advisor. All students must see their individual advisor before registering for courses. S/he will help the student plan a class schedule based on degree requirements and personal goals. It is the student's responsibility to initiate transfer of credits, to follow up on changes in the program, and to keep his/her advising record up-to-date by filling out the appropriate "Advisor/Advisee" form, thereby monitoring fulfillment of curriculum requirements. Advisor/Advisee forms are available on the Department of Dance website and are included in your handbook (Appendix B). This is a critical tool to help the student and the individual advisor navigate course choices and enables the student to track his/her progress through the program as well as form part of the student's record.
- 2. Schedule of Classes. The schedule of classes is online and can be viewed through Wolverine Access. Additionally, it can be found @ umich.edu/~regoff/schedule. The schedule is divided by term, then by School, then by Department.
- **3. Overrides.** An override slip (a.k.a., Drop/Add form) signed by the individual advisor is needed to elect courses that have entry restrictions (permission of instructor needed). The slips should be submitted to the Dance Office prior to the student's scheduled registration deadline. For most of the 500- and 600-level Dance courses, an override is also needed if the student chooses to drop a course. * Note that the Dance Administrator can enter overrides for <u>Dance courses</u> only.
- **4. Registration.** Once the overrides have been entered, students will receive an email indicating their ability to register via Wolverine Access @ wolverineaccess.umich.edu.



If the student is registered for a course s/he does not intend to take the student should drop it. The student is not automatically dropped from a class roster for non-attendance. Students may make changes to their class schedules freely through the end of the third week of classes. (See SMTD 2015-2016 Student Handbook)

Add/Drop

Students may drop or add courses until the end of the third week of classes in the Fall and Winter Terms and until the end of the first week of classes in a Half-Term. Between the third and sixth weeks (or second and fourth week of a half-term), students must have their requests approved by the instructor, their individual advisor and the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies. After the sixth week (or fourth week of a half-term), no such changes will be permitted, except for medical reasons, provided that an incomplete is unacceptable to the instructor(s) of the course(s) and that a written statement is submitted to the appropriate Dean by a physician confirming that continued enrollment is not feasible (See SMTD 2015-2016 Student Handbook). Note: Any course for which a drop is registered after the third week in a full term (or the second week in a half term) will appear on the permanent record as "W" (withdrawn).

Late Add/Drop

From the Rackham Graduate School Academic Policies:

Through the third week of classes in a full term (or the first week of classes in a half-term), students may add or drop a course, change status from credit to visit (audit), or increase or decrease the hours for a course within the range listed in the Time Schedule via Wolverine Access. The Registrar's Office publishes each year's Drop/Add deadline on its website: www.umich.edu/~regoff/. Departmental approval is necessary to change course elections. Departments and programs may have separate deadlines or procedures. A student who seeks to drop the only course for which he or she is registered must follow procedures for a term withdrawal as outlined on the Registrar's website.

Auditing a Course

From the Rackham Graduate School Academic Policies, Section 4 entitled, "Coursework, Grading and Academic Standing" @ rackham.umich.edu/policies/academic policies/section4/ - 43

With permission of the advisor and the course instructor, a student may enroll in a course as a visitor (auditor) rather than for credit. A notation of "VI" appears on the transcript when the course is completed successfully (section 4.5). After a grade has been issued, a course may not be changed from letter grade to visit (audit) status, or vice versa. A visit (audit) will not be counted toward degree credit requirements.

Full fees will be assessed at the current rate of tuition. After registering for the course online via Wolverine Access, the student must submit a Drop/Add form in person or via email to the Registrar's Office and present the Drop/Add form with the signatures of both the instructor and the student's department graduate chair or advisor. Before enrolling, the student must confer with the instructor to reach an agreement on what will constitute satisfactory completion of the course. The student is expected to attend class regularly and may be asked to submit assignments and take examinations. Elections of visited (audited) courses must appear on the class schedule printout provided at registration. Students should check their class schedule printouts for accuracy and completeness.

Faculty Indi Numbers

Most faculty members have an 'indi number', which enables students to register for an Independent Study or Field Experience course under the direction of the faculty member. Please refer to the front of this handbook for a listing of faculty indi numbers or the Department Administrator for more information. (See Independent Study in the Dance Curriculum Notes section of this handbook for more information.)

Transfer Credit

All non-UM schools or programs attended must send an **official transcript** to the Rackham Graduate School. It is **the student's** responsibility to find out which credits are transferable. ***NOTE: In most cases, Dance curricular requirements cannot be substituted with coursework done at other institutions or summer workshops.**

Variations in Credit/Course Planning

- The published requirements for graduation are minimum requirements for completion of the MFA program. Additional credit may be taken in any area of interest. This credit is then counted towards graduation as elective credit.
- MFA students who wish to enroll for fewer than 9 credit hours or more than 18 credit hours for the full term (4-6 for the half-term) must obtain the permission of the individual advisor and the Dean of Graduate Studies at the School of Music, Theatre & Dance.
- Under special circumstances, students may be able to use the Course Waiver or Substitution
 form to substitute one course for another required course, or to waive a course. Students
 must complete the form and give it to the individual advisor for approval and signature. The
 individual advisor will present it to the Chair for final approval. If approval is granted, the
 request will be forwarded to the School of Music, Theatre & Dance Associate Dean for
 Graduate Studies.

Degree Audits

All students should meet with their individual advisor each term to ensure that credits are well distributed across the four terms of MFA study and that track, Dance elective, cognate, and required course choices meet program requirements. An audit should occur at the end of Year 1.

GRADING POLICY

The Rackham Graduate School has established the following descriptions and criteria for grading at the graduate level:

Excellent: Markedly above average for graduate students

A+ (4.3 points) The highest conceivable standard of work

A (4.0 points) Genuinely outstanding

A- (3.7 points) A very high standard in which strengths far exceed weaknesses

Good: Standard normally expected of graduate students

B+ (3.3 points) Above average

B (3.0 points) Average

B- (2.7 points) Revealing certain weaknesses

Fair: Below average for graduate students

C+ (2.3 points) Lacking essential qualitiesC (2.0 points) Marginally acceptable

C- (1.7 points) Need for marked improvement to remain in program

Poor: Not acceptable at graduate level

D+ (1.3 points)

D (1.0 points)

D- (0.7 points)

Michigan Honor Points (abbreviated MHP on student transcripts) are calculated by multiplying the number of credit hours for which the course was elected by the number of points in the above scale. The grade-point average (GPA) is calculated by dividing the Michigan Honor Points earned in a given time period by the number of credit hours earned in the same time period. A cumulative GPA of B (3.0) or higher is required to remain in good standing or to receive a degree. A student whose cumulative GPA falls below B may be placed on academic probation for the following term (or half-term) of enrollment, or required to withdraw. A student whose cumulative grade-point average falls below B for two or more terms may be required to withdraw. No course in which a grade of D, E, I, W (Drop), VI (Visit), ED (Unofficial Drop), S (Satisfactory), U (Unsatisfactory or Y (work still in progress in a multi-term course) is received may be counted to satisfy any requirement.

A grade of Incomplete ("I") may be assigned to a student only if the unfinished part of the student's work is small, the work is unfinished for reasons acceptable to the instructor, and the student's standing in the course is a B grade or higher. The student and the instructor should discuss the Incomplete prior to its conferral. A grade of I can be changed to a letter grade only if the incomplete work is made up by the end of the second full term following the term for which the I is given, counting the Spring-Summer term, regardless of whether or not the Rackham student is enrolled. If the grade of I has stood for two full terms, credit can be earned only by re-electing the course, attending classes, and completing all course work and examinations. The grade-point average will be based on hours of work completed. The grade of I is permanently retained on the

student's record. An Incomplete that has been made up according to the above procedures will appear on the student's transcript as an I with the letter grade next to it.

Avoid incomplete grades. Even when made up, an incomplete remains on the transcript and becomes a significant negative factor when the student is under consideration for a fellowship or employment. An Incomplete that is not made up represents an even more serious blemish.

A student who submits work to make up an Incomplete when the deadline is imminent should point out the approaching deadline to the faculty member and stress the urgency of reporting the grade prior to the deadline. A student who waits until the last minute to make up an Incomplete may find that, for unanticipated reasons, the faculty member is simply unable to do so before the deadline. Sometimes illness intervenes. Sometimes s/he is unavailable, or has left the University. In some cases, an Incomplete ultimately means that the student must elect another course.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

If requesting a letter of recommendation from a faculty member, the student must provide the following information:

- Plan ahead. Allow a month's notice if possible, at a minimum. Send a polite reminder to the
 faculty member two weeks before the letter is due. Follow up to see if the letter has been
 sent and thank them for their time and willingness. If called for an interview, offered the
 position and/or accept/ reject, let the faculty member know. Faculty put a lot of time and
 energy into helping the student succeed.
- Complete address and contact information, including the name of the person to whom the letter will be addressed. If there is no name, specify that the letter can be addressed 'To Whom It May Concern'
- Date the recommendation is due and whether it must be **received** or **postmarked** by that date, and whether it is a physical copy or an online submission
- Copy or website link of the job description, summer program, internship, etc.
- Website links to the organization, school and/or person to whom applying. If one can not have access to these, provide some context and background for the nature of the job, position or internship
- Reasons why applying and, if the student has a letter of interest or cover letter, please share
 with the faculty member. It is helpful in crafting a customized letter for the student. The
 more details faculty have the better. If there is a compelling reason this is the ideal course
 or position, articulate this clearly to the faculty member
- Current resume and, where appropriate, copies of a teaching and/or research statement
- Stamped and addressed envelope for the faculty member to use or details of electronic submission requirements. If asking for multiple letters, provide adequate stamped and addressed envelopes

Course Listing

RESEARCH IN ACTION 10 credits

This 10-credit sequence of courses is required for all MFA dance students.

TRACK 20 credits

MFA students choose **ONE** of the following tracks:

Performance/Repertory Choreography Screendance

DANCE ELECTIVES 10-14 credits

MFA students choose courses in one or more of the following areas as dance electives. Courses from either/both of their non-specialist tracks may also function as dance electives.

Dance Science
Dance History
Dance Education
Interdisciplinary Arts

COGNATES 6-10 credits

Cognates to comprise at least two graduate-level courses of at least three credit hours each.

THESIS 10 credits

This comprises three components: Thesis preparation, production and reflection. This 10-credit sequence of courses is required for all MFA students.

MFA DANCE PROGRAM – INDIVIDUAL COURSES

NOTE: Not all courses are offered all terms/years.

RESEARCH	IN ACTION	10 credits
501	RIA 1: Research Methods in Dance	3 credits
502	RIA 2: Problematizing Theory in Practice	3 credits
505	RIA 3: Self-Evaluation Report	1 credit
601	RIA 4: Dance History & Theory	3 credits
Dance Tec	hniques	
511/611	Ballet	1 credit each
513/613	Modern Dance	1 credit each
514/614	World Dance	1 credit each
515/615	Ann Arbor Dance Works Technique	1 credit each
516/616	Paul Taylor Summer Intensive Technique	1 credit each
517/617	Special Topics: Dance Technique	1-3 credits each
518/618	Field Experience: Dance Technique	1-3 credits each
519/619	Independent Study: Dance Technique	1-3 credits each
TDACK		20 avadita

TRACK 20 credits

NOTE: All three tracks will include core courses toward track credits consisting of Dance 534 Performance Improvisation I (3 credits); Dance 531/524 Solo Composition or Solo Performance (3 credits)*; Dance 532 Choreography, Performance, Production & Design (3 credits); and Dance 631 Graduate Studio (2 credits).

Performance/Repertory

521	University Dance Company	1 credit
621	University Dance Company	1-2 credits
522/622	Movement Research: Reviving 20 th -21 st Century Dances	3 credits each
523/623	Performance Portfolio	2-4 credits each
525/625	Ann Arbor Dance Works Repertory	1 credit each
526/626	Paul Taylor Summer Intensive Repertory	1 credit each
527/627	Special Topics: Performance/Repertory	1-3 credits each
528/628	Field Experience: Performance/Repertory	1-3 credits each
529/629	Independent Study: Performance/Repertory	1-3 credits each

Choreography

533	Choreographic Portfolio	2-4 credits
535	Mapping Movement & Place: Site Dance Composition	3 credits
536	Dramaturgy for Physical Performance	3 credits
537/637	Special Topics: Choreography	1-3 credits each
538/638	Field Experience: Choreography	1-3 credits each
539/639	Independent Study: Choreography	1-3 credits each
633	Choreographic Portfolio	2-4 credits
634	Performance Improvisation 2	3 credits

^{*}If Performance/Repertory track, enroll in Dance 524. If Choreography track, enroll in Dance 531.

Screendance

542	Screendance 1: Collaborations in New Media	3 credits
543	Screendance Portfolio	2-4 credits
547/647	Special Topics: Screendance	1-3 credits each
548/648	Field Experience: Screendance	1-3 credits each
549/649	Independent Study: Screendance	1-3 credits each
642	Screendance 2: Advanced Projects & Productions	3 credits
643	Screendance Portfolio	2-4 credits

^{**}In consultation with an individual advisor, Screendance track MFA's may choose additional courses from Penny Stamps School of Art and Design &/or Screen Arts and Culture.

DANCE ELECTIVES 10-14 credits

Dance Science

551	Experiential Anatomy	3 credits
557/657	Special Topics: Dance Science	1-3 credits each
558/658	Field Experience: Dance Science	1-3 credits each
559/659	Independent Study: Dance Science	1-3 credits each
651	Somatic Study	3 credits

Dance History

562	Reading & Writing Dance Criticism	3 credits
563	Black Dance Performance: From Ritual to the Stage	3 credits
564	George Balanchine & the Transformation of American Dance	3 credits
567/667	Special Topics: Dance History	1-3 credits each
568/668	Field Experience: Dance History	1-3 credits each
569/669	Independent Study: Dance History	1-3 credits each
661	Reading & Writing Dance History	3 credits
663	Dancing Diasporas	3 credits

Dance Education

Pedagogy: Dance Technique

571

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572	Pedagogy: Dance Composition	3 credits
575	Pedagogy: Dance History	3 credits
577/677	Special Topics: Dance Education	1-3 credits each
578/678	Field Experience: Dance Education	1-3 credits each
579/679	Independent Study: Dance Education	1-3 credits each
671	Teaching Internship	1-3 credits

3 credits

Interdisciplinary Arts

The Development of Dance Music	3 credits
The Musician's Introduction to Dance	3 credits
Dance & Related Arts	2 credits
Accompanying Movement	3 credits
Special Topics: Interdisciplinary Arts	1-3 credits each
Field Experience: Interdisciplinary Arts	1-3 credits each
Independent Study: Interdisciplinary Arts	1-3 credits each
The Stage & the Transformation of Music	3 credits
Dance & Music Reconstruction	3 credits
Designing for Dance	2 credits
	The Musician's Introduction to Dance Dance & Related Arts Accompanying Movement Special Topics: Interdisciplinary Arts Field Experience: Interdisciplinary Arts Independent Study: Interdisciplinary Arts The Stage & the Transformation of Music Dance & Music Reconstruction

PHYSICAL PRACTICE

Students are required to take a minimum of 8 credits of physical practice over the course of their degree. These credits can be applied either toward track credits or dance elective credit. Credits in physical practice can be taken in a variety of genres, including modern, ballet, some Friday labs, and performance of improvisation. There are also independent study options for physical practice. When enrolled in the 3-credit course Performance of Improvisation 1 (534), one of the three credits may be applied toward the 8-credit physical practice requirement; the same applies if a student elects to take Performance of Improvisation 2 (634): one of the three credits may be applied toward the 8-credit physical practice requirement.

COGNATES 6-10 credits

Cognates to comprise at least two graduate-level courses of at least two credit hours each

THESIS		10 credits
595	Thesis 1: Summer Research Project	2 credits
695	Thesis 2: Proposal	2 credits
699	Thesis 3: Project	6 credits
	Note: Performative, Production and Documentation	(2 credits/ea)
	components	

Curriculum Notes

Credit for Paid Activities

Students cannot receive credit for paid activities.

Repertory Credit

Repertory credit is earned for participation in the University Dance Company's annual Power Center concert, Ann Arbor Dance Works, the Paul Taylor Summer Intensive and independent faculty projects. Students earn one credit per repertory work.

Ann Arbor Dance Works

Formed in 1985, Ann Arbor Dance Works is the resident professional dance company of the University of Michigan Department of Dance. The company shares a wide-ranging repertory with audiences in an annual spring season and in community performances. In addition to producing works by resident faculty choreographers, the company hosts guest artists from the US and abroad. Designers, poets, videographers, visual artists, musicians and composers collaborate with company members, contributing to the creation of innovative and multi-layered works of resonance, depth, and beauty. Performers include faculty, guest artists, alumni, and current Dance students. Since its inception, Ann Arbor Dance Works has produced choreography to critical and popular acclaim in New York City, throughout the Midwest, and internationally. The company has also presented several large-scale site-specific dances with a variety of Ann Arbor community partners. Ann Arbor Dance Works holds Spring Term courses in technique and repertory. Students may participate in repertory works only by invitation/audition, and must sign a contract. For further information: annarbordanceworks.com.

Paul Taylor Summer Intensive

Students receive technique and repertory credit for the annual UM/Paul Taylor Summer intensive. Each year, the Paul Taylor Dance Company determines the Artistic Director(s) and repertory. **NOTE**: Applications for the UM intensive must be made directly via the PTDC website.

Independent Study

Independent Study courses enable students to engage in in-depth research in the following areas:

- Dance Technique
- Performance/Repertory
- Choreography
- Screendance
- Dance Science
- Dance History
- Dance Education
- Interdisciplinary Arts

Independent Study forms, available at the Department of Dance, must be completed and accompanied by a one-page typed rationale detailing the proposed activity and justifying the credit hours requested (42 hours of work equals one credit when computing the number of credit hours elected). After the individual advisor has reviewed and signed-off the proposal, it must be presented to the Chair for approval. The completed and approved Independent Study form serves as an override request and must be submitted to the Department Administrator.

Field Experience

Field Experience courses enable students to obtain credit for teaching, performing, choreographing, producing, directing, consulting or researching outside the university setting in the following areas:

- Dance Technique
- Performance/Repertory
- Choreography
- Screendance
- Dance Science
- Dance History
- Dance Education
- Interdisciplinary Arts

Students must complete a Field Experience form and follow the same procedures as detailed for Independent Study.

Cognates

MFA Dance students meet this 6-10 credit requirement by enrolling in approved graduate level courses beyond the Department. Other School of Music, Theatre & Dance graduate courses (Theatre, Music Theory, Musicology, etc.) are acceptable. However, we strongly encourage students to seek out graduate-level courses in related areas in other Schools and Colleges and, thus, experience the wider expertise, resources and interactions that contribute to the University of Michigan's leading academic position and reputation.

For SMTD graduate courses, please refer to the Elections Across Fields document which can be found at music.umich.edu/current_students/ elec_across_fields.htm.

Course Descriptions

NOTE: There may be some differences in the course descriptions between those found in this handbook and on Wolverine Access. Please see the individual advisor or the Department Administrator for any questions. Not all courses are offered all terms/years.

501 – Research in Action 1: Research Methods in Dance

This course equips students with the knowledge and skills to engage in dance research. It introduces them to the rich material resources of the University and the broader research community. A range of theoretical frameworks and methodologies will be addressed, as will strategies for designing a research project, determining a clear rationale and appropriate parameters, and articulating particular research questions. The aim is for students to understand current debates, the nature of evidence and argument, and the relationships between practice, theory and criticism.

502 – Research in Action 2: Problematizing Theory in Practice

This course helps students consider how dancemaking is an act of theorizing and, too, how reading and writing theory might be a form of feeding one's artistic practice. The aim of the course is to interrogate key questions and issues currently shaping the dance field, and to consider how these questions inform students' practice, especially as they prepare for their summer fieldwork as a step toward their thesis project. Students will engage critically with selected readings, performances, and studio research in order to develop a sophisticated grasp of different approaches to dance-making and scholarship, and greater fluency in working across dance theory-practice areas. Assessment for the course will be by written, oral and embodied assignments—all explicitly shaped to deepen the students' artmaking and performance practices.

505 - Research in Action 3: Self-Evaluation Report

This course requires students to reflect critically on their first year of Master's level study and to write a 3500 word report. Detailed reference should be made to their learning in the core Research in Action courses (RIA 1 and RIA 2) and connections made to other areas of the program, most particularly to the students' designated track. The aim is for students to demonstrate competence in working across theory-practice realms and to identify realistic next steps for further investigations.

511 - Ballet

This course focuses on proper alignment, placement, body awareness, self-discovery, self-correction, execution, awareness of other dancers and teaching techniques. The vocabulary encompasses a logical development of more advanced barre and center work including advanced pirouettes, enchainments, and grand allegro. Through repetition of material, students will be challenged to reverse combinations, recite terminology, and demonstrate combinations without the assistance of demonstration by the instructor.

513 - Modern Dance

This course develops movement skills and concepts within contemporary dance genres towards effective performance. It stresses the development of musicality, versatility, and expressivity, sensitivity, range, control, and clarity of performance, with sound anatomical principles as well as a wide range of spatial, rhythmic and dynamic qualities.

514 - World Dance

This course explores dance forms beyond the traditional Euro-American theatrical genres, including dances of Asia, Africa, the Americas, Caribbean and pacific Rim. The aim of this course is to increase student knowledge of these forms through studio practice, discussion and readings, and to further their understanding of spatial, religious, and social restrictions/conventions.

515 - Ann Arbor Dance Works: Technique

This course will be an intermediate-advanced modern dance technique class taught by resident dance faculty and guest artists, offering techniques that reflect a variety of styles and trends in the field.

516 - Paul Taylor Summer Intensive: Technique

This course introduces students to Taylor technique, as taught by guest faculty from the Paul Taylor Dance Company in residence at UM. Daily technique classes are supported by Ballet and Somatic work. Enrollment for the intensive is required through the Paul Taylor School.

517 - Special Topics: Dance Technique

Special Topics courses in dance technique allow students the flexibility to pursue discipline-specific or interdisciplinary study in-depth, led by a specialist instructor/guest artist. The courses will differ thematically, dependent upon the teaching and research expertise of the instructor.

518 - Field Experience: Dance Technique

This course is designed for students who wish to undertake a dance technique project beyond the University of Michigan. The field of study is determined by the student, as is the nature and scope of the project, in consultation with a designated advisor. Such a project can be undertaken locally, nationally or overseas, with the number of credit hours determined by the project's parameters, timescale and complexity.

519 - Independent Study: Dance Technique

This course is designed for students who wish to study one or more dance techniques in-depth. The nature of the investigation is student-designed and directed, in consultation with a designated advisor. Both methodology and outcomes can be either practice-based or follow more traditional scholarly forms, for example, a final research paper or conference presentation.

521 – University Dance Company

This course requires a commitment to the creative and rehearsal process in preparation for performances of new or repertory work for the annual University Production concert. The cast of student dancers works with a choreographer to evolve a finished production - involving the integration of choreographic intention and style with musical score, sets, props, costuming, video, or other scenic components.

522 - Movement Research: Reviving 20th-21st Century Dances

In this project-based course, students will deepen their knowledge of the modern dance legacy by researching and performing a selection of short dances or choreographic excerpts from the early 20th century to the present. They will inhabit movement vocabularies and performance styles, analyze choreographic structure, investigate the creative process, learn about the production elements of a dance work, and research its cultural and historical context.

523 – Performance Portfolio

Students will compile their portfolio by selecting an appropriate range of performance projects, the number and duration of which will be determined in consultation with their Portfolio Advisor. They may choose solo and/or group works, and present for assessment in either Department-led or student-produced concerts. The Performance portfolio will be accompanied by a written justification.

524 – Solo Performance

This course explores diverse choreographic materials from the repertory, spanning mid-20th century to the present. Students learn solo passages from various seminal works and practice the embodiment of style, musicality, intention and movement dynamics specific to that choreographer, her/his work and the cultural and aesthetic contexts of creations. The class develops the practical skills for reconstruction and criteria for verbal and written evaluation of each other's performances.

525 – Ann Arbor Dance Works: Repertory

In this course, dancers will learn modern dance repertory taught by resident faculty and guest artists, which will be performed for the public in a formal performance at the end of the course. Dancers will be cast in repertory works by audition. They may be cast in one work for 1 credit, or two works for 2 credits. The course will also include a residency in a community setting; the residency may entail the offering of master classes, lecture demonstrations, workshops and performances. Dancers will assist with designing and implementing community residencies, and will learn how to transfer repertory from one venue to another.

526 – Paul Taylor Summer Intensive: Repertory

Students will learn selected works from Paul Taylor's diverse choreographic oeuvre, as taught by company members and alumni in residence at the UM/Paul Taylor Summer Intensive. Students will learn between 2-3 repertory excerpts over the course of the two-week program. Studio learning is supported by lectures and readings on Taylor's style. Enrollment required in the UM/Paul Taylor Summer Intensive program coordinated through the School of the Paul Taylor Dance Company.

527 – Special Topics: Performance/Repertory

Special Topics courses in performance/repertory allow students the flexibility to pursue discipline-specific or interdisciplinary study in-depth, led by a specialist instructor/guest artist. The courses will differ thematically, dependent upon the teaching and research expertise of the instructor.

528 – Field Experience: Performance/Repertory

This course is designed for students who wish to undertake a performance or repertory project beyond the University of Michigan. The 'field' of study is determined by the student, as is the nature and scope of the project, in consultation with a designated advisor. Such a project can be undertaken locally, nationally or overseas, with the number of credit hours determined by the project's parameters, timescale and complexity.

529 - Independent Study: Performance/Repertory

This course is designed for students who wish to study one or more dance performance or repertory experiences in-depth. The nature of the investigation is student-designed and directed, in consultation with a designated advisor. Both methodology and outcomes can be either practice-based or follow more traditional scholarly forms, for example, a final research paper or conference presentation.

531 - Solo Composition

Students will deepen their compositional skills through a variety of studies. The class will primarily focus on the development of a significant solo that clearly demonstrates mastery of the student's choreography/performance skills. Students will be challenged to use their craft to communicate, with clarity and conviction, the expressive content that inspires and drives their creative impulse. They will revisit the concepts of space, shape, time, and motion; elements of direction, focus, density and overall design concepts. Students will also study current and innovative practitioners and their choreographic methods.

532 - Choreography, Performance, Production & Design

The primary focus of this course is specifically to develop a group work as well as an array of choreographic studies and works to be presented in a fully produced evening concert at the end of the Winter term. Students in the class will design the lighting, costumes, posters, and programs. Participants in the class will be asked to engage in an on-going process of analysis and discussion/feedback of their choreographic materials. Making dances, speaking and writing eloquently about the process will guide the work. The grading formula is as follows: 1/3 for performance, 1/3 for choreography and 1/3 for production participation. The department pays for publicity, programs and tickets up to \$200.

533 - Choreographic Portfolio

Students will complete their portfolio by creating an appropriate range of dance works, the number and duration of which will be determined in consultation with their Portfolio Advisor. They may choose solo and/or group works, and present for assessment in either Department-led or student-produced concerts. The Choreography Portfolio will be accompanied by a written justification.

534 – Performance Improvisation 1

This course introduces students to the practice of improvisation as a performing art. They will engage as artist, soloist, collaborator and, collectively, create a performance ensemble. Theory and practice will be combined through journaling, reading, writing a program note and a final paper.

535 - Mapping Movement and Place: Site Dance Composition

Through readings, video viewings and performance projects, this course will examine the creative processes for a variety of contemporary site-specific dance performances. Dancers will conduct research about a chosen site, and will choreograph and perform in their own site-specific dance project. Emphasis will be placed upon investigating the social and cultural histories of the chosen site, and of its environmental and/or architectural features.

536 - Dramaturgy for Physical Practice

This course exposes students to the field of dramaturgy, a creative and scholarly practice in which individuals assist a choreographer, director, and, in general, a creative team through a variety of research-based practices. To prepare students to engage in dramaturgy, this course surveys relevant literature in the field, including recently published articles and books on dramaturgy, which has exploded in North American research in the last decade, and theoretical texts that offer larger frames to consider the nature of dramaturgy in physical performance, particularly dance. Students also work on developing skills for specific tasks often associated with dramaturgy: leading feedback sessions, creating different formats for assessing a piece's overall structure, developing research packets and questions, and facilitating post-performance discussions, among others. Whenever possible, students enrolled in the course will be attached to ongoing performance projects.

537 - Special Topics: Choreography

Special Topics courses in choreography allow students the flexibility to pursue discipline-specific or interdisciplinary study in-depth, led by a specialist instructor/guest artist. The courses will differ thematically, dependent upon the teaching and research expertise of the instructor.

538 – Field Experience: Choreography

This course is designed for students seeking credit for creating and producing new choreography outside the university setting.

539 - Independent Study: Choreography

This course is designed for students who wish to study one or more choreography experiences indepth. The nature of the investigation is student-designed and directed, in consultation with a designated advisor. Both methodology and outcomes can be either practice-based or follow more traditional scholarly forms, for example, a final research paper or conference presentation.

542 - Screendance 1: Collaborations in New Media

This course introduces the fusion of movement, camera work, and editing on Final Cut Pro. An interdisciplinary course that attracts students from Dance, Performing Arts Technology, Art and Design, and Screen Arts and Cultures, it challenges students from diverse disciplines to compose short works for the screen in a series of 5-6 assignments. Informed by class screenings of student assignments, professional works, and historically significant films and videos, the course develops confidence and skills in the making of screendance and criteria for evaluating this relatively new but increasingly visible art form. The course hosts an annual UM Dance on Camera Festival of works curated from that year's New York Dance on Camera Festival at Lincoln Center.

543 – Screendance Portfolio

Students will compile their portfolio by creating an appropriate range of screendance works, the number and duration of which will be determined in consultation with their Portfolio Advisor. They may choose solo and/or group works, and edit their material using non-linear video editing software. The Screendance Portfolio will be accompanied by a written justification.

546 – Dancing Women/Dancing Queer

Studying gender and sexuality through dance and performance foregrounds questions about embodiment that run across feminist and queer theory, as well as dance and performance studies. This graduate and upper-level undergraduate seminar will look at a representations of gender and sexuality across a variety of sites from ballet to modern dance, the concert stage to the music video, and Broadway to avant garde solo performance. No previous experience with dance required

547 - Special Topics: Screendance

Special Topics courses in screendance allow student the flexibility to pursue discipline-specific or interdisciplinary study in-depth, led by a specialist instructor. The courses will differ thematically, dependent upon the teaching and research expertise of the instructor.

548 - Field Experience: Screendance

This course is designed for students who wish to undertake a screendance project beyond the University of Michigan. The 'field' of study is determined by the student, as is the nature and scope of the project, in consultation with a designated advisor. Such a project can be undertaken locally, nationally or overseas, with the number of credit hours determined by the project's parameters, timescale and complexity.

549 - Independent Study: Screendance

This course is designed for students who wish to study a screendance project in-depth. The nature of the investigation is student-designed and directed, in consultation with a designated advisor. Both methodology and outcomes can be either practice-based or follow more traditional scholarly forms, for example, a final research paper or conference presentation.

551 - Experiential Anatomy

This course introduces students to the scientific principles underlying the complexities of dance movement. Utilizing visual stimuli, touch, writing and drawing, readings, and experiential modalities such as Ideokinesis, Feldenkrais, visualization, and Alexander technique, students will learn to apply the principles of anatomy and kinesiology, as they pertain to dance.

557 – Special Topics: Dance Science

Special Topics courses in dance science allow students the flexibility to pursue discipline-specific or interdisciplinary study in-depth, led by a specialist instructor/body practitioner. The courses will differ thematically, dependent upon the teaching and research expertise of the instructor.

558 - Field Experience: Dance Science

This course is designed for students who wish to undertake a dance science project beyond the University of Michigan. The 'field' of study is determined by the student, as is the nature and scope of the project, in consultation with a designated advisor. Such a project can be undertaken locally, nationally or overseas, with the number of credit hours determined by the project's parameters, timescale and complexity.

559 – Independent Study: Dance Science

This course is designed for students who wish to study a dance science topic in-depth. The nature of the investigation is student-designed and directed, in consultation with a designated advisor. Both methodology and outcomes can be either practice-based or follow more traditional scholarly forms, for example, a final research paper or conference presentation.

562 - Reading & Writing Dance Criticism

This course focuses on writers who assess and describe dance from a variety of perspectives, for a variety of audiences, in a variety of formats. Study of major dance critics from the 19th century to the present day will also provide a springboard for students to experiment with the process of writing themselves.

563 – Black Dance Performance: From Ritual to the Stage

Using a chronological and geographical approach, this course examines Africanist performance trends in dance music and theater, tracing them from West Africa through the African Diaspora in the Americas. Movement and aesthetic commonalities of these forms will be studied, together with the socio-culture conditions that contributed to their creation and which continue to influence American dance and culture today. Issues of identity, ethnicity and stereotyping through the idiom of African-Americans vernacular and concert dance will also be addressed.

564 - Balanchine & the Transformation of America Dance

This course examines the life and works of dancer/choreographer George Balanchine and his influence on 20th-21st century dance. It complements and supplements the more general topic and broadly themed courses in the curriculum with an opportunity for students to focus in on an extensive and intensive examination of a key figure in the history of dance and his works. Students will gain experience in original historical research with archival material, concentrating on primary sources of all kinds in conjunction with intensive analysis of Balanchine's choreography.

567 - Special Topics: Dance History

Special Topics courses in dance history allow students the flexibility to pursue discipline-specific or interdisciplinary study in-depth, led by a specialist instructor/historian. The courses will differ thematically, dependent upon the teaching and research expertise of the instructor.

568 - Field Experience: Dance History

This course is designed for students who wish to undertake a dance history project beyond the University of Michigan. The 'field' of study is determined by the student, as is the nature and scope of the project, in consultation with a designated advisor. Such a project can be undertaken locally, nationally or overseas, with the number of credit hours determined by the project's parameters, timescale and complexity.

569 - Independent Study: Dance History

This course is designed for students who wish to study a dance history topic in-depth. The nature of the investigation is student-designed and directed, in consultation with a designated advisor. Both methodology and outcomes can be either practice-based or follow more traditional scholarly forms, for example, a final research paper or conference presentation.

571 – Pedagogy: Dance Technique

Exploration of theoretical concepts, principles, and methods of teaching dance technique through lectures, readings, videos, discussion and teaching practicum with the goal of developing a sound basis for continued growth and effectiveness as dance educators.

572 - Pedagogy: Dance Composition

This course addresses strategies for teaching undergraduate-level Dance Composition. Graduate students will participate in teaching a sophomore-level majors course, 232 Dance Composition IV: Mapping Movement and Sound. They will lead improvisational exercises and provide critical feedback sessions for students. They will also research the use of music/sound in the works of selected choreographers and present this research. They will be assessed through these and other assignments, including self-evaluation papers, teaching philosophy statements, and the creation of a syllabus for beginning-level dance composition students.

575 – Pedagogy: Dance History

This course provides supervision and mentoring of MFA Dance students in Dance History pedagogy and addresses strategies for teaching undergraduate courses in this area.

577 - Special Topics: Dance Education

Special Topics courses in dance education allow students the flexibility to pursue discipline-specific or interdisciplinary study in-depth, led by a specialist instructor. The courses will differ thematically, dependent upon the teaching and research expertise of the instructor.

578 - Field Experience: Dance Education

This course is designed for students who wish to undertake a dance education project beyond the University of Michigan. The 'field' of study is determined by the student, as is the nature and scope of the project, in consultation with a designated advisor. Such a project can be undertaken locally, nationally or overseas, with the number of credit hours determined by the project's parameters, timescale and complexity.

579 - Independent Study: Dance Education

This course is designed for students who wish to study a dance education project in-depth. The nature of the investigation is student-designed and directed, in consultation with a designated advisor. Both methodology and outcomes can be either practice-based or follow more traditional scholarly forms, for example, a final research paper or conference presentation.

581 – The Development of Dance Music

This course, designed for dancers, musicologists, performers, and conductors, will review selected choreographic literature and musical scores from the repertory of late nineteenth century concert dance. We will examine a range of dance/music relationships through a variety of readings, choreographic and musical scores, and audio recordings. We will also study the works of choreographers, conductors, and composers who have helped to shape the field. Our examination of music from the dance repertory will reach beyond those works composed specifically for dance and will incorporate studies of Baroque, Court, and Social Dance forms.

582 - The Musician's Introduction to Dance

This course provides an overview of dance and dance music through pedagogical, social and concert forms. The aim is to enhance students' understanding of the roles, uses and functions of music in dance. They will question "What is Dance?", "What is the role of Music in Dance?", and also study examples of seminal dance music never intended to be danced to, for example, J.S. Bach's Suites for Violoncello.

583 - Dance & Related Arts

Dance students collaborate with composers, visual artists, videographers, etc. to create an evening-length happening/collage/performance.

586 – Accompanying Movement

In this course, musicians will learn how to accompany for kinesthetic, movement-based art forms through the study and analysis of western dance technique classes. This will provide the musician with an entry into collaborating with movement-based art forms. Using both Modern Dance and Ballet Technique courses offered in the Department of Dance, musicians will observe and analyze the structure and content of the class, will research the specific genre of the class, and by observing the methods of communication used between instructor and dance student, instructor and musician, and dance student and musician, they will learn how to collaborate in a dance class. Through the course of the term, the student will accompany individual combinations for the class so that by the end of the term they will be able to provide appropriate music for an entire class session. This will provide the musician with an entry into collaboration with movement-based art forms.

587 – Special Topics: Interdisciplinary Arts

Special Topics courses in interdisciplinary arts allow students the flexibility to pursue disciplinespecific or interdisciplinary study in-depth, led by a specialist instructor. The courses will differ thematically, dependent upon the teaching and research expertise of the instructor.

588 - Field Experience: Interdisciplinary Arts

This course is designed for students who wish to undertake an interdisciplinary arts project beyond the University of Michigan. The 'field' of study is determined by the student, as is the nature and scope of the project, in consultation with a designated advisor. Such a project can be undertaken locally, nationally or overseas, with the number of credit hours determined by the project's parameters, timescale and complexity.

589 - Independent Study: Interdisciplinary Arts

This course is designed for students who wish to study an interdisciplinary arts project in-depth. The nature of the investigation is student-designed and directed, in consultation with a designated advisor. Both methodology and outcomes can be either practice-based or follow more traditional scholarly forms, for example, a final research paper or conference presentation.

595 – Thesis 1: Summer Research Project

Between the first and second year of the Masters' program, students will undertake extensive research off-campus, conducting fieldwork and developing material for their Thesis. The Summer Research Project comprises three components: 1) a 1,000 word proposal articulating the aims, methodology, research context and questions of the project, and of their relevance to the students' subsequent Thesis and to the field (20%); 2) a minimum of 40 hours in the field' (50%); 3) a 15-minute presentation of results, to include audio-visual examples and/or a performative element, plus Q&A (30%).

601 - Research in Action 4: Dance History & Theory

This course introduces students to historical concepts, theories and methodologies, and to the major dance historians of the 19th-20th centuries. The aim is to develop a critical awareness of the competing constructions of dance history and of the interplay between history and other disciplines within and beyond dance. Students will interrogate different approaches to reading and writing our dancing past through the use of selected case studies, spanning textual, visual, oral and performative histories.

611 - Ballet

This advanced ballet course addresses core concepts of technique, alignment, anatomically sound movement, and artistry. Emphasis will be placed on more challenging combinations of movements so that students can explore transitions, musicality, increased mental acuity to remember new and complex sequences, and the ability to process information both in the brain and in the body. Students are encouraged to dance in three dimensions and to develop their individual sense of artistry through the class material. They should demonstrate a more advanced mastery of these concepts than in their first year of study.

613 - Modern Dance

This course requires the advanced level student to research and integrate compositional and performance methods into a lively and productive practice of dance-making. Through daily practice in class and in written assignments, students will acquire a sophisticated comprehension of the ways in which the creative process is embedded in technique. This course will act as an experiential laboratory for improvisation, composition and performance, anchored by sound technical practice. The study and practice of improvisation will serve as tools for both creative work in composition and performance. Elements of personal history and philosophy will be examined and questioned as a means of distilling idiosyncratic material into formal, shapely, dynamic and coherent structures. Exploring individual movement vocabularies will serve to refine and expand our physical language as form and structure emerges.

614 - World Dance

This studio course explores a variety of nonwestern folkloric and classical dance forms, their socio-cultural framework, as well as historical contexts through studio practice, discussion and readings. The goal of these courses is to increase student knowledge of dance traditions outside North American, (and of selected Native American traditions), further their understanding of spatial, religious, social restrictions of these dance forms, analyze socio-historical and cultural context, as well as to identify commonalities and continuities across genres. Based on instructor availability, it may focus on the particular tradition or a variety across genres.

615 - Ann Arbor Dance Works: Technique

This is an advanced modern dance technique course taught by resident dance faculty and guest artists, offering a variety of styles and trends in the field.

616 - Paul Taylor Summer Intensive: Technique

This course introduces students to Taylor technique, as taught by guest faculty from the Paul Taylor Dance Company in residence at UM. Daily technique classes are supported by Ballet and Somatic work. Enrollment for the intensive is required through the Paul Taylor School.

617 - Special Topics: Dance Technique

Special Topics courses in dance technique allow students the flexibility to pursue discipline-specific or interdisciplinary study in-depth, led by a specialist instructor/guest artist. The courses will differ thematically, dependent upon the teaching and research expertise of the instructor.

618 - Field Experience: Dance Technique

This course is designed for students who wish to undertake a dance technique project beyond the University of Michigan. The field of study is determined by the student, as is the nature and scope of the project, in consultation with a designated advisor. Such a project can be undertaken locally, nationally or overseas, with the number of credit hours determined by the project's parameters, timescale and complexity.

619 - Independent Study: Dance Technique

This course is designed for students who wish to study one or more dance techniques in-depth. The nature of the investigation is student-designed and directed, in consultation with a designated advisor. Both methodology and outcomes can be either practice-based or follow more traditional scholarly forms, for example, a final research paper or conference presentation.

621 - University Dance Company

This course requires a commitment to the creative and rehearsal process in preparation for performances of new or repertory work for the annual University Productions concert. Each cast works with a choreographer to evolve a finished production - involving the integration of choreographic intention and style with musical score, sets, props, costuming, video or other scenic components. The highest degree of professionalism is assumed and expected of second-year graduate students, who act as role models for their younger peers and may also serve as choreographic/rehearsal assistants.

622 - Movement Research: Reviving 20th-21st Century Dances

In this course, students engage in researching and performing short dance works or excerpts of works from the canon of modern dance from the early twentieth century to the present. They will inhabit movement vocabularies and performance styles, analyze choreographic structure, investigate the creative process of the choreographer, address the production elements of the work, and place the work within a larger cultural and historical context. The results of this comprehensive research will be performed and presented in class sessions. Some course projects will be approached as a group and collaboratively. Other projects will entail individual research and presentation. Issues of restaging and reconstruction will also be discussed. For example, how do performances change over time with different casts, how choreographers revise their own work over time, interrogating the tools for reconstructing and restaging, questioning how reliable are our available resources and how do we find authenticity in the embodiment of these works?

623 - Performance Portfolio

Assemble and analyze a collection of performance examples demonstrating a specific artistic perspective and range as a dancer. The choice and number of the work in the portfolio will be determined by the student and her/his chosen advisor and can comprise solo and/or group works. A written justification of the portfolio will serve as the analysis of the portfolio. The portfolio should demonstrate the student's growth as a performer since his/her first year of graduate study.

624 - Solo Performance

This course explores diverse choreographic materials from the repertory—spanning mid-20th century to the present. Students learn solo passages from various seminal works and practice the embodiment of style, musicality, intention and movement dynamics specific to that choreographer, her/his work and the cultural and aesthetic contexts of creation. The class develops the practical skills for reconstruction and criteria for verbal and written evaluation of each other's performances. Second-year MFA students are expected to incorporate their previous course work and focus on the preparation of their solo performance for the Thesis Project or other public performances.

625 – Ann Arbor Dance Works: Repertory

In this course, students will learn modern dance repertory taught by resident faculty and guest artists, to be performed for public performance at the end of the Spring term. Dancers will be cast in repertory works by audition. The course will also include a residency in a community setting; the residency may entail the offering of master classes, lecture demonstrations, workshops and performances. Dancers will assist with designing and implementing community residencies, and learning how to transfer repertory from one venue to another. Each repertory work will have 6 - 10 hours of rehearsal per week. 1 credit per repertory work is offered and students may be cast in up to three works.

626 – Paul Taylor Summer Intensive: Repertory

Students will learn selected works from Paul Taylor's diverse choreographic oeuvre, as taught by company members and alumni in residence at the UM/Paul Taylor Summer Intensive. Students will learn between 2-3 repertory excerpts over the course of the two-week program. Studio learning is supported by lectures and readings on Taylor's style. Enrollment required in the UM/Paul Taylor Summer Intensive program coordinated through the School of the Paul Taylor Dance Company.

627 - Special Topics: Performance/Repertory

Special Topics courses in performance/repertory allow students the flexibility to pursue discipline-specific or interdisciplinary study in-depth, led by a specialist instructor/guest artist. The courses will differ thematically, dependent upon the teaching and research expertise of the instructor.

628 – Field Experience: Performance/Repertory

This course is designed for students who wish to undertake a performance or repertory project beyond the University of Michigan. The 'field' of study is determined by the student, as is the nature and scope of the project, in consultation with a designated advisor. Such a project can be undertaken locally, nationally or overseas, with the number of credit hours determined by the project's parameters, timescale and complexity.

629 - Independent Study: Performance/Repertory

This course is designed for students who wish to study one or more dance performance or repertory experiences in-depth. The nature of the investigation is student-designed and directed, in consultation with a designated advisor. Both methodology and outcomes can be either practice-based or follow more traditional scholarly forms, for example, a final research paper or conference presentation.

631 - Graduate Studio

This course creates a forum for advanced graduate students to investigate and workshop ideas, movement studies, production elements and choreographic projects with their peers and instructor to further investigate the embodiment of their thesis project materials. The primary goal of this course is to learn how to formulate questions about the act and creation of new work. Incentive and critical feedback are provided in order to push expectations, foster creative risk-taking and to maximize students' talent as performers and dance makers. Studio practice is supported by video viewings, readings, and discussion. The course meets once a week for 2 hours with additional lab time for independent research and sketching of movement materials. Thesis chairs and committee members will be invited to periodic showings and discussions of the evolving materials.

633 - Choreographic Portfolio

Assemble and analyze a collection of choreographic examples demonstrating a specific artistic perspective and versatility as a choreographer. The choice and number of the works in the portfolio will be determined by the student and her/his chosen advisor and can comprise solo and/or group works. A written justification of the portfolio will serve as the analysis of the portfolio. The portfolio should demonstrate the student's growth as a choreographer since his/her first year of graduate study.

634 – Performance Improvisation 2

This course is devoted to in-depth study and practice of improvisation as a performing art. In improvisation, insight, inspiration, composition and performance occur simultaneously. The constant flux and exchange of doing and reflecting heightens awareness of compositional choices. The improvising performer works without a net, where every choice and action is visible and audible. Recognizing the three strands of improvisational practice: bodily exploration, honing and cultivating aesthetic values and observational skills, and composing dances in the moment will influence and shape the learning process. Each student will be called upon to develop as an artist, a soloist, and as a collaborator as we build a movement and music ensemble that can co-create shapely, coherent, short and long pieces through improvisation. The course will culminate in a performance at the close of the semester. Two reading and writing assignments per week will support and encourage thoughtful analysis and practice. The final summary paper will connect experience in class, journal entries, discussions and the reading assignments into a meaningful anthology.

637 - Special Topics: Choreography

Special Topics courses in choreography allow students the flexibility to pursue discipline-specific or interdisciplinary study in-depth, led by a specialist instructor/guest artist. The courses will differ thematically, dependent upon the teaching and research expertise of the instructor.

638 - Field Experience: Choreography

This course is designed for students who wish to undertake a choreography project beyond the University of Michigan. The 'field' of study is determined by the student, as is the nature and scope of the project, in consultation with a designated advisor. Such a project can be undertaken locally, nationally or overseas, with the number of credit hours determined by the project's parameters, timescale and complexity.

639 - Independent Study: Choreography

This course is designed for students who wish to study one or more choreography experiences indepth. The nature of the investigation is student-designed and directed, in consultation with a designated advisor. Both methodology and outcomes can be either practice-based or follow more traditional scholarly forms, for example, a final research paper or conference presentation.

642 - Screendance 2: Advanced Projects & Productions

Building upon the editing and camera skills, and creative research acquired in 542 Screendance 1, (prerequisite), this course challenges the student to propose three projects ranging from work for the screen, work for gallery or installation, and work for integration into live performance. In collaboration with faculty advisors and chosen venue, the student will then select one proposed project for completion and final production. Students are strongly encouraged to submit work(s) to festivals and/or present finished work(s) to audiences in innovative formats.

643 – Screendance Portfolio

Assemble and analyze a collection of screen dance examples demonstrating a specific artistic perspective. The choice and number of the works in the portfolio will be determined by the student and her/his chosen advisor and can comprise solo and/or group works. A written justification of the portfolio will serve as the analysis of the portfolio. The portfolio should demonstrate the student's growth as a screen dance artist since his/her first year of graduate study.

647 - Special Topics: Screendance

Special Topics courses in screendance allow students the flexibility to pursue discipline-specific or interdisciplinary study in-depth, led by a specialist instructor. The courses will differ thematically, dependent upon the teaching and research expertise of the instructor.

648 - Field Experience: Screendance

This course is designed for students who wish to undertake a screendance project beyond the University of Michigan. The field of study is determined by the student, as is the nature and scope of the project, in consultation with a designated advisor. Such a project can be undertaken locally, nationally or overseas, with the number of credit hours determined by the project's parameters, timescale and complexity.

649 - Independent Study: Screendance

This course is designed for students who wish to study a screendance project in-depth. The nature of the investigation is student-designed and directed, in consultation with a designated advisor. Both methodology and outcomes can be either practice-based or follow more traditional scholarly forms, for example, a final research paper or conference presentation.

651 – Somatic Study

Somatics is the study of the inter-relational process between awareness, biological function and environment, all three factors being understood as a synergistic whole. This course builds on the knowledge gained in 551 Experiential Anatomy and offers a survey of various theoretical approaches to somatic perspectives, dance and movement therapy, as well as selected contemporary aesthetic/creative-based theories of movement through the lens of somatics. Through lectures, discussions and experiential-based explorations, students will gain new insights into their physical and mental beings and how best to use somatics as a tool in dance.

657 - Special Topics: Dance Science

Special Topics courses in dance science allow students the flexibility to pursue discipline-specific or interdisciplinary study in-depth, led by a specialist instructor/body practitioner. The courses will differ thematically, dependent upon the teaching and research expertise of the instructor.

658 - Field Experience: Dance Science

This course is designed for students who wish to undertake a dance science project beyond the University of Michigan. The field of study is determined by the student, as is the nature and scope of the project, in consultation with a designated advisor. Such a project can be undertaken locally, nationally or overseas, with the number of credit hours determined by the project's parameters, timescale and complexity.

659 - Independent Study: Dance Science

This course is designed for students who wish to study a dance science project in-depth. The nature of the investigation is student-designed and directed, in consultation with a designated advisor. Both methodology and outcomes can be either practice-based or follow more traditional scholarly forms, for example, a final research paper or conference presentation.

661 - Reading & Writing Dance History

This course examines the nature and purposes of history by interrogating a range of theories, practices and issues both from within and outside dance. Case studies will be used to enable students to engage critically with notions and schools of history, different constructions of dance and performance histories, multiple and/or conflicting interpretations and current debates. Students will analyze a range of written, oral, visual and electronic source materials and will be encouraged to develop independent arguments and offer alternative readings.

663 – Dancing Diasporas

Using a chronological and geographical approach, this course examines Africanist and Asian performance trends across the Americas in dance, music, and theater, tracing them from West and Central Africa through the African Diaspora in the Americas. Through film screenings, lectures, discussion and movement sessions, students will investigate the commonalities and aesthetics of these forms, as well as the socio-cultural conditions that contributed to their creation and evolution.

667 - Special Topics: Dance History

Special Topics courses in dance history allow students the flexibility to pursue discipline-specific or interdisciplinary study in-depth, led by a specialist instructor/historian. The courses will differ thematically, dependent upon the teaching and research expertise of the instructor.

668 – Field Experience: Dance History

This course is designed for students who wish to undertake a dance history project beyond the University of Michigan. The field of study is determined by the student, as is the nature and scope of the project, in consultation with a designated advisor. Such a project can be undertaken locally, nationally or overseas, with the number of credit hours determined by the project's parameters, timescale and complexity.

669 - Independent Study: Dance History

This course is designed for students who wish to study a dance history project in-depth. The nature of the investigation is student-designed and directed, in consultation with a designated advisor. Both methodology and outcomes can be either practice-based or follow more traditional scholarly forms, for example, a final research paper or conference presentation.

671 - Teaching Internship

This course is designed to give students valuable hands-on experience and to practice skills in designing, administering, delivering and evaluating community arts or in-school arts education programs. With faculty supervision, students will teach movement classes and design a dance curriculum at a predetermined site as part of a semester-long internship with a community partner. Students will meet weekly with their supervisor for debriefing, troubleshooting and managing curricular goals. Students will sustain a weekly journal and present a detailed lesson plan for discussion with their supervisor for each class session. Activities will include but not be limited to: teaching, assisting in the development of the curriculum, choreographing, and organizing dance programs and projects. Prior to beginning the internship, students will research the local history of the target community and observe classes they will be teaching. Students will be assessed on their teaching portfolio, culminating performance event(s), efficacy and organizational skills in the classroom, and demonstrated competency of concepts in community arts education. S/he will also submit an end-of-term self-evaluation.

677 - Special Topics: Dance Education

Special Topics courses in dance education allow students the flexibility to pursue discipline-specific or interdisciplinary study in-depth, led by a specialist instructor. The courses will differ thematically, dependent upon the teaching and research expertise of the instructor.

678 – Field Experience: Dance Education

This course is designed for students who wish to undertake a dance education project beyond the University of Michigan. The field of study is determined by the student, as is the nature and scope of the project, in consultation with a designated advisor. Such a project can be undertaken locally, nationally or overseas, with the number of credit hours determined by the project's parameters, timescale and complexity.

679 - Independent Study: Dance Education

This course is designed for students who wish to study a dance education project in-depth. The nature of the investigation is student-designed and directed, in consultation with a designated advisor. Both methodology and outcomes can be either practice-based or follow more traditional scholarly forms, for example, a final research paper or conference presentation.

681 – The Stage & the Transformation of Music

This course focuses on the transformation of music from the dance stage to the concert stage and back (for example, Appalachian Spring, Romeo and Juliet, Le Sacre du Printemps); as well as the use of popular music to create new dance and theatrical works (Twyla Tharp/Billy Joel's Moving Out and Bob Dylan's Billboards). Also addressed are works from musical theatre designed around pre-existing standards from the popular music canon – Abba, Queen, etc.

682 - Dance & Music Reconstruction

This course addresses the process of reconstructing music for dance. Issues include: research techniques; oral documentation; performance history and the uses of technology in the reproduction of music; prioritizing musical needs as pertains to the dance; and the processes utilized in the reconstruction of a musical score. These will be introduced through examples of reconstructed dance scores originating in the 19th and 20th centuries.

683 - Designing for Dance

This course examines the art and practices of designing costumes, scenery and lighting for dance. Students assume the role of sole designer for one choreographic work, working from a rehearsal video and choreographer's notes. Each assignment is assessed through a design presentation to the class and the choreographer. For the final project, students each take on one of the roles of the design and production team. They hold mock production meetings to develop a cohesive design concept and to develop a production calendar.

687 – Special Topics: Interdisciplinary Arts

Special Topics courses in interdisciplinary arts allow students the flexibility to pursue disciplinespecific or interdisciplinary study in-depth, led by a specialist instructor. The courses will differ thematically, dependent upon the teaching and research expertise of the instructor.

688 - Field Experience: Interdisciplinary Arts

This course is designed for students who wish to undertake an interdisciplinary arts project beyond the University of Michigan. The field of study is determined by the student, as is the nature and scope of the project, in consultation with a designated advisor. Such a project can be undertaken locally, nationally or overseas, with the number of credit hours determined by the project's parameters, timescale and complexity.

689 - Independent Study: Interdisciplinary Arts

This course is designed for students who wish to study an interdisciplinary arts project in-depth. The nature of the investigation is student-designed and directed, in consultation with a designated advisor. Both methodology and outcomes can be either practice-based or follow more traditional scholarly forms, for example, a final research paper or conference presentation.

695 – Thesis 2: Proposal

Following the students' Summer Research Project presentation, their next steps are to scope the Thesis proper and to select their Committee. A thesis chair should be determined by October 1 and the student should then meet with his/her Chair to discuss the overall design of the project. A Thesis Committee, comprising an additional Dance faculty member and a relevant expert from beyond the Department, should be determined by November 1 and a full proposal submitted to the thesis chair by December 1. The 3,000 word Thesis Proposal should include the following:

- a working title which articulates the research focus;
- project parameters and objectives;
- theoretical/practical perspective and proposed methodology;
- key research questions and/or issues;
- a critical review of the literature and other sources which will inform the research;
- a proposed timetable for the execution of the project;
- a budget

699 - Thesis 3: Project

The thesis project comprises three components. The project must include a performative element (2 credits), production work (2 credits), and final written Documentation (2 credits).

MFA Thesis Process & Guidelines

Thesis Protocols & Timelines

The purpose of this chart is to guide graduate students, thesis chairs and thesis committee members as to who is responsible for certain tasks and when they are due.

Year 1- Fall Term

Timeframe Details	
Sept-Dec	In DANCE 501, students develop initial ideas for summer research and create a draft
	grant proposal.

Year 1 – Winter Term

Timeframe	Details	
Jan	In DANCE 595, students write a 1,000-word summer research proposal and accompanying budget and submit to the individual advisor for feedback.	
Feb	Students revise proposal and budget. Note: The Rackham deadline is early February.	
Mar 1	Proposal for venue and dates for Thesis project due.	
Mar 31	Students submit summer research proposal (written portion of Dance 595 Thesis 1 Summer Research Project course) and budget to department chair.	
Apr 1	Determine venue and dates for Thesis performance.	
Apr	Department chair notifies students re Department support for summer research.	
May-Aug	As part of DANCE 595, students spend a minimum of 40 hours in the field where s/he maintains a digital journal of summer research, a weekly blog detailing evolving ideas and practice with feedback from a summer research advisor.	

Year 2- Fall Term

Timeframe	Details
Sept	As part of DANCE 595, students present summer research findings to the full faculty (15 min + 5 min Q&A)
Oct 1	Students declare thesis chair via email to department chair, graduate director, and individual advisor, cc thesis chair and department administrator
Oct-Nov	As part of DANCE 695, students write 3,000-word thesis proposal; thesis chair oversees process
Nov 1	As part of DANCE 695, students declare thesis committee via email to department chair, graduate director, and individual advisor, cc thesis chair and department administrator
Dec 1	As part of DANCE 695, students submit thesis proposal and budget to thesis chair for review
Dec 22	As part of DANCE 695, students submit thesis proposal and budget to department chair
Dec	For DANCE 695, thesis chair submits grade to individual advisor

Year 2, Winter Term and Deadlines FOR AUGUST GRADUATION

Timeframe	Details	
Jan	Department chair notifies students re thesis project funding support	
Feb/Mar	Apply for graduation (date on Rackham website) if student wants their name in the commencement book.	
Mar/Apr	Perform, choreograph and produce final MFA Thesis Project	
Apr	Must apply for graduation by the last day of classes! Begin Rackham audit process.	
Mar-May	Within two weeks of completion of MFA Thesis Project, meet with full thesis committee for 1.5-2 hours	
May 15	Submit 20-25-page draft of thesis documentation to thesis chair	
June 1	Submit a revised draft of thesis documentation to other committee members	
Jul 1	Submit final version of Thesis Portfolio + one DVD and QuickTime file of thesis concert to department administrator	
Jul-Aug	Thesis chair submits final grade for DANCE 699 Thesis 3: Project	
Aug	Apply for Summer graduation by last day of Summer term	
Aug	Department chair submits Degree Checkout Status form to Rackham	

Applying for Graduation & Deadlines

To receive the Master's degree, students must apply for graduation through Wolverine Access: wolverineaccess.umich.edu/. If the exact degree does not appear on Wolverine Access, contact the Department of Dance before applying. Students who have applied for degree by the Master's and Certificate deadline will have their names printed in the Commencement program. Applications for graduation will be accepted until the last day of classes of the term in which the students wish to receive the degree/diploma; however, the student's name will not appear in the Commencement program. (See Thesis Guidelines & Documentation in this handbook for more information.)

Students may walk at graduation at the end of Winter term in the 2nd year but must apply for Summer graduation and submit thesis materials by the July 1st deadline.

For more information refer to the Rackham website: rackham.umich.edu/help/graduating/masters_degree_diploma_application_deadlines

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that all requirements are met and recorded by the last day of classes in the term s/he has applied to graduate. If the student has questions about academic requirements please contact the individual advisor. For more information, please visit: rackham.umich.edu/masters_students

Production Policies & Performances

MFA Thesis Concert Protocols

The Department of Dance is committed to providing the optimum support possible to MFA candidates for their thesis performance/presentation projects. A practice and movement-based degree, as opposed to an MA-Ph.D. or academic degree, the MFA Thesis will be modeled on current forms of live performance production or screening and consist of scheduled events open to the public. As the culmination of the two-year program, the thesis work should reflect the candidate's deepest engagement in his or her creative vision, research and craft. It should also reflect a working knowledge of the traditions and innovations of the field. These innovations often involve nonconventional concepts and applications of site, compositional structures and processes, media and positioning of performers to audience. The Department has limited space, technical resources and crew for all of its productions. Therefore, the Department must approve all proposals for thesis performances/presentations, whether or not those remain within the existing in-house production schedule. The dates for MFA concerts in the Betty Pease Studio Theater will be posted in September of each year. The faculty will meet to determine the MFA thesis performance/presentation dates at the end of the preceding winter term. There will be a maximum of two performance/presentation dates, typically in late March-early April, for the 3-4 candidates to share.

Occasionally, candidates choose to craft their performances/presentations in alternative sites beyond our in-house Betty Pease Studio Theater. In order to present the thesis project in an alternative venue, the student must submit a proposal to the Dance faculty by March 1. Dates and venues for the thesis projects must be finalized by April 1. A written proposal for an alternative venue should include the following information, and will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

- · Appropriateness to candidate's concentration, artistic vision and concept
- Scale of production fits available resources, both human (cast, crew, faculty and committee involvement) and technical (lighting, sound, seating, etc.)
- Production budget fits available financial resources (grants, etc.)
- Production locates and secures appropriate site, taking into account access, liability and all other permissions
- Production fits within existing Department schedule for access to students and faculty, without conflicts with other Departmental events

It is the candidate's responsibility to be alert to guidelines and deadlines and be proactive in communicating with faculty advisor(s).

Thesis Performance Protocol

MFA students are responsible for the audition process of BFA students for their thesis performance/presentation. Props may be stored in the Prop Room during rehearsals for the MFA thesis performance/presentation and must be removed one week after the performance/presentation ends. Costumes are the MFA student's dancers responsibility but some options may be available to rent from the Department's costume room.

Thesis Portfolio Guidelines

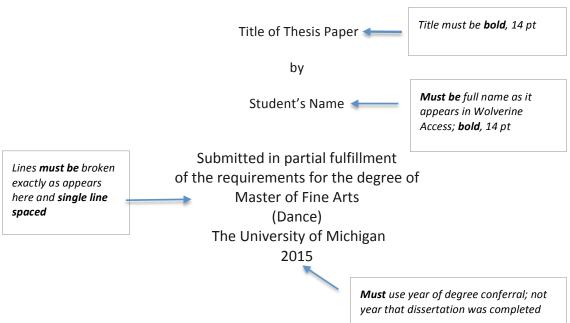
Thesis Project Portfolio

To complete the MFA, the portfolio must include the following 12 components to be submitted on a CD, DVD, and QuickTime file to the Dance Administrator. The DVD will include the entire thesis performance. The student must also provide a QuickTime file of the entire thesis project performance. Additionally, the student must submit a hard copy of the research paper with appropriate cover page to the Dance Administrator. For information how to format the documents before submitting to the Dance Administrator, go to deepblue.lib.umich.edu/static/about/deepblue preservation.html.

Archiving the Thesis Project Portfolio

The portfolio components must be submitted--as final versions--to the Dance Administrator. The Thesis Project Portfolio will be archived in the Department library to be available to faculty and students. Although there are many acceptable file formats, the student will provide these items in any of the following formats: PDF, JPG, MP3, and/or MOV and QuickTime file.

 Cover Page – PDF format with the following text, centered vertically and horizontally on the page:



MFA Thesis Committee:

- Title + first name + last name, Chair
- Title + first name + last name
- Title + first name + last name
 - Title (i.e., Professor) **must be** before the name. **Must not** include degree citation (i.e., Dr.)
 - Must be Chair (or Co-Chair) after the name.
 The word Chair or Co-Chair must not be in parentheses.
 - If a member is deceased (Deceased) must be added at the end of the line after name (e.g., Professor John Smith (Deceased).
 - For academic members from outside UM, a comma and the full name of the academic institution must follow the member's name, (e.g., Assistant Professor Jane Smith, University of Chicago).
 - For members of the private sector, a comma and the full company/organization name must follow the member's name (e.g., Michael Smith, Ford Motor Co.)

The committee **must be** listed as follows (in **alphabetical** order by last name):

- Chair or Co-Chairs
 Professor rank (including Emeritus)
- 2. Associate Professors (including Emeritus)
- 3. Assistant Professors (including Emeritus)
- 4. Curators, research scientists, lecturers
- 5. Academic members from outside U-M
- 6. Those in the private sector

Committee name listing must be single-line spaced.

2. Abstract

- 350 words
- PDF
- First or third person perspective
- Include the primary research question that guided the project, an overview of the project's methodology, and a brief description of the resulting performance. Give the reader a sense of the larger stakes of the project:
 - O Why is this a research question that needs to be asked?
 - O Why does it need to be explored via performance?
- Anchored by its argument and by the key terms of the project, literally, the words someone might search to find the project and/or website online

3. Thesis paper

The paper is normally written in the first person. Length is 20-25 pages, double-spaced, 12-point font, PDF format, summarizing the creative process and including these topics.

- Describe the structure of dance(s) or screendance---the movement vocabulary, and the basic components: cast, production elements, and the site(s) of the performance/screendance.
- How were the production elements integrated in the work, and how did working with these elements shape your ideas? If relevant, discuss collaborations with designers (set, lighting, costume, video), writers, architects, scientists, other.
- Discuss your sound/music choices, scores and/or composer, sound engineer collaboration.
 Discuss the ways movement is mapped with sound/music in the work and the ways this
 extends the meanings of the work, creates moods, atmospheres, dialogues, ironic
 juxtapositions, counterpoint. Did you use live music? How did this influence the process and
 performance?
- If you created a screendance, how did your choices for internal and external editing shape the raw materials?
- Discuss the evolution of work from initial explorations to the final product. What did the dancers bring to the work and how did this contribute to your perspectives? How did things shift along the way? What were your initial questions or impulses, ideas, interests, and how did they change within the process? Discuss the finished work's relationship to initial summer research and thesis proposals. Once rehearsals began, how did they reveal their own distinct world? How did the rehearsal process shape new questions? What challenges did you face? How did casting and rehearsal methods shape the process?
- Discuss the critical feedback you received and the ways that shaped the process. How did you assimilate critical feedback? Did you work with a dramaturg? Who were your sounding boards?
- Discuss your work within the context of the larger field. What is the relationship of your
 thesis project to works of dance artists in a similar vein? Are you working against/resisting
 particular aesthetics or points of view? With what larger ideas and/or artists do you imagine
 your work to be in conversation?
- Reflecting on your two-year experience as an MFA candidate, what is your own understanding of practice as research, in terms of this thesis project?
- Discuss any plans for future showings or revisions of the work. Identify suitable venues or presenters you plan to contact to circulate this work for future presentation and/or to build relationships. Why are these suitable people for this work? Beyond logistical concerns, why or why not should this work be performed again?

Citing your sources:

There are several formats for citing your sources, and you may choose to cite them using the MLA, APA or Chicago styles. There are reasons for choosing different styles, which you can determine in consultation with your thesis chair. Whichever style you choose, follow the guidelines carefully. Please refer to Purdue Owl for citation guidelines: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/

Another helpful resources is this: http://easybib.com/

Be sure to do careful editing of the written documentation before submitting it to your thesis chair. A draft should be submitted to the thesis chair before being submitted to the other committee members. Valuable committee time should not be used correcting grammar and syntax. If necessary, obtain editorial help from the Sweetland Writing Center or academic editing resources, and be sure to acknowledge contributions of an editor.

4. Videos

Full-length work(s) must be included in the portfolio. NOTE: A DVD containing the full-length work(s) and a QuickTime file of the work(s) must be submitted to the Department by July 1st. Please make sure to label individual disks with the full title of your work, your name, and the date of the performance/presentation.

5. Photographs - Performance/rehearsal

- At least five photographs high (600 dpi) AND low (75 dpi) resolution
- Make sure to credit all photographers with in the photo folder

6. Lighting and stage cues

- PDF
- Cannot be the lighting plot
- Within lighting and stage cues folder, be sure to credit the lighting designer and stage manager

7. Photographs and/or scans - Costume and set designs

- JPG and/or PDF
- High (600 dpi) and low (75 dpi) resolution
- Make sure to credit all designers within the costume and set design folder

8. Program

PDF

9. Flyer, poster, advertisement, press article(s)

- PDF and/or JPG
- Give full credit by noting all authors, dates, copyright holders, studios, etc., if applicable

10. Press release

PDF

11. Thesis - supporting documents

- Thesis 1: Summer Research Proposal & Presentation
- Thesis 2: Proposal & Budget
- A representative grant application that you submitted for the thesis (e.g., to Rackham, the International Institute, CWPS, IRWG)

12. Acknowledgements

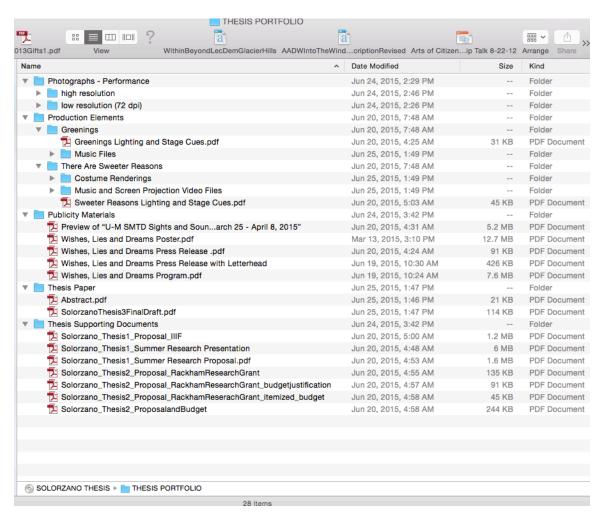
 Include funding support and any faculty, peer(s), family, or friends you would care to acknowledge

Communicating with your Thesis Chair

It is your responsibility to ensure your thesis committee members--especially those outside the Department of Dance--are aware of their responsibilities. You will do this by sharing the information below with them. See Appendix C for handout/guidelines.

MFA Thesis Project Portfolio

Here's an example of how Patty Solórzano (MFA 2015) organized her MFA digital thesis portfolio:



Additional Curriculum Notes

Digital Portfolio

In preparation for securing post-graduate work or continued education, students are required to develop, build and hone a career development (a.k.a., exit) website over the course of the two-year MFA. It will be reviewed periodically by the Dance faculty.

The goal for having this website is to assist students in marketing themselves for academic and/or professional jobs. Components of the website are created as required assignments within various MFA core courses. See Digital Portfolio Timeline for details. (following page)

Note: The Digital Portfolio is different from the Thesis requirements.

The website should include the following components:

- CV
- Headshot
- Videos
- Biography
- Artistic statement
- Chronology of performances and/or choreography
- Upcoming projects (optional)
- Teaching portfolio that includes but is not limited to:
 - o teaching philosophy
 - o teaching resume
 - o course syllabi including course descriptions
 - o videos
 - o photographs
 - o examples of successful student assignments

Digital Portfolio Timeline

Year 1 - Fall Term

Timeframe	Details	
Sept-Dec	Within DANCE 571 Dance Pedagogy, students begin developing a Digital Portfolio and create a first draft of their teaching philosophy statement and teaching resume. They upload these and other teaching portfolio materials, such as current syllabi, photographs and videos/DVDs of their teaching. Additional materials may include samples of student work and student evaluations.	
Sept-Dec	Within courses 524/531, students develop and compile an artist statement, updated biography, and compile a chronology of creative/professional activities (i.e., a list of their performances and choreography to-date). Becomes a component of the Digital Portfolio.	

Year 2- Fall Term

Timeframe	Details
Sept-Dec	Students attend career development workshops at CRLT (Center for Research on Learning and Teaching) and The Career Development Office for assistance with cover letters, interviewing techniques, CVs, and to finalize the Digital Portfolio. Individual advisor reviews completed Digital Portfolio with advisee.

Crew Work for Department of Dance Productions

Production crew work is required for all students and is vital to the success of our concerts. **MFA students must complete one in-house crew assignment.** Such work will amount to no more than 32 hours per term. The Production Manager posts the assignments each term. Production crews are vital to the success of our concerts.

Rehearsal Space

If reserving rehearsal space for a choreographic project or for teaching preparation, students must submit a request in writing to the Production Manager, providing date, time and location. Reservation forms are available on the Production Schedule bulletin board and due by noon each Friday for the following week (Mon thru Sun). Students should post a rehearsal cancellation immediately.

NOTE: Rehearsal space is at a premium in our Department. If none of our studios are available for rehearsal students might try going next door to the CCRB where students can reserve a squash court with their student ID.

Outside Performances

Performances are encouraged beyond Department-sponsored events as long as the student's schedule permits. In keeping with other departments in the School of Music, Theatre & Dance, if involved in projects outside the Department the student must:

- 1. Notify his/her individual advisor in writing of the engagement within the first two weeks of the semester so that any conflicting issues with the Department (e.g., resources, scheduling) may be addressed.
- 2. Make every effort not to miss regularly scheduled classes and rehearsals. When organizing or producing an outside event, it is the student's responsibility as the choreographer to be respectful of dancers' schedules and prior commitments. Please adapt schedules accordingly.
- 3. Follow Department guidelines as stated earlier in this handbook and the SMTD Student Handbook regarding the procedures for getting approval for absences incurred for outside performance.

Publicity Materials

All Department of Dance publicity materials must be approved by the Production Manager and submitted to the Dance Office before being posted or printed.

Poster Design

As students design the poster, keep in mind that it must contain the following:

• School of Music, Theatre & Dance logo



Full address, as follows:

University of Michigan (not "U of M")
Department of Dance (MUST be listed)
Dance Building, Betty Pease Studio Theater
1310 N. University Court
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2217

- **If concert takes place at alternate site (e.g., Duderstadt or UMMA), ensure you have the complete address
- For additional information: (734) 763-5461 or your personal contact information
- For directions: (734) 763-5461
- Concert title
- Times, month, dates, and year of concert
- Where appropriate, acknowledge any funding sources and/or in-kind support
- Ticket prices (ticket template available from Production Director)
- Box office opens at 7:00PM
- The statement, "This concert is being held in partial fulfillment of the Department of Dance Master of Fine Arts Degree Requirements"

Program Design

As you design the program, keep in mind that it <u>must</u> contain:

School of Music, Theatre & Dance logo



- List the following:
 - University of Michigan (not "U of M")
 Department of Dance (MUST be listed)
- Concert title
- Times, month, dates, and year of concert
- Where appropriate, acknowledge any funding sources and/or in-kind support
- List graduate student names (i.e., choreographers)
- List the production staff (check with Production Director for list)
- Place a Friends of Dance announcement on the back (see Department Administrator for wording)
- The statement, "This concert is being held in partial fulfillment of the Department of Dance Master of Fine Arts Degree Requirements"

Student Activities & Awards

DSA Representative

One student from both the 1st and 2nd year grads will represent their class in DSA. It is this student's responsibility to communicate with his/her year group and report back to DSA with any issues or suggestions. Grad students should plan to make time to meet as a year group a couple of times during each term to discuss progress and any concerns as well as promote communication within the year group.

American College Dance Association (ACDA)

Each year, two to three outstanding students are sponsored to present their choreography at the Regional conference. The faculty choose which works will attend the festival based on a department wide audition each fall. (Refer to the STMD absence policy stated earlier in this handbook regarding off-campus travel)

Emerging Dance Artists Concert

The Emerging Dance Artist (EDA) concert is a student choreographed and produced performance that takes place at the end of the Winter term. All students may participate. Refer to the bulletin boards in the Dance Building or see the Production Manager for more information and/or sign up sheet.

General Information & Resources

Graduate Student Affairs Office

http://www.rackham.umich.edu/content/student-services-offices

Dean of Students Office

http://deanofstudents.umich.edu/

CRLT – Center for Research on Learning and Teaching

http://www.crlt.umich.edu/

Rackham Emergency Funds

The Rackham Graduate Student Emergency Fund is intended to help meet the financial needs of Rackham graduate students who encounter an emergency situation or one-time, unusual, or unforeseen expenses during their degree program. Situations eligible for funding include such events as:

- Medical, dental or mental health emergencies for the student or, in some circumstances, for immediate family members* who live with the student
- Major accidents and events such as fire and natural disasters
- Expenses related to the death of an immediate family member*

Normal living expenses such as rent, car repairs, child care, utilities, taxes, insurance, and petrelated expenses are generally not covered by this fund.

* The immediate family consists of a student's spouse or other qualified adult; the son, daughter, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister (or the spouse of any of them), of either the student, the student's spouse, the other qualified adult or any other related person living in the student's household. The definition of other qualified adult may be found at http://www.umich.edu/~benefits/eligibility/oqa.html

Please visit: https://www.rackham.umich.edu/prospective-students/funding/student-application/graduate-student-emergency-funds

Graduate Student Funding

There are several sources of funding through the Rackham Graduate School including the Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant. For information go to rackham.umich.edu and select the link for Funding. Also consult the website for the International Institute @ ii.umich.edu and the various research centers, for example, DAAS (formerly CAAS) @ www.ii.umich.edu/daas, CWPS @ www.ii.umich.edu/cwps/, IRWG @ irwg.research.umich.edu, and Arts of Citizenship @ artsofcitizenship.umich.edu.

Depending on the field of research, individual departments across campus may have additional funding sources

Grant Sources at the University of Michigan

IRWG

Rackham Graduate Student Research Awards

o http://irwg.research.umich.edu/funding/awards.html

Community of Scholars

o http://irwg.research.umich.edu/funding/community.html

Rackham

Conference Travel Grant

http://www.rackham.umich.edu/funding/from_rackham/student_application/rackham_conference_travel_grant/

Graduate Research Award

http://www.rackham.umich.edu/funding/from_rackham/student_application/gradu ate_student_research_grant/

International Research Award

http://www.rackham.umich.edu/funding/from_rackham/student_application/inter
 national_research_awards/

Arts of Citizenship

Graduate Student Grants in Public Scholarship

http://artsofcitizenship.umich.edu/grants-program/

International Institute

Individual Fellowships

o http://www.ii.umich.edu/ii/fellowshipsandgrants/graduate

International Institute Conference Travel Grants

o http://www.ii.umich.edu/ii/fellowshipsandgrants/graduate

International Institute Fund for Conferences and Workshops

o http://www.ii.umich.edu/ii/fellowshipsandgrants/graduate

International Institute Fund for Performances, Films, and Exhibitions

http://www.ii.umich.edu/ii/fellowshipsandgrants/graduate

Center for World Performance

Center for World Performance

o http://www.ii.umich.edu/cwps/resources

Complimentary Ticket Policy

Department of Dance students are eligible for complimentary ticket(s) for select ticketed performances during in the SMTD season. Please reference the current season's complimentary ticket policy emailed at the beginning of the school year. Copies of the policies are also available at the Department office.

GEO

The Graduate Employees' Organization (GEO) is the labor union representing Graduate Student Instructors (GSIs) and Graduate Student Staff Assistants (GSSAs) at the University of Michigan. GEO was founded in 1970 and won their first contract in 1975, making GEO one of the oldest graduate employee unions in the United States.

GEO is an activist, democratic and volunteer-run organization where graduate employees come together to improve our wages and working conditions. The collective action of GEO members, organized as a union, is responsible for many of the concrete benefits that graduate employees now enjoy. Over the last 40 years, victories have included tuition waivers, health benefits, and child care waivers as well as a powerful grievance procedure to protect our rights, transparent hiring processes, and standard setting non-discrimination language. Graduate employees across the country look to GEO as an example of what can be accomplished when we work together.

Please visit: http://www.geo3550.org/

Department of Dance Office

Office hours for the main office are approximately 8:30AM – 5:00PM. The office is closed for lunch on days when administrative support is not available.

Security

Building security is an important concern for Dance students, faculty and staff. Valuables, backpacks, clothing and jewelry, iPods/MP3 players, cell phones, books, etc. are all subject to theft. Keep valuables within eyesight, store them in the lockers or locked in the graduate student offices at the Geddes Building. It is also unsafe to be in the Dance Building alone in the evening and on weekends. The Department of Public Safety (DPS) should be called (734-763-1131) in every case of theft or suspicious activity in the building.

For added security, the Department of Dance has a card reader system located at the main entrance to the Dance Building. This means that unless the door is unlocked during regular class times (Mon-Fri) the building can be accessed only by using a MCard. The locking schedule for the card reader may vary throughout the year, so be sure to check with the Department Administrator for details. Additionally, there are several punch code locks throughout the Dance Building. This is typically a three-digit code that changes each term. Do not share this code with anyone outside the Department nor prop open a code locked door to bypass this security measure.

The **Geddes Building** has three points of entry, two of which are located on the rear side of the house and should be locked and bolted at all times. The fire escape is located via office #3103 on the third floor.



For Emergencies call the Department of Public Safety (DPS) at 911!

Locker Space

Lockers are available for Dance majors and MFA students. Because graduate students have an office at the Geddes Building, undergraduate students will be given priority on choosing their lockers. Students **must sign up** for a locker number (lists are posted on the outside bathroom door). Students are responsible for providing their own lock, maintaining a record of the combination, and arranging for any services required to either unlock or cut off the lock.

Basic Building Information

Dance Building

- Outside Doors are not to be propped open at any time
- No smoking anywhere in the building
- No alcoholic beverages in the building
- No eating or drinking in the studios
- Street shoes of any kind are **not** to be worn or taken into the studios
- No items of any kind should be placed on pianos
- No roller blades are to be worn in the building
- Bicycles are not allowed in the building. Please lock your bikes on the racks provided outside.
- There are **Lost and Found** bins throughout in the Department located in each studio and in the student lounge. Non-clothing items (cell phones, IDs, jewelry, etc.) are held in the Dance Office
- **Performance Lab** blinds and windows should stay closed at all times. The door should always remain locked and closed and the door code should never be shared with non Dance Majors.

1327 Geddes

- Outside Doors are not to be propped open at any time
- No smoking anywhere in the building
- No alcoholic beverages in the building
- No roller blades are to be worn in the building
- **Bicycles are not allowed in the building.** Please park and lock your bikes where provided outside
- Parking is reserved for the Department Chair, Administrator and guests only
- Students are responsible for cleaning up after themselves, especially in the kitchen

Student Lounge at Dance Building

The Student Lounge is for relaxation, eating, student meetings, audition guests and as a waiting area for visitors to the Department. Students are expected to clean up after themselves. There is a campus phone (for on-campus calls), a computer with Internet access, and a monitor, DVD and VHS machines. **Students** are responsible for items left in the refrigerator; dirty utensils and empty/dirty containers must not be left in the fridge. There are cleaning supplies and storage bins available to maintain kitchen items. On frequent occasions facilities will deep clean the refrigerator and sink. On this day (which will be posted in the student lounge), all personal items must be removed or are subject to being trashed.

Performance Lab

The Performance Lab is a specialized dance space for Department use only. There are cardio machines, TRX, portable ballet barre, Bosu balls and other equipment to help support student's dance pursuits. Students must complete the following three tasks BEFORE being granted access to the Performance Lab:

- 1. Watch the following four orientation videos:
 - #1 Introduction to the Space
 - #2 Cardio Equipment
 - #3 Exercise Mats, Balls & Other Accessories
 - #4 TRX Suspension Trainer
- 2. Read Requirements document
- 3. Read, sign and turn in Access & Liability Form

Kitchen at Geddes

Graduate students also have access to the kitchen at the Geddes Building. The same rules apply regarding use and cleanliness as at the Dance Building. Students are expected to clean up after themselves. There is a campus phone for on-campus calls only. **Students** are responsible for items left in the refrigerator; dirty utensils and empty/dirty containers must not be left in the fridge. There are cleaning supplies and cupboards available to maintain kitchen items. **The dishwasher will be used for special events only and should NOT be used without permission.** Graduate students have access to their own coffee machine and are responsible for purchasing coffee and cleaning up and maintaining all aspects of its use. The Department will provide creamer, sugar and disposable cups.

Resource Room at Geddes

The Resource Room, located on the third floor at the Geddes building, is for faculty and graduate students use only. In some instances, it is possible an upperclassman in the BFA Dance program will have permission as well. Occasionally the Resource Room may be used as an office for a guest artist upon approval of the Department. The room contains important materials such as the Department Archive, MFA theses and dance-specific books and journals. Students are permitted to use this room for research related to the thesis and MFA program coursework. **Nothing is permitted to leave the Resource Room.** Please contact the Department Administrator for more information.

Health & Wellness

Please check the Department bulletin boards and Appendix F for more information.

Campus Services

Central Campus Recreation Building Facilities

The recreational facilities of the CCRB (adjacent to the Dance Building) are available to all UM students. Students may use the track, saunas, weight equipment, gymnasium, and Olympic-size pool. Classes in aerobics, individual sports, swimming, lifesaving, and other activities are offered for a modest fee. As noted, squash courts can be reserved and can make for good rehearsal space in a bind, especially for small groups and class planning.

Counseling & Psychological Services

CAPS offers a variety of services aimed at helping students resolve personal difficulties and acquire the skills, attitudes, and knowledge that will enable them to take full advantage of their experiences at the University of Michigan. Emily Shipman (emship@umich.edu) is the CAPS Counselor for SMTD located at 2238 Moore building on North Campus. Students may also request CAPS counseling on Central Campus on the 3rd floor of the Michigan Union. Access online @ umich.edu/~caps or call (734) 764-8312.

Eating Disorders

A counseling group is available to students at the Center for Eating Disorders @ center4ed.org/ or call (734) 668-8585. You can also make an appointment with a registered dietician at the UHS's Nutrition Clinic at (734) 764-8325 or call the clinic for information at (734) 763-3760.

MedRehab Center/Performance Arts Therapy

M-Perform is a specialty program designed to address the unique needs and problems of the Performing Artist. Physician and Therapy Teams in PT, OT and Hand Therapy have many years of experience in Orthopedics, Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine. Whether a musician, dancer, conductor or pianist, therapy teams can help rehabilitate the artist and work to prevent future injuries. Call for an appointment at (734) 936-7175 or 998-7667 for physical therapy. Be sure to check on insurance coverage and specify that the call is an 'arts med' referral.

MedSport

University Medical Center Sports Medicine Program (MedSport) is located at Domino's Farms, which includes orthopedic doctors, physical therapists, and athletic trainers experienced in performing arts-related injuries. Please contact MedSport to request information regarding this clinic at (734) 930-7400. Kristen Schuyten is our main point of contact there: Kbalfour@umich.edu

Transportation

If rehearsing in the building or theatres after dark, it is <u>not</u> safe to travel alone. Students have several transportation options including:

- Night Ride. Shared-ride taxi service within Ann Arbor (when regularly scheduled AATA bus service is not available) seven days a week, Monday through Friday, 11:00PM to 6:00AM and Saturday and Sunday, 7:00PM to 7:30AM. Fee is \$5 per person. Also available on all major holidays. Phone (734) 528-5432.
- Ride Home. Free shared-ride taxi service for students, faculty, and staff to their residence halls, parked vehicles, or local residence. This service is available after University transit buses and shuttles have concluded daily service: from 2:00AM through 7:00AM, seven days a week. Please note you must show the driver your valid UM ID. Phone (734) 663-3355.

• S.A.F.E. Walk. A campus accompaniment service that functions as an alternative to walking alone on campus at night. Coordinated by staff at the Department of Public Safety (DPS), S.A.F.E.WALK escorts are free of charge and available to all members of the University community. During the Fall and Winter semesters, the service is provided daily from 10:00 p.m.-3:00 a.m. Just call (734) 763-WALK or (734) 763-9255 to request an escort. An employee from UM Transportation Services will come to the student's campus location and drive to the requested location (within a one-mile driving radius of Central and North campuses). During non-service hours, alternative service providers will be identified by DPS.

UM Health Service

Located on 207 Fletcher Ave, medical service is provided for all UM students and staff on a walk-in or appointment basis. It is open weekdays until 4:30 and Saturday mornings. Phone (734) 764-8325. Physical therapy is provided if deemed necessary by a Health Services doctor.

U-Move Fitness

Located in the CCRB, offers a wide variety of group exercise (Pilates, Yoga, Cardio) and wellness classes to faculty, staff, and students of the University of Michigan and residents of Ann Arbor and surrounding communities. Schedule and class descriptions may be found @ umove.kines.umich.edu.

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School of Music, Theatre & Dance Department of Dance Core Curriculum & Chronology for Choreography, Performance, and Screendance MFA Tracks Classes 2015 & 2016

**Students should expect to enroll in 15 credits per semester to equal the 60 credits required for MFA degree completion.

Semester 1 – Fall Term 16-17 credits total, 13-14 credits of which are required core courses Courses – Required Credits 501 – Research in Action 1: Research Methods in Dance 3 511 and/or 513 – Ballet and/or Modern Dance Technique (i.e., physical practice) 1 total Note: This includes the Modern and Ballet Friday labs (not Yoga/Improv) 524 or 531 – Advanced Solo Performance or Advanced Solo Composition 3 Note: The number chosen depends on track 534 – Performance Improvisation 1 3 Note: One of these credits can be applied toward the physical practice requirement 571 – Pedagogy: Dance Technique 3

School of Music, Theatre & Dance Department of Dance Core Curriculum & Chronology for Choreography, Performance, and Screendance MFA Tracks Classes 2015 & 2016

Semester 2 – Winter Term

18 credits recommended, since 3 credits are not worked on during the term, but rather over the spring/summer

Courses – Required	Credits
502 – Research in Action 2: Problematizing Theory in Practice	3
505 – Research in Action 3: Self-Evaluation Report Note: Written over spring/summer but signed up for in WN term of first year. Assigned a 'Y' grade until RIA instructor has graded the report.	1
511 and/or 513 – Ballet and/or Modern Dance Technique (i.e., physical practice) Note: This includes the Modern and Ballet Friday labs (not Yoga/rov)	1- 2/total
532 – CPP&D ** Counts as Track credit**	3
543 – Screendance I: Collaborations in New Media **Required for Screendance Track only. Other Tracks may take it as an elective**	3
595 – Thesis 1: Summer Research Project Notes: Y grade. Field work occurs over summer and presentation of research occurs in the Fall. Instructor listed in Wolverine is ADVISOR. Grades are divided into three parts: (1) Proposal (20%) – assessed by Advisor/Chair; (2) Fieldwork (50%) – assessed by the full faculty in Sep; (3) Presentation (30%) – assessed by the full faculty. Final grade is determined at Oct/Nov faculty meeting.	2
Courses – Elective +/or Track	Credits

Students are encouraged to take a cognate during semester 2 and/or may fill out their schedule with dance elective credits.

School of Music, Theatre & Dance Department of Dance Core Curriculum & Chronology for Choreography, Performance, and Screendance MFA Tracks Classes 2015 & 2016

Spring Term		
Courses – Elective +/or Track	Credits	
515 – Ann Arbor Dance Works: Technique	1	
516 – Paul Taylor Summer Intensive: Technique	1	
518-588 – Field Experience projects	1-3	
519-589 – Independent Study projects	1-3	
523-543 – Portfolio projects	2-4	
525 – Ann Arbor Dance Works: Repertory	1-3	
526 – Paul Taylor Summer Intensive: Repertory	1	
** Cognates from non-Dance/SMTD department		

School of Music, Theatre & Dance Department of Dance Core Curriculum & Chronology for Choreography, Performance, and Screendance MFA Tracks Classes 2015 & 2016

Semester 3 – Fall Term

11-12 credits total

Courses – Required	Credits
601 – Research in Action 4: Dance History & Theory	3
611 and/or 613 – Ballet and/or Modern Dance Technique (i.e., physical practice) Note: This includes the Modern and Ballet Friday labs (not Yoga/Improv)	1- 2/total
631 – Graduate Studio Note: Instructor listed in Wolverine is YEAR ADVISOR. Thesis Chair will subsequently assign grade and convey it to Year Advisor. Reason: Students do not officially declare a Thesis Chair until Oct 1 and this is after the SMTD add/drop deadline. ** Counts as Track credit**	2
695 – Thesis 2: Proposal Note: Instructor listed in Wolverine is ADVISOR. Thesis Chair will subsequently assign grade and convey it to Advisor. Reason: Students do not officially declare a Thesis Chair until Oct 1 and this is after the SMTD add/drop deadline.	
Course – Elective +/or Track	Credits

Students are encouraged to take a cognate during semester 3 and/or may fill out their schedule with dance elective credits.

School of Music, Theatre & Dance Department of Dance Core Curriculum & Chronology for Choreography, Performance, and Screendance MFA Tracks Classes 2015 & 2016

Semester 4 – Winter Term

7-8 credits total

Courses – Required	Credits
611 and/or 613 – Ballet and/or Modern Dance Technique (i.e., physical practice) Note: This does include the Modern and Ballet Friday labs (not Yoga/Improv)	1- 2/total
642 – Screendance II: Advanced Projects & Productions **Required for Screendance Track only. Other Tracks may take it as an elective**	3
699 – Thesis 3: Project Note: Instructor listed in Wolverine is THESIS CHAIR. A 'Y' grade is submitted until the documentation is complete.	
Course – Elective +/or Track	Credits

Students fill out their schedule with dance elective credits, and, if necessary, a cognate.

School of Music, Theatre & Dance Department of Dance Advising Checklist for Graduates Completing an MFA

Name:	Semester/Year began program:
Advisor:	Track/Concentration of study:
	Subsidiary course of study:

Required areas of study & credit hours to complete your Masters Degree in two years:

•	Research in Action	10	•	Cognates	6-10
•	Track	20	•	Thesis	10
•	Dance Electives	10-14			
				Total Hrs	60

Physical Practice

Students are required to take a minimum of 8 credits of physical practice over the course of their degree. **These credits can be applied either toward track credits or dance elective credit.** Credits in physical practice can be taken in a variety of genres, including modern, ballet, some Friday labs, and performance of improvisation. There are also independent study options for physical practice. When enrolled in the 3-credit course Performance of Improvisation 1 (534), one of the three credits may be applied toward the 8-credit physical practice requirement; the same applies if a student elects to take Performance of Improvisation 2 (634): one of the three credits may be applied toward the 8-credit physical practice requirement.

School of Music, Theatre & Dance Department of Dance Advising Checklist for Graduates Completing an MFA

The following courses can be taken at any time during your two-years of study; 500-level for Year 1 and 600-level for Year 2.

517/617 - Special Topics: Dance Technique	557/657 - Special Topics: Dance Science
518/618 - Field Experience: Dance Technique	558/658 - Field Experience: Dance Science
519/619 - Independent Study: Dance Technique	559/659 - Independent Study: Dance Science
527/627 - Special Topics: Performance/Repertory	567/667 - Special Topics: Dance History
528/628 - Field Experience: Performance/Repertory	568/668 - Field Experience: Dance History
529/629 - Independent Study: Performance/Repertory	569/669 - Independent Study: Dance History
537/637 - Special Topics: Choreography	577/677 - Special Topics: Dance Education
538/638 - Field Experience: Choreography	578/678 - Field Experience: Dance Education
539/639 - Independent Study: Choreography	579/679 - Independent Study: Dance Education
547/647 - Special Topics: Screendance	587/687 - Special Topics: Interdisciplinary Arts
548/648 - Field Experience: Screendance	588/688 - Field Experience: Interdisciplinary Arts
549/649 - Independent Study: Screendance	589/689 - Independent Study: Interdisciplinary Arts

School of Music, Theatre & Dance Department of Dance Advising Checklist for Graduates Completing an MFA

Year 1 -	Fall Tern	1	
Course	Credits	Requirement Category	Taken (Y/N)
Completed Research in Action credits – Fall Year 1			
C	Completed	Track credits – Fall Year 1	
Completed Elective/Subsidiary credits – Fall Year 1			
Completed Cognate credits – Fall Year 1			
Total credits completed – Fall Year 1			
Advisor Signature			Date
Student Signature			Date

School of Music, Theatre & Dance Department of Dance

Advising Checklist for Graduates Completing an MFA

i cai I - V	Winter Ter	m	
Course	Credits	Requirement Category	Taken (Y/N)
Completed Research in Action credits – Winter Year 1			
Completed Track credits – Winter Year 1		k credits – Winter Year 1	
Completed Elective/Subsidiary credits - Winter Year 1			
Completed Cognate credits – Winter Year 1			
Total credits completed – Winter Year 1			
CUMULATIVE credits Fall + Winter Year 1			

Advisor Signature	Date
Student Signature	Date

School of Music, Theatre & Dance Department of Dance Advising Checklist for Graduates Completing an MFA

Year 1 –	Spring Teri	m	
Course	Credits	Requirement Category	Taken (Y/N)
Completed Research in Action credits – Spring Year 1			
Com	npleted Trac	k credits – Spring Year 1	
Comp	leted Electi	ve/Subsidiary credits – Spring Year 1	
Comple	eted Cognat	t e credits – Spring Year 1	
Сот	pleted Thes i	is credits – Spring Year 1	
Total credits completed – Spring Year 1			
CUMULATIVE credits Fall + Winter + Spring Year 1			
Advisor Signature			Date
Student Signature			Date

School of Music, Theatre & Dance Department of Dance Advising Checklist for Graduates Completing an MFA

Year 2 –	Fall Term		
Course	Credits	Requirement Category	Taken (Y/N)
Complete	ed Researc	h in Action credits – Fall Year 2	
C	Completed T	rack credits – Fall Year 2	
Complete	d Elective/	Subsidiary credits – Fall Year 2	
Completed Cognate credits – Fall Year 2			
Completed Thesis credits – Fall Year 2			
Total credits completed			
CUMULA	ATIVE cred	its Year 1+ Fall Year 2	
Advisor Signature			Date
Student Signature			Date

School of Music, Theatre & Dance Department of Dance

Advising Checklist for Graduates Completing an MFA

Year 2 –	Winter Ter	m	
Course	Credits	Requirement Category	Taken (Y/N)
Completed Research in Action credits – Winter Year 2			
Com	pleted Trac	k credits – Winter Year 2	
Comp	leted Electi	ve/Subsidiary credits – Winter Year 2	
Comple	ted Cognat	e credits – Winter Year 2	
Сотр	oleted Thesi	s credits – Winter Year 2	
Total	credits con	npleted – Winter Year 2	
CUMULATIVE credits Year 1 + Fall + Winter Year 2			
Advisor Signature			Date
Student Signature			Date
Rackham Evaluator Signature			Date

School of Music, Theatre & Dance Department of Dance Advising Checklist for Graduates Completing an MFA

Year 2 — Spring Term			
Course	Credits	Requirement Category	Taken (Y/N)
Completed Research in Action credits – Spring Year 2			
Con	npleted Trac	k credits – Spring Year 2	
Сотр	oleted Electi	ve/Subsidiary credits – Spring Year 2	
Comple	eted Cognat	t e credits – Spring Year 2	
Com	pleted Thes	is credits – Spring Year 2	
	T	otal credits completed	
CUM	IULATIVE c	redits Year 1 + Year 2	
Advisor Signature			Date
Student Signature			Date

Appendix C

University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance Department of Dance MFA Graduation Checklist 2015-16

Student Name
UMID #
Email & Phone
Semester/Date Thesis Concert Presented
Dance 699 Thesis Grade Awarded
MFA Thesis Chair
Committee Members
Thesis Committee Final Meeting Date
Graduation Date
Checklist
Verify application for graduation to begin Rackham Audit Process
2. Verify completion and submission of CD or CDs that include all required digital materials as detailed in handbook* & DVD of concert video
Date received in Dance Office
3. Thesis Chair Check List Sign-off
4.Department of Dance Chair Signature

*20-25 page thesis paper with properly formatted cover; page 300 word abstract; five or more photos in both high and low resolution formats properly credited; lighting and stage cues; photos or scans of costume and set designs; program; flyer, poster, ad, press articles properly credited; press release; thesis supporting materials: thesis 1 summer presentation and thesis 2 proposal and budget; a representative grant application submitted for thesis; acknowledgements including funding support. **Please refer to handbook for formatting details.**

Appendix D

School of Music, Theatre & Dance Department of Dance Thesis Committee Guidelines

Thesis Committee Handout/Guidelines

Thank you for considering a request to be a thesis committee member for an MFA candidate in the Department of Dance, School of Music, Theatre & Dance. Dance MFA candidates are required to have three thesis committee members: two from the Department of Dance, one of whom is the Thesis Chair; and a third, non-Dance, full-time, UM faculty member or a member of the private sector.

Thesis committee members will serve for both the Fall and Winter terms of the student's second year. Committee members are asked to meet with the student twice during the Fall term and three times during the Winter term and to provide constructive feedback regarding the MFA candidate's overall progress. The Department recognizes that committee members may not be able to attend all of the recommended showings or sessions, in which case the MFA candidate will make other arrangements to meet with the committee member.

The recommended meetings include:

Fall Term

- Attend one session of DANCE 631 Graduate Studio to provide ongoing feedback to
 developing ideas. Discuss the thought process and research the student used in developing
 the work and the connections between the creative work and the area of expertise of the
 committee member.
- Review a developed draft of the student's thesis proposal and provide feedback.

Winter Term

- Attend a thesis works-in-progress (WIP) showing and use this as an occasion to provide feedback on the process.
- Attend the formal performance of the Thesis Project as the second of the three meetings of the Winter term.
- In late-April or early-May, meet with the MFA candidate as a full committee to evaluate and discuss the Thesis Project. This meeting serves as the third and final meeting.

It is the responsibility of the MFA candidate to set up these meetings with her/his committee members in a timely manner.

Evaluation & Grading

The Dance faculty member designated as Thesis Chair is responsible for supervising the thesis documentation and for submitting the final grade for the Thesis Project. The other two thesis committee members will receive a copy of the final thesis documentation in progress and may choose to provide comments and feedback. The Thesis Chair will sign off on the thesis when it is finalized and submitted to the Department.

Appendix D

School of Music, Theatre & Dance Department of Dance Thesis Committee Guidelines

Overview of the MFA Dance Thesis Process

Dance MFA candidates specialize in one of three tracks during their two-year MFA: Choreography, Performance/Repertory, or Screendance. The MFA degree culminates in the creation of a Thesis Project, which may take the form of a performance or other public presentation. These projects are completed in March/April of the second year.

Over the course of the two years, the student prepares for her/his Thesis Project in a sequence of courses and research activities that blends practice and theory. These encourage an in-depth development of materials and ideas, as noted below:

- After taking a core curriculum of studio and theory courses in the first term of Year 1, candidates submit grant proposals to funding sources for summer research projects early in the second term of Year 1. These summer research projects feed directly into the student's thesis work during Year 2.
- Between the first and second years, students undertake extensive research off-campus, conducting fieldwork and developing material for their thesis in DANCE 595 Thesis 1:
 Summer Research Project (2 credits). DANCE 595 is comprised of the following three components:
- 1. A 1,000-word proposal articulating the aims, methodology, research context and questions of the project, and of their relevance to the student's subsequent thesis and to the field;
- 2. A minimum of 40 hours in the field;
- 3. A 15-minute presentation of results, to include audio-visual examples and/or a performative element, plus Q&A. This 15-minute presentation takes place in September of the second year and, as noted above, it is recommended that the non-Dance thesis committee member attend this presentation as the first of the three Fall term meetings with the candidate.
- In the Fall term of the Year 2, MFA candidates enroll in a 2-credit course, **DANCE 631 Graduate Studio.** This course serves as a forum for second year MFA students to investigate and workshop ideas, movement materials and production elements for their thesis projects. As noted, it is recommended that the committee members attend one of these class sessions as one of the three Fall term meetings with the candidate.
- Also in the Fall term of the Year 2, MFA candidates enroll in the 2-credit course DANCE 695 Thesis 2: Proposal. In this course, the students determine a Thesis Chair by October 1 and a Thesis Committee by November 1. A 3,000-word written proposal is submitted to the Thesis Chair by December 1.

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School of Music, Theatre & Dance Department of Dance Thesis Committee Guidelines

- During the Winter term of Year 2, MFA candidates are immersed in pre-production and rehearsal/performance activities for their Thesis Projects, enrolling in the 6-credit course DANCE 699 Thesis 3: Project. The Thesis Project must include a performative element (2 credits), production work (2 credits), and final documentation (2 credits). Showings of the works-in-progress are typically scheduled in February. It is recommended that committee members attend a works-in-progress showing if possible. If that is not possible, they can attend a rehearsal or review a video of a showing with the candidate.
- Final Thesis performances and presentations are typically scheduled in March/April. It is expected that committee members will attend this culminating performance, if at all possible. If not, they must review a video of the performance or project.
- No later than mid-May, the full Thesis Committee meets with the MFA candidate to discuss and evaluate the thesis work and to launch the written documentation process. The MFA candidate then continues with the documentation of the thesis. The student submits a first draft of the thesis paper to the Thesis Chair by May 15th. The student submits a subsequent draft to other committee members by June 1th. The committee members may choose to provide editorial feedback, but they are not required to do so. The student submits all required documents of the Thesis Portfolio to the Thesis Chair by July 1th.

MFA Candidates are required by the Department of Dance to complete their thesis documentation by the end of the Spring/Summer term immediately following their fourth term of graduate study.

Appendix E

School of Music. Theatre & Dance Department of Dance General Standards

Letter Grades	Conceptual Structure	Rhetorical Structure	Thesis	Evidence and Analysis	Paragraph/Section Structure	Sentence Mechanics
A	cogent analysis, shows command of interpretive and conceptual tasks required by assignment and course materials: original ideas often insightful, going beyond ideas discussed in lecture and class	contains a convincing argument with a compelling purpose; highly responsive to the demands of the specific writing situation; sophisticated use of conventions of academic discipline and genre; anticipates the reader's need for information, explanation, and context	essay controlled by clear, precise, well-defined thesis; is sophisticated in both statement and insight	well-chosen examples; uses persuasive reasoning to develop and support thesis consistently; uses specific quotations, aesthetic details, or citations of scholarly sources effectively; logical connections between ideas are evident	well-constructed paragraphs; appropriate, clear, and smooth transitions; apt arrangement of organizational elements	uses sophisticated sentences effectively; usually chooses words aptly; observes professional conventions of written English and manuscript format; makes very few minor or technical errors
В	shows a good understanding of the texts, ideas and methods of the assignment; goes beyond the obvious; may have one minor factual or conceptual inconsistency	addresses audience with a thoughtful argument with a clear purpose; responds directly to the demands of a specific writing situation; competent use of the conventions of academic discipline and genre; addresses the reader's need for information, explanation, context	clear, specific, arguable thesis central to the essay; may have left minor terms undefined	pursues explanation and proof of thesis consistently; develops a main argument with explicit major points, appropriate textual evidence, and supporting detail	distinct units of thought in paragraphs controlled by specific, detailed, and arguable topic sentences; clear transitions between developed, cohering, and logically arranged paragraphs	a few mechanical difficulties or stylistic problems; may make occasional problematic word choices or syntax errors; a few spelling or punctuation errors; usually presents quotations effectively, using appropriate format
С	shows an understanding of the basic ideas and information involved in the assignment; may have some factual, interpretive, or conceptual errors	presents adequate response to the essay prompt; pays attention to the basic elements of the writing situation; shows sufficient competence in the conventions of academic discipline and genre; signals the importance of the reader's need for information, explanation, and context	general thesis or controlling idea; may not define several central terms	only partially develops the argument; shallow analysis; some ideas and generalizations undeveloped or unsupported; makes limited use of textual evidence; fails to integrate quotations appropriately; warrants missing	some awkward transitions; some brief, weakly unified or undeveloped paragraphs; arrangement may not appear entirely natural; contains extraneous information	frequent wordiness; unclear or awkward sentences; imprecise use of words or over- reliance on passive voice; contains rudimentary grammatical errors; makes effort to present quotations accurately
D	shows inadequate command of materials or has significant factual and conceptual errors; confuses some significant ideas	shows serious weaknesses in addressing an audience; unresponsive to the specific writing situation; poor articulation of purpose in academic writing; often states the obvious or the inappropriate	thesis vague or not central to argument; central terms not defined	frequently only narrates; digresses from one topic to another without developing ideas or terms; makes insufficient or awkward use of textual evidence; relies on too few or the wrong type of sources	simplistic, tends to narrate or merely summarize; wanders from one topic to another; illogical arrangement of idea	some major grammatical or proofreading errors (subject-verb agreement, sentence fragments, word form errors, etc.); repeated inexact word choices; incorrect quotation or citation format

Appendix F

School of Music. Theatre & Dance Department of Dance MedSport FlowSheet

MedSport Sports Medicine Program	M-Perform Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation		
Located at Domino's Farms, off Plymouth Road in northeast Ann Arbor	Services Located at Multiple Sites including: The Spine Center, MedRehab-Briarwood, University Hospital		
Contact: Kristen Schuyten, Physical Therapy Clinical Specialist Coordinator of Performing Arts Injury and Rehabilitation	Contact: Paula Kartje, Manager- OT & PT @ MedRehab Coordinator of M-Perform Program		
Email: kbalfour@umich.edu Phone: (734) 930-7400 Call Center Website: www.med.umich.edu/medsport	Email: kartje@umich.edu Phone: (734) 998-7888 Call Center or (734) 998-7912 OT/PT Website: www.med.umich.edu/pmr/		

^{**}When calling, identify yourself as a member of the School of Music, Theatre and Dance **

MedSport Services include:	M-Perform PM & R Services include:
 Acute Injury Clinic—FREE; open when clinic is available -6:30am-7pm MWF, 7am-7pm Tues/Thurs Performing Arts Injury Clinic—\$40 FEE -scheduled with one of the physical therapists or athletic trainers trained in Performing Arts Rehabilitation with home exercise program planning and progressions Physical Therapy Services for the Performing Artist and Athlete Including injury evaluation by a physical therapist trained in Performing Arts Rehabilitation and treatment by our clinical staff Sports Medicine Physician Clinics NeuroSport—for concussion or post-concussive symptoms Orthotics—Vahan Agbabian vahana@umich.edu 	• Physical Medicine & Rehab Physician Clinic - diagnosis and treatment of acute/chronic injuries Performing Arts Therapy Evaluation & Treatment - scheduled by appointment with physical therapists and/or occupational therapists (if upper extremity involvement) trained in Performing Arts Rehabilitation Services billed to medical insurance carrier Therapy services require a physician prescription to provide treatment