

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

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

• Choreographic Approaches	13	• Research in Action	7
• Physical Practice	6	• Cultures and Contexts	6
• Pedagogy	6	• Cognates	6
• Production	6	• Thesis	10
		Total Credit Hours	60

MFA Core Curriculum Breakdown I: By term

Year I – Fall Term (Semester 1) – 8 required credits/3 required courses		
Note: In addition to the three required courses this term totaling 8 credits, the student will MOST LIKELY register for an additional 5-8 credits of the student's choosing, including physical practice, for a total of 13-16 credits.		
Course	Credits	Taken (Y/N):
501: Research in Action 1: Research Methods in Dance	3	
570: Graduate Pedagogy	3	
580: DanceChamberDance	2	
Additional Course(s):		
Total Credits Completed – Fall Year I		

Year I – Winter Term (Semester 2) – 7 required credits/4 required courses		
Note: In addition to the four required courses this term totaling 7 credits, the student will MOST LIKELY register for an additional 10-11 credits of the student's choosing, including physical practice, for a total of 17-18 credits.		
Course	Credits	Taken (Y/N):
502: Research in Action 2: Approaching Praxis OR Cultures & Contexts course*	3	
505: Research in Action 3: Self-Evaluation Report**	1	
521: Graduate Performance	1	
595: Thesis I: Summer Research Project**	2	
Additional Course(s):		
Total Credits Completed – Winter Year I		
CUMULATIVE credits Fall + Winter Year I		

*In even years (2020, 2022, etc.), students will take RIA 2; in odd years, students will be required to complete one of their Cultures & Contexts requirements this semester.

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**Students register for DANCE 505 and DANCE 595 in the Winter term of their first year, but complete the course over the summer (DANCE 505) and in the first week of the next semester (DANCE 595).

Year 1 – Spring Term (an optional, elective term) Sometimes funding is available for MFA students to teach in the spring term of their first year, and thus they can take 4-6 credits during that term.		
Course	Credits	Taken (Y/N):
Additional Course(s):	4-6	
Total Credits Completed – Spring Year 1		
CUMULATIVE credits Fall + Winter + Spring Year 1		

Year 2 – Fall Term (Semester 3) – 5 required credits/2 required courses		
Note: In addition to the two required courses this term totaling 5 credits, the student will MOST LIKELY register for an additional 10-12 credits of the student's choosing, including physical practice, for a total of 15-17 credits.		
Course	Credits	Taken (Y/N):
631: Graduate Studio	3	
695: Thesis 2: Proposal	2	
Additional Course(s):		
Total Credits Completed – Fall Year 2		
CUMULATIVE credits Year 1 + Fall Year 2		

Year 2 – Winter Term (Semester 4) – 9 required credits/2 required courses		
Note: In addition to the two required courses this term totaling 9 credits, the student will MOST LIKELY register for an additional 3-6 credits of the student's choosing, including physical practice, for a total of 12-15 credits.		
Course	Credits	Taken (Y/N):
502: Research in Action 2: Approaching Praxis OR Cultures & Contexts course*	3	
699: Thesis 3: Project	6	
Additional Course(s):		
Total Credits Completed – Winter Year 2		
CUMULATIVE credits Year 1 + Fall + Winter Year 2		

*In even years (2020, 2022, etc.), students will take RIA 2; in odd years, students will be required to complete one of their Cultures & Contexts requirements this semester.

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Physical Practice (6 credits)

Students will take at least six credits from the one-credit technique/physical practice offerings in the Department.

Note: This is the MINIMUM amount of technique/physical practice an MFA Dance student should do. Graduate students are allowed to audit any technique/physical practice course (with instructor's permission). We STRONGLY ENCOURAGE MFA students to create a schedule that allows them to take at least one dance class per day, Monday through Friday.

Course	Credits	Term Taken
CUMULATIVE credits for Physical Practice		

Pedagogy (6 credits)

Students will take at least six credits focused on Pedagogy including:

- One required course (DANCE 570: Graduate Pedagogy), taken in the first semester of the program
- Three additional credits in an area of the student's interest, including DANCE 571: Pedagogy: Dance Technique; DANCE 572: Pedagogy: Dance Composition; DANCE 575: Pedagogy: Dance History
- 1-3 credits in Pedagogy through an Independent Study focused on a specific pedagogical area created in consultation with a faculty member. (For instance, a student might take a two-credit Independent Study focused on technique in which they take technique class with a faculty member, and do additional work with the professor to consider the pedagogical elements of the course. In this scenario, the two credits will count toward the Pedagogy 6 credit total NOT the Physical Practice total. Students would still need 6 credits of Physical Practice outside this kind of pedagogical study.)

Course	Credits	Term Taken
570: Graduate Pedagogy	3	
CUMULATIVE credits for Pedagogy		

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Production (6 credits)

Three courses lead graduate students through a three-semester sequence designed to enhance their production and project management skills. The required courses in this area include:

- DANCE 580: DanceChamberDance (2 credits), to be taken in the first semester/Year 1.
- DANCE 521: Graduate Performance (1 credit), required in the second semester/Year 1.
- DANCE 631: Graduate Studio (3 credits), required in the first semester/Year 2.

Course	Credits	Term Taken
DANCE 580: DanceChamberDance	2	
DANCE 521: Graduate Performance	1	
DANCE 631: Graduate Studio	3	
CUMULATIVE credits for Production		

Research in Action (7 credits)

- DANCE 501: RIA 1: Research Methods in Dance (3 credits), required in the first semester/Year 1.
- DANCE 502: RIA 2: Approaching Praxis (3 credits), offered winter semesters in even years (2020, 2022, etc.).
- DANCE 505: RIA 3: Self-Evaluation Report (1 credit). Students register for the course in the winter semester of their first year, receive a “Y”, and then complete the final assignment by the following August.

Course	Credits	Term Taken
DANCE 501: RIA 1: Research Methods in Dance	3	
DANCE 502: RIA 2: Approaching Praxis	3	
DANCE 505: RIA 3: Self-Evaluation Report	1	
CUMULATIVE credits for Research in Action		

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Cultures and Contexts (6 credits)

Students will take up to six credits in courses that provide crucial contexts for artmaking. These courses generally focus on history and theory, but may do so in a seminar or studio setting (or a hybrid seminar/studio setting, which our new building will more easily facilitate). The courses can be selected from:

- Any course in the Department with a substantial history and/or theory component (Dancing Diasporas, Dancing Women/Dancing Queer, and Dance History & Theory, etc.)
- DANCE 567: Special Topics: Cultures and Contexts
- Courses outside the Department deemed by the Director of Graduate Studies and/or the MFA Committee as sufficiently focused on cultures and contexts
- DANCE 568/668: Field Experience: Cultures and Contexts; DANCE 569/669: Independent Study: Cultures and Contexts. (No more than 3 credits of the 6-credit total can be achieved through Independent Study or Field Experience.)

Course	Credits	Term Taken
<i>CUMULATIVE credits for Cultures and Contexts</i>		

Cognates (6 credits)

Students will take at least six credits outside the department. Note: an outside department course can only count once, so if a non-Dance course is taken toward the Choreographic Approaches area, it cannot also count as a Cognate.

Course	Credits	Term Taken
<i>CUMULATIVE credits for Cognates</i>		

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Thesis (10 credits)

A three-course sequence that takes students through the preparation for and completion of the capstone MFA Thesis:

- DANCE 595: Thesis 1: Summer Research Project (2 credits), enrolled 2nd semester of Year 1 and completed first week of fall semester, Year 2
- DANCE 695: Thesis 2: Proposal (2 credits), fall semester/Year 2
- DANCE 699: Thesis 3: Project (6 credits), winter semester/Year 2

Course	Credits	Term Taken
DANCE 595: Thesis 1: Summer Research Project	2	
DANCE 695: Thesis 2: Proposal	2	
DANCE 699: Thesis 3: Project	6	
CUMULATIVE credits for Thesis		