Dance is an art form, an integral part of education, an element of interdisciplinary experimentation and a part of daily life. Dance courses focus on the study and/or practice of various dance techniques (e.g., ballet, contemporary), dance repertory theater, improvisation, composition, movement analysis, anatomy, theory, history, and more. Courses stress personal creativity, individual growth, and strong technical training. An undergraduate major in dance is an excellent means of gaining in-depth knowledge of the art form and its related fields. Dance elective courses are open to all university students.

Two undergraduate options are offered in dance. The Bachelor of Fine Arts (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/dance/dance-bfa) (BFA) undergraduate degree program in dance is for students with a strong interest and aptitude in dance and/or professional dance theater. The Bachelor of Science–Dance (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/dance/dance-bs) option was designed for students who wish to prepare for graduate work in theoretical areas of dance or who wish to combine their interest in dance with other fields of study. The BFA requires a minimum of 85 major credits, including public presentations of original work, while the B.S. degree requires a minimum of 57 major credits. These major requirements highlight the differences between the two options: B.S. students can pursue other interests with their remaining credits, while BFA students are able to spend more time in the studio.

Admission to the major in dance is by performance audition only. For more information on the audition schedule and process, contact the Dance department office, 139 Lathrop Hall, 1050 University Avenue, phone: 608-262-1691; www.education.wisc.edu/dance (http://www.education.wisc.edu/dance). Students enrolling in a dance major are expected to have had previous dance experience. Junior-level transfers should expect to spend three additional years in the program unless they have had previous experience.

The dance department also offers three certificate programs open to students across campus, the dance certificate program (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/dance/dance-certificate), a certificate in pilates (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/dance/pilates-certificate), and one in introductory studies in dance/movement therapy (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/dance/introductory-studies-dance-movement-therapy-certificate).

Information about faculty, staff, and other contributors to the Department of Dance can be found on the department’s website. (http://www.dance.wisc.edu)