



Frances Rich School
of Arts and
Performing Arts



BA CONTEMPORARY DANCE PRACTICE

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a BA in Contemporary Dance Practice?

The BA (Hons) in Contemporary Dance Practice offers students a comprehensive, rigorous curriculum that will integrate performance competence and creative processes with theory, and new technologies. An important aspect of the program is to develop in students an awareness of the changing nature of what it means to be a dance artist in our complex contemporary society. The BA Contemporary Dance Practice program is designed to nurture excellence in performance, creativity, critical and conceptual thinking, as well as communication skills. The program will enable students to become successful, versatile practitioners in a global environment, or pursue further academic studies in the field of Dance or related disciplines.

What classes are available?

As a student of the BA Contemporary Dance Practice you will study:

Contemporary Dance Technique up to Advanced Level
Ballet
Dance History
Body Awareness & Movement (Applied Kinesiology)
Choreography as a Solo Act
Choreography as a Collaborative Act
Dance and Music in Collaboration
Dance Pedagogy & Social Development
Advanced Choreography
Repertory

You can choose to study other areas of practice through elective studies that include:

Dance on Screen
Costume Design
Scenography for Dance
Lighting for Dance
New Spatialities: Contemporary Performance and Outside Space
Experimental Sound Art

You will also have the opportunity to complete a Final Major Project focusing on an area of practice of your choice: performance, choreography, dance and new technologies, and/or dance research. You will also complete a Liberal Arts Curriculum that comprises of specially designated core and elective courses in a variety of fields. The Curriculum fulfills competencies that are considered important in providing a broad educational experience to all students across all Schools.

Do I have to audition to become a Contemporary Dance Practice Major?

Yes. Given the physically demanding nature of full time training in dance all applicants must pass an audition. The audition is designed to measure your potential for full-time training in dance in keeping with health & safety provision outlined in Dance UK's Industry Standards for dancers' health, well-being and performance (an update of the 1990's Dancer's Charter)

The audition consists of:

- 1.5 hour contemporary dance class (to assess your level of dance/physical skills),
- 30 minutes group improvisation (to assess your ability to work in a team)
- short interview (to assess your interests in dance)

Once you have passed the audition, you proceed with the College wide admissions process.

I live abroad and cannot make it to an audition, how can I apply?

If you live abroad and cannot come to one of the scheduled auditions, you can apply by an audition through video. For more information about this contact the program coordinator at acolberg@acg.edu

What are the criteria for acceptance to the Dance major?

Auditioning applicants are evaluated on their potential for training and therefore the audition panel considers dance technique, performance quality, and artistry. The panel also considers the applicant's strength, co-ordination, flexibility, ease of movement, use of dynamics, as well as creative approaches to improvisation. The panel also considers the information you provide in the interview.

I already have a dance diploma from the dance academies, can I transfer this experience to Deree and complete the BA?

Yes, if you hold a certificate in dance from a dance academy or a university/college please submit it to Admissions for an evaluation for possible transfer credit.

Are there scholarships available for Contemporary Dance students?

Yes. For students of the BA Contemporary Dance Practice program there are Merit scholarships. The College also offers financial aid to many students based on financial need.

What is a typical day like for a contemporary dance practice major?

A typical day will begin with daily technique class. From this you will proceed to choreography and project based courses. Most academic subjects take place later in the day. You will be required to participate in after class rehearsals, so you must be prepared for a full day of work!

Is there a Dance minor?

Yes. The Theater Arts & Dance Department offers an 18 credit minor (6 courses) in Dance and Movement Studies. Students must complete two courses in dance technique and one course in choreography. Students also choose a further three courses from among a selection of electives (for a total of 6 courses, 18 credits). Students interested in the Dance minor do not audition prior to admission to the college. However entry to the courses is dependent on meeting the individual course requirements or by permission of the instructor.

Why should I choose the BA Contemporary Dance Practice?

- The BA Contemporary Dance Practice is unique; no such program is offered anywhere in Greece.
- The curriculum at DEREЕ is based on current approaches to dance training that includes technique and somatic studies, choreography, dance analysis, dance science modules, dance education and dance within the context of new technologies.
- In addition the BA Contemporary Dance Practice program allows you to work interdisciplinarily and draw from the following disciplines: Theater Arts, Music and Visual Arts .
- You will benefit facilities and resources designated for the use of the program: Blackbox Theater, Dance studios, practice studios, scenic workshop, Open Air theater, Pierce Theater.
- Students of dance will also have access to all activities and services of the FITNESS CENTRE free of charge including complementary body therapies (Yoga, Pilates), body training facilities (gym, swimming pool), information on nutrition, injury prevention and injury care, all which are important support for a dancer in training.
- Given the physical/practical nature of the program, students will benefit from the College's insurance which covers accidents/injuries within college premises or during external events organized by the college. This is a significant and unique provision not available in other educational providers.
- You will have access to the DEREЕ library, one of the most up to date libraries in Greece.
- Study abroad as well as international internship opportunities are offered to DEREЕ students. Deree has an Alliance with the BA Dance program of Universidad del Sagrado Corazón in Puerto Rico which will allow our students to study for a semester abroad within a 'company based' context with Compañía de Danza 21, Puerto Rico's premier dance company. We also have international course connections with Kenyon College in Ohio (USA) through Deree's membership to the Global Liberal Alliance.

Do you have guest artists?

Yes. In recent years our students have enjoyed working with top national and international dance artists including:

Rootless Root (Linda Kapetanea and Josef Frucek): Deree Arts Festival 2012, 2013

John Paul Zacarrini (Physical Theater), Autumn 2012

Michael Klien, Deree Arts Festival 2013

Efva Lilja, Spring 2016

Mariela Nestora, Deree Arts Festival 2016, Summer Session 2016

Ionna Tzartzani, Deree Arts Festival 2012

Steriani Tzintziloni, Deree Arts Festival 2016, Summer Session 2016

Kiriakos Spirou, Deree Arts Festival 2013

Androniki Marathaki, Deree Arts Festival 2014

Apostolia Papadamaki, Drops of Breath, February 2016

The work of students and staff of dance has been presented in public dance venues including Kinitiras Studio and Residency Centre, Romantzo, Booze

Cooperativa, Neo Kosmos Theater, The Greek Choreographer's Association Festival and in the College's Blackbox Theater as part of the yearly Arts Festival of the Frances Rich School of Fine and Performing Arts.

What can a degree in dance prepare me for?

Students with a B.A. in contemporary dance practice focus on the art of dance while gaining a broad liberal arts education within the Frances Rich School of Fine & Performing Arts. Dance faculty are available to assist students in planning professional pathways after graduation. Deree Office of Career Services offers valuable guidance about opportunities in the United States and the United Kingdom as well as Europe. For those interested in graduate studies Theater Arts faculty can assist with choosing, preparing and applying for such programs. Career prospects include: Dancer, Choreographer, Designer for dance, Production Management, Dance researcher, Dance Animateur (Dance in the Community), Dance Documentation and Archiving, Dance educator.