

Dance

Learning Goals

1. To be able to pursue scholarly and experiential/creative research in dance.
2. To acquire an intermediate/advanced level of proficiency in contemporary dance techniques and choreographic methods, including improvisation.
3. To develop an embodied understanding of personal potential for creativity and agency in the world.
4. To be able to contextualize creative movement within the broad spectrum of art and culture.
5. To gain an appreciation for historical and cultural values expressed through dance.
6. To be able to discuss dance, both analytically and accessibly, with those familiar or unfamiliar with the field.

About the major

You have many opportunities to dance at Middlebury. Through the Dance Program in the Department of Theatre and Dance, you can major, joint major, minor, or simply take courses in dance. Auditors are welcome on a space-available basis in all technique sections of our core courses, and many more cocurricular classes are offered as well. We emphasize contemporary approaches to dance/movement techniques, composition, performance, and general dance studies.

Reasons you might choose this major

- You want your learning to mirror your life.
- You are interested in developing your knowledge of dance beyond movement and technique.
- You want to engage in collaborative, interdisciplinary, and community engagement projects through dance, interlacing embodiment with liberal arts learning.
- You would like to perform in a professional dance company; choreograph independently and found your own company; teach at colleges, universities, or private or public educational institutions; engage in community organizing or public strategy; develop cultural research models that rely on acquisition of kinesthetic knowledge; or become a physical therapist or somatic practitioner.
- You would like to choose to focus on one of three areas: choreography and performance, dance scholarship, or somatics.
- You want to develop a critical and embodied lens through which to view your studies, regardless of focus.

“Middlebury’s dance department taught me how to listen, improvise, stay in motion, and deliver in performance, skills that have granted me a diverse and fulfilling career.”

—Mark Stuver '98
Senior Creative Manager, Motif



Translating Learning into Professional Competencies

Throughout your time at Middlebury, you will develop and enhance the following core professional competencies, skills, and dispositions highly valued by employers that will prepare you for leadership and success in any given field:

Critical Thinking: Exercise sound reasoning to analyze issues, make decisions, and overcome problems.

Oral/Written Communications: Articulate thoughts and ideas clearly and effectively in written and oral forms.

Teamwork/Collaboration: Build collaborative relationships with colleagues and customers from diverse backgrounds.

Leadership: Leverage the strengths of others to achieve common goals, and use interpersonal skills to coach and develop others.

Professionalism/Work Ethic: Demonstrate personal accountability and effective work habits.

Global/Intercultural Fluency: Value, respect, and learn from diverse cultures, races, ages, genders, sexual orientations, and religions.

Digital Technology: Leverage existing digital technologies ethically and efficiently to solve problems, complete tasks, and accomplish goals.

Career Management: Identify and articulate one's skills, strengths, knowledge, and experiences relevant to career goals, and identify areas necessary for professional development.

Where dance majors go

Applying your learning through internships . . .

Students pursue internships and research in a variety of fields, enabling them to apply their liberal arts learning in real-world settings. Internships, research, and self-directed projects enrich your academic experience and help prepare you for life after Middlebury. Students have interned or done research at the following:

DanceWorks Chicago

Italy Contact Festival

Dance Theatre Workshop

Women's Rights Project (ACLU)

Family Violence Law Center

Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

The Works Dance Company

Solar One

State Street Media

McLean Hospital

ImPulTanz Vienna International Dance Festival

NYU Tisch Summer Intensive Program

Movement Intensive in Compositional Improvisation

Heart to Hearth LLC

Literary Review

Striving Artists Theatre Company

Truro Center for the Arts at Castle Hill

Actors Bridge Ensemble

Republic Records

Electronic Arts

Consortium on Gender, Security, and Human Rights

. . . leading to meaningful, dynamic, and engaging career paths.

See just some of the many interesting ways our graduates have applied their liberal arts learning to engage the world. If you want to see what other Middlebury alumni are doing now, log into Midd2Midd and search by major. go/midd2midd

Joy of Motion Dance Center, *Director of Production*

The Sable Project, *Executive Director*

Geary Dance Center/Zvarik, *Instructor/Company Member*

PTP/NYC, *Actress, Choreographer*

Kizuna Dancer, *Artistic Director*

The Heekin Group Foundation, *Publicist and Director*

Merrill Corp., *Regional Director*

Moving On Center, *Program Director and Core Faculty*

Oregon Ballet Academy, *Instructor*

Eleni's, *Director, Sales and Marketing*

Rendezvous Bistro, *Owner*

Dunhill Search, *President*

Sony Pictures Entertainment, *Director, Programming*

Trish Brown Dance Company, *Finance Manager*

Twitter, *Account Manager*

Fowler Out Loud Cultural Museum, *Producer*

Kennedy Krieger Institute, *Physical Therapist*

Putney School, *Director, Development*

Deep Eddy Psychotherapy, *Psychologist*

Hatchuel Tabernik & Associates, *Consultant and Program Evaluator*

Dancing in the Streets, *Social Media Manager*

The Architect, *Founder and Dancer*

Boulder Natural Health LLC, *Naturopathic Doctor & Owner*

The Hun School of Princeton, *Associate Director, Communications for New Media*

Many of our alumni in Dance are self-employed as dancers, choreographers, and directors.