



# SCHOOL OF DANCE

*The* UNIVERSITY *of* OKLAHOMA<sup>®</sup>

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### About Our Program:

You can read an overview of our program and faculty [here](#).

**How many students are in the School of Dance?** We strive to keep our student enrollment to about 80-90 students; this number includes the Ballet and Modern programs combined. Keeping our student enrollment to this size ensures that our students receive the special time and attention of the faculty; it enables the faculty to maintain a technical standard; and it also amounts to potentially, more performance opportunities for the students.

### **What Ballet and Modern methods do you teach?**

Our faculty provides a variety of methods in technique classes and choreography. Ballet classes are influenced by the ABT curriculum, Vaganova, Cecchetti and Balanchine. Modern classes are influenced by Horton, Graham, Limon, and Improvisational techniques.

**How many performance opportunities are there?** We have three mainstage productions each year for our students: Oklahoma Festival Ballet (ballet company), Contemporary Dance Oklahoma (modern company), and the Young Choreographer's Showcase. In addition to the great opportunities offered by both companies, we regularly collaborate with different performing arts programs within the university. Our students perform with the OU Opera, Musical Theatre, School of Drama, and School of Music. In an average year, there are over 30 performance opportunities for our students.

### **Can students participate in both Ballet and Modern companies?**

Yes! After Freshman year, students may participate in both of our companies. Students who wish to perform with a company outside of their major will either need to audition for placement or receive permission from the faculty.

### **What is the School of Dance placement rate after graduation?**

We currently have a 90% career placement rate. One vital way we accomplish this is through the many guest artists and choreographers we invite to work with our students. These guests provide valuable experience and outside perspectives for our students.

### **What degree programs does the School of Dance offer?**

The School of Dance offers three undergraduate BFA degrees: Ballet Performance, Modern Performance, and Ballet Pedagogy. We also offer a Minor in Dance History and a graduate MFA degree in Dance. You can learn more about our curriculum and degree requirements [here](#).

### **Can I visit the School of Dance?**

Absolutely! Our facilities are open to the public. We also provide student/staff guided tours of our facilities. To arrange a tour, please contact [dance@ou.edu](mailto:dance@ou.edu). If possible, please contact us at least one month in advance. If you are also planning campus tour, we recommend scheduling your School of Dance tour prior to scheduling a campus tour, as our schedule is more limited.

### **When I visit, may I take a class?**

Prospective students who have not yet been accepted by audition may not take class, but we are happy to arrange a class observation, if possible.

## **Application, Registration, & Scholarships:**

### **How many auditions do you hold each year?**

The number of auditions varies. Every year we conduct two auditions at our campus; one in Fall and one in Spring. We also conduct a national audition tour each Spring, where we visit 4-5 locations throughout the U.S.

### **How do I register for an audition?**

Students who wish to audition on campus must submit a video reel when they register to audition. Videos will be screened by faculty and selected applicants will be invited to audition at our campus. Video reels are not required for students auditioning on our national audition tour. You can access the guidelines and registration form at:

<http://dance.ou.edu/apply/auditions/>

### **Can I audition for both ballet and modern programs?**

Yes, dancers may audition for both programs. For our on-campus auditions, applicants will need to fill out two applications – one for each program. For our audition tour, dancers will only need to fill out one application, but select auditioning for both ballet and modern on the registration form.

### **What is your acceptance rate?**

Our acceptance is 15% - 20%. This number varies depending on how the number of applicants and the number of majors currently enrolled in the program.

### **If I'm not accepted, can I re-audition for the program?**

Yes, dancers may re-audition for our program. We recommend students audition in the Fall so they can re-audition in the Spring, if necessary.

### **Do I need to apply to the University of Oklahoma separately?**

Yes! In order to major in Dance at the University of Oklahoma, you must be accepted through our audition as well as through the Office of Admissions. If you have not already done so, please be sure to check with the Office of Admissions and submit your application by their deadline. Once all paperwork has been received, notification from Admissions can take 4 to 6 weeks.

### **Do I have to apply to the university before my audition?**

No! However, we strongly recommend students apply to the university before the priority deadline, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>. Applying before this date increases your chances of being accepted to the university and awarded academic/merit scholarships.

### **How do I apply for a scholarship from the School of Dance?**

By being accepted into the program you will automatically be under consideration for a scholarship from the School of Dance. Scholarship recipients will be notified directly by the School of Dance. All incoming freshmen should also apply for scholarships through the University of Oklahoma by visiting the [Admissions & Recruitment](#) webpage.

### **Audition Day:**

#### **What should I wear for my ballet audition?**

The attire for female ballet auditions is black leotards and pink tights. Please bring both pointe shoes and ballet slippers. The attire for male ballet auditions is a white shirt (either t-shirt or tank top), black tights and either black or white ballet slippers.

#### **What should I wear for my modern audition?**

The attire for female modern auditions is a black unitard or a black top and bottom with no feet (ankle length/short sleeve or camisole), and hair must be secured back from the face. The attire for male modern auditions is a black shirt and black tights with no feet.

### **How is the audition structured?**

The audition will be conducted as a technique class and will be 60-90 minutes in length. Solos **will not** be performed at the audition.

### **Where should I park for the Norman Auditions?**

Parking is not allowed at the south plaza entrance to the School of Dance office in the Reynolds Performing Arts Center; violators will receive a \$250 citation and their vehicle will be towed. Visitor parking is available in the Elm Avenue parking garage across from the Fine Arts Center. Please do not park on the first level of the parking garage, as it is also a restricted parking area. Please visit [Parking Services](#) for a Visitor's Parking Permit.

**When should I expect my audition results?**

We will notify all auditionees of their results 4 weeks after their audition date. If you have not received results after this time frame, please contact us.

**Is there an audition fee?**

There is not an audition fee for our on-campus auditions. There is a master class fee for our Audition Tour that should be paid upon registration to secure your spot in our audition.

**What is the best way to stay up to date on auditions?**

We encourage you to check our website and follow us on social media (Facebook: OU Dance & Instagram: @ou\_dance) for the most current updates on our audition season!

**Accepted Students****Is my letter of intent legally binding? What if my plans change after I send it in?**

The letter of intent is **not** a legally binding document. We ask you to send us your intentions for scholarship purposes. Accepted students WILL NOT be offered a scholarship until we receive their letter of intent. If your decision to attend our school changes, we only ask you to inform us as soon as possible so that we may redistribute scholarship funds accordingly.

**When will I be notified about scholarships?**

Scholarship notification is mailed after the deadline to submit the letter of intent. This deadline is in March, and scholarship notification usually happens by early April.

**Is there a specific dorm for dancers?** There is not a specific dorm for our students. Any roommate matching is done outside of the School of Dance.

**Can I double major/earn a dual degree/minor?** Yes! Currently, over 40% of our students are double majors. We do not limit our students on their other areas of study. Depending on the second area of study, it may take some students an extra semester or two to graduate with both degrees. To help stay on a four-year target for graduation, we

recommend students plan on attending summer classes and come into the program with as many pre-earned credits as possible.