Program Overview

The Dance Studies program at HSU is designed to encourage students in their artistic, creative and technical endeavors, and to prepare students for careers or advanced graduate studies. Housed within the Department of Theatre, Film, and Dance, the program incorporates interdisciplinary perspectives and provides multiple opportunities for artistic collaboration. Additionally, the Dance Studies program offers an option for students who want to explore and develop their teaching skills.

Performance and choreographic opportunities each year within the program include a fall student Choreography Showcase, a Spring Dance Concert showcasing student and faculty creations, two informal "Evening of Dance" events, plus community performing opportunities throughout the year.

The Dance Studies program provides a broad spectrum of classes and experiences that integrate technical, artistic, and intellectual development. Core courses ensure a strong foundation in Modern, Ballet, and Jazz styles. Creative explorations occur in all classes and are more fully nurtured in Choreography, and our Dance Production course provides practical experience in dance concert production. Dance Science and Bodyworks explore the body from scientific, somatic, and experiential perspectives and provide a deeper awareness of the body, its movement potential, and its connection to our wellbeing. A capstone Interdisciplinary Seminar provides a culminating experience with creative and/or research projects emphasizing interdisciplinary collaboration.

Additional courses are designed to expand knowledge and appreciation of dance as a human activity with great social, artistic, historic and cultural significance. In addition to Dance in World Cultures, students choose from a variety of world dance forms such as African, Middle Eastern, Hawaiian Hula, Latin, and Mexican Folkloric.

Our students travel to the American College Dance Festival Conference each spring. Our students are able to see several touring professional dance companies during the year at our campus theater, and are able to participate in guest artist master classes.

For more information

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