

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN ...

DANCE

OCCUPATIONAL OVERVIEW:

Dancers express ideas, stories, rhythm, and sound with their bodies. They use a variety of dance forms that allow free movement and self-expression, including classical ballet, modern dance, and culturally specific dance styles. UNM offers a Bachelor of Arts in Dance that “presents a broad perspective on dance training within a liberal arts context. Students are well prepared to pursue both graduate work and professional careers in dance education, dance history/criticism and dance performance. The Flamenco Focus is the only program in the United States to offer a fully developed curriculum in Flamenco Dance technique” (from UNM Dance Dept. website).

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:

Students develop wide-ranging skills that can be applied in a wide range of occupations, including the performing arts. “The dance major’s presentation skills, ability to perform in public, and control of the body provides a solid basis for working effectively with others. Dance also develops the ability to concentrate intensely, listen introspectively, observe keenly, solve problems creatively, think critically, collaboratively develop a project, work independently, work under pressure, meet deadlines, and maintain composure when faced with the unexpected” (from University of Texas – Austin Fine Arts Career Services website). A bachelor’s degree is typically the minimum formal education required. Some areas may require a graduate degree, or may assist employment in highly competitive areas.

EMPLOYERS/INDUSTRIES:

Please ask your Career Advisor (CDF) for identifying employers or additional resources for your occupation of choice.

Education: Artist-in-residence – Private teacher – Leisure and recreation instructor – Dance company rehearsal director – College professor – Pilates/body conditioning instructor – Dance studio manager/instructor – K-12 teacher – Benesh, Laban Notator

Arts Management/Administration: Arts administrator – Public relations manager – Press agent – Business manager – Personal manager – Personnel manager for a dance company – Booking agent – Grants specialist – Arts council director

Performance/Production: Company dancer – Choreographer – Dance designer (costumer, lighting designer) – Technician – Consultant – Sound designer/operator – Ballet mistress/master

Dance Therapy: Dance/movement therapist

SOME COMMON EMPLOYERS OF DANCE GRADUATES:

University theatre/dance troupes	Nonprofit arts/dance organizations
Touring companies	Private arts/dance organizations
Industrial shows	Arts councils/cultural organizations
Colleges/universities	Government (local, federal, state)
Television networks	Rehabilitation facilities
Advertising agencies	Nursing homes
TV/film studios	Treatment/counseling centers
Magazines/newspapers	Medical facilities
Performing arts centers	Wellness/alternative health care centers
Cruise lines	Dance studios/schools
Schools (K-12 public and private)	Recreation facility
Theatre companies (local, regional, national)	Community-based agencies

COMMON GRADUATE SCHOOL OPTIONS FOR DANCE MAJORS:

MFA (choreography, performance) or MA (dance scholarship, therapy, teaching, history, criticism, arts management)
An undergraduate dance degree can also lead to such professional programs as law or the MBA, amongst others.

INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES:

American Dance Guild

Dance.net

American Dance Therapy Association

Dance/USA

Cecchetti Council of America

Dance Educators of America

Arts Opportunities

Dance Notation

International Assoc. for Dance Medicine & Science

National Dance Association

National Dance Education Organization

Sacred Dance Guild

Society of Stage Directors & Choreographers

<http://americandanceguild.org/home/>

<http://www.dance.net/>

<http://www.adta.org/>

<http://www.danceusa.org/>

<http://www.cecchetti.org/>

<http://www.deadance.com/#>

www.artsopportunities.org

<http://www.dancenotation.org/DNB/index.html>

<http://www.iadms.org/>

www.aahperd.org/nda

<http://www.ndeo.org/>

<http://www.sacreddanceguild.org/>

www.ssd.org



<http://online.onetcenter.org>

<http://www.bls.gov/oco/>