DANCE

DEPARTMENT OF DANCE
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A DANCE DEGREE?

Dance majors pursue careers as concert/commercial dancers, choreographers, adaptive dance instructors, adjunct professors, K-12 dance teachers, company managers, studio owners, production managers, videographers, costume designers, arts administrators, and talent agents. A Dance degree can also prepare students for graduate or professional study in physical therapy and health professions, arts administration, dance therapy, dance science, and business.

The professional environment of dance and the performing arts continues to evolve. Students increase their employability by understanding how teaching, performance, choreography, creativity, technology, and entrepreneurial skills work together—all of which are incorporated into SRU's well-rounded Dance curriculum.

DANCE AT SRU

SRU's Department of Dance promotes dance as an art form through the creative, technical, expressive, and intellectual development of each student in a personalized environment. Education in performance, choreography, and teaching, along with dance wellness, technology, and intercultural experiences, prepares students for professional and entrepreneurial roles.

Our Dance curriculum is designed for students seeking multi-layered careers as dance professionals. Students study contemporary dance practices in genres including Ballet, Classical Indian Dance, Colombian Dance, Hip Hop, Improvisation, Jazz Dance, Modern/Contemporary, and Partnering. Dance majors also develop advanced choreographic, leadership, pedagogy, and research skills."

WHY CHOOSE SRU DANCE?

1. **Nationally and internationally recognized faculty:** Collaborate with acclaimed Dance faculty on undergraduate research and creative projects. Each student is assigned an academic advisor for mentorship and guidance throughout the program.
2. **Nationally ranked program and excellent curriculum:** SRU is an accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Dance and has been ranked as one of the top schools for Dance in PA.
3. **Excellent co-curricular programming:** Participate in up to two resident dance companies that provide opportunities for performance, leadership, and choreography.
4. **Networking with dance professionals:** Work with guest artists throughout the academic year to refine performance skills and expand your professional network.
5. **Cultural programming and study abroad:** Dance majors have traveled to Belgium, Colombia, England, France, Greece, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, and Malaysia to gain research and dance training experiences.

MAJORS

Dance (BA)
Dance (BFA)
- Performance and Choreography
- Dance Entrepreneurship

MINORS AND CREDENTIALS

- Creative Movement Endorsement Credential through the PA Department of Education
- Minor in Dance Performance
- Minor in Dance Pedagogy

ACCELERATED PROGRAMS AND AFFILIATIONS

- **Dance (BA)** 3-year accelerated track
- **Dance (BA or BFA)** 4+1 Master's Degree in Lifelong Wellness through Innovative Leadership with a concentration in Adapted Physical Activity

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INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SRU Dance students have completed internships at various locations including:

- American Dance Festival (Durham, NC)
- Attack Theatre Company (Pittsburgh, PA)
- Bates Summer Dance Festival (Lewiston, ME)
- Dance on Camera Festival (New York, NY)
- Diavolo Dance Theater (Los Angeles, CA)
- FORGE Summer Dance Intensive (Slippery Rock, PA)
- Gibney Dance Center (New York, NY)
- Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival (Becket, MA)
- Joffrey Ballet School Summer Internship Program (New York and Las Vegas)
- The Dance Place (Washington, D.C.)
- The Disney College Program (Florida and California)
- The Kelly Strayhorn Theater (Pittsburgh, PA)

CAREER OUTCOMES

In addition to attaining a Master of Fine Arts Degree in dance, graduates of the department have secured the following careers:

- Technician – New York Live Arts, La Mama, and Danspace
- Senior manager of education – Gibney Dance Center
- Production manager – Sasha Velour Nation Tour "Smoke and Mirrors"
- Professional dancer – Ephrat Asherie Dance; Diavolo Architecture in Motion; "Sesame Street Live"; Abby Z and the New Utility Dance Company
- Operations manager and financial assistant – Dance Place
- Middle school principal – Kuumba Academy Charter School
- Director of dance division – Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School
- Dean of arts and humanities – Tarrant County College

RESIDENT DANCE COMPANIES, CLUBS, AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Slippery Rock University Dance Theatre
- Palenque: Colombian Dance Ensemble
- National Honor Society for Dance Arts
- Rock n'Fusion: Commercial Dance Club

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Lily Staib, Hayden Summers, & Olivia Barner – SRU classes of 2025, 2022, & 2021
Professional Dancers, Whirlwind Dance Company

Kelly Fraer – SRU class of 2025
Professional Dancer, The Movement Project

Will VanSlander & Olivia Nellis – SRU classes of 2025 and 2017
Professional Dancers, Attack Theater

Erika Morton – SRU class of 2024
Dance Department Chair, Pittsburgh Creative and Performing Arts School

Tyler Anderson – SRU class of 2024
Arts Education Programming Coordinator, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust

Auriana (Carrington) Stewart – SRU class of 2023
Professional Dancer, Gaspard and Dancers

Molly Huey – SRU class of 2017
Media Specialist, Richmond Ballet

ACADEMIC CONTACT:
Stoner Instructional Complex
Lindsay Viatori, chairperson
lindsay.viatori@sru.edu
724.738.4401

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.sru.edu/majors

ADMISSIONS OFFICE:
North Hall Welcome Center
asktherock@sru.edu
724.738.2015