

**THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON
SCHOOL OF DANCE, THEATRE, & ARTS
ADMINISTRATION**

DANCE PROGRAM

STUDENT HANDBOOK
2021-2022

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The University of Akron
School of Dance, Theatre, and Arts Administration

**Dance Program
Mission Statement and Goals**

The mission of the Dance program is to advance respect and understanding of the arts within campus, regional and global communities by preparing undergraduate students, through the research and study of dance in theory and practice, for lifelong growth and personal and professional success in the areas of dance performance, dance education, arts administration, and performance technology.

The Dance Program is committed to the total development of students preparing for a career in dance. Studies in general education provide a strong academic foundation to build skills needed for success in the field. Further intellectual growth is achieved through more specific dance coursework, which advances the student's understanding of the discipline in aesthetic, historical, creative, cultural, and social contexts. A physical training agenda is rigorously maintained to strengthen technical skills as an important part of the process that cultivates the artistry of aspiring dancers. Overall, the curriculum offered at The University of Akron is designed to develop the dance student's full potential to meet the competition and demands inherent to the profession they will face upon graduation.

The purpose of the dance curriculum is to provide professional training and liberal arts dance education for students pursuing careers in the following:

- Performance
- Teaching dance in public and private settings, and college/adjunct professor level
- Private dance studio management
- Graduate studies in dance and related fields

Additional goals of the dance program are to cultivate dance professionals who:

- Embrace diverse peoples, cultures, opinions, ideas, and practices in our global society
- Welcome collaboration and leadership opportunities to advance the art form in local, state, and national arenas
- Think creatively and critically
- Use sound judgment when faced with decision-making opportunities
- Have the capacity to effectively solve problems
- Value learning as a life-long commitment

DANCE DEGREE DESCRIPTIONS

Bachelor of Fine Arts (126 credits)

The B.F.A. dance major is designed for the student who wishes to pursue professional training in dance through an emphasis in ballet and contemporary dance techniques. This program offers extensive training in technical, performing, and choreographic skills and is supported by a core of coursework in dance history, anatomy, dance & new media, and other dance-related lecture courses. The B.F.A in Dance prepares students for performing, graduate studies in performance and choreography, and fields related to dance such as arts administration, dance history, physical therapy, dance therapy, dance education, or dance ethnology, as well as teaching in private studios.

Bachelor of Arts in Dance Studies with a Business Cognate (121 credits)

This B.A. degree is designed to offer students a broad learning experience in dance, including ballet, modern, tap, and jazz, supplemented by business studies. Core coursework includes choreography, dance history, pedagogy, and physical analysis. This program prepares students for dance studio management, graduate studies in the fields related to dance such as arts administration, dance history, physical therapy, dance, therapy, or dance ethnology, as well as teaching in private studios.

Dance Minor (20-21 credits)

The Dance Minor curriculum includes study in dance techniques, World Dance/Ballroom Dance, Dance Somatics, in addition to dance history and electives such as choreography and Learning Theory for Dance. See “Minor Areas of Study” in the current Undergraduate Bulletin for the Dance Minor requirements.

SCHOOL OF DANCE, THEATRE, AND ARTS ADMINISTRATION

<http://www.uakron.edu/dtaa>

CONTACTS

ADMINISTRATION

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Guzzetta Hall, Room 398C
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330.972.5085

OTHER

University Police Department
330-972-7123

UA Emergency Information / School Cancellation
Sign up for text alerts: <https://www.uakron.edu/safety/z-alert.dot>

DANCE PROGRAM / GENERAL INFORMATION

Dance Orientation 7900:103

Incoming dance majors must enroll in this course their first semester (fall term). Dance Orientation provides pertinent information for becoming acclimated to the Dance Program and the dance profession as well as learning about educational expectations of your dance faculty. As the course only meets four/eight times throughout the fall semester, attendance is crucial. One absence will result in an NCR (No Credit) for the course. This class is required to graduate.

Advising

Dance majors and minors are expected to see their advisor every semester prior to scheduling classes. Your dance advisor is Kevin Lewis. His office is in the Arts and Sciences building in the academic advising office. He can be reached at 330/972-6643 or kdl8@uakron.edu. He has walk-in hours, or you may schedule an appointment to meet with him.

Undergraduate Bulletin

The University of Akron publishes an Undergraduate Bulletin every fall. University policies, programs of instruction, degree requirements, graduation requirements, and other pertinent information concerning a student's education can be found in this publication. Students are expected to be familiar with the information in the Bulletin, which can be viewed from the My Akron homepage or by going to: http://www.uakron.edu/academics_majors/undergraduate_programs/ugrad.pdf

The Dance Program Bulletin Board

Announcements and information regarding Dance Organization auditions, rehearsal schedules, costume fittings, advising, employment opportunities, etc. are posted on the student bulletin board located by the student lounge on the lower level of Guzzetta Hall (by the elevator). Dance students are expected to check the bulletin board daily, as it is the Dance Program's main venue for communicating with students.

Dressing Rooms and Bathrooms

Student lockers and dressing rooms are located on the lower level of Guzzetta Hall by the elevator. Bathroom stalls located on the upper and lower levels of Guzzetta Hall are not to be used to change clothes prior to or after dance technique classes.

Computer Lab

The Computer Lab, GH 298, is available for use when classes are not being held.

Dance Organizations

The University of Akron Dance Company (UADC)
Choreographers' Workshop
Touring Ensemble

Eligibility to Participate in Dance Organizations

Students may audition and be selected for participation in one or more dance organizations each semester. Eligibility to audition and perform in a dance organization requires enrollment and participation for credit in at least one dance technique class (ballet, modern, tap, jazz, or ballroom) during the semester in which the performance occurs. Exceptions are made at the discretion of the instructor of record for the dance organization (i.e., director of UADC, CW, Touring Ensemble).

Eligibility of Dance Institute Students to Participate in Dance Organizations

Dance Institute students may participate in UADC. Because Dance Institute students are minors (along with rehearsals typically occurring during late hours and weekends), participation in Choreographers' Workshop is not permitted.

The University of Akron Dance Company (UADC)

Faculty and guest artists choreograph for UADC fall and spring concerts. Performances are held each year at the Paul A. Daum Theatre in Kolbe Hall and E.J. Thomas Performing Arts Hall. Ballet, modern, jazz, tap, and other dance forms are represented at the UADC concerts. Participation is by audition.

Choreographers' Workshop

Each fall, student choreography is showcased at the Paul A. Daum Theatre in Kolbe Hall. To be eligible to choreograph for the Workshop, a student must have completed Choreography I or receive permission from the Workshop director. Permission to choreograph is granted based on a student's prior experience and training in choreography. Students wishing to perform in Choreographers' Workshop must attend the audition held during the first week of fall semester.

Touring Ensemble

Students enrolled in Touring Ensemble develop original, educational dance productions and perform it for the community and in area schools. This course is a requirement for the B.A. in Dance Studies with a Business Cognate. Interested students are asked to attend the UADC audition held during the first week of fall semester or contact the Touring Ensemble director.

Dance Trainer

The dance trainer is responsible for all phases of injury care including evaluation, initial treatment as applicable, physician referral and appointment coordination, treatment follow-up, injury report recording, student medical record keeping, and communicating dancer injuries and medical concerns with dance faculty and school director. The dance trainer also helps coordinate and implement training activities associated with Freshman Screening and is available to dance students to discuss and evaluate general health and body concerns, including eating disorders, weight concerns, and training. The dance trainer holds office and training room hours within the School of Dance, Theatre and Arts Administration and is available to provide services to any student enrolled in a dance technique class. The location of the office and training room is on the lower level of Guzzetta Hall across from the Student Lounge.

DANCE PROGRAM POLICIES

Advancement in Technique Classes

Advancement in levels of dance techniques is by receipt of a “B+” grade or better for one semester for advancement from Ballet IV to V to VI to VII to VIII respectively, and by receipt of a “B” grade or better for one semester in all other technique classes.

This advancement policy is published in the Undergraduate Bulletin. Also see the Dance Program’s syllabi and grading guidelines for each area of dance technique. These guidelines are posted on the Dance Program Resource Portal, which may be accessed through *Brightspace* <https://brightspace.uakron.edu/d21/home>

A student auditing a dance technique class is not eligible for advancement.

Advancement is achieved through receipt of a letter grade (a calculation of graded written work, exams, quizzes, and class work, etc.).

Auditing Policies

University Audit Policy (see Undergraduate Bulletin)

A student choosing to audit a course must elect to do so at the time of registration. The student pays the enrollment fee and may be expected to do all the work prescribed for students taking the course for credit, except that of taking the examination. Any faculty member may initiate withdrawal for a student not meeting these expectations.

Dance Program Auditing Policy

Students must obtain permission from the instructor of record to audit a dance technique or lecture class. Class size and other factors will be taken into consideration when determining if a student may audit a course. If permission is granted, students must meet

and consult with the instructor of the course during the first week of the semester to outline expectations and attendance. If a student does not meet expectations and attendance requirements, the instructor may initiate withdrawal for student (per the University Audit Policy) and/or refuse the student further participation in the class at any point during the semester.

Grading and Incompletes

Written Assignments

Starting Fall 2015, students registered for Special Topic courses (i.e., Ballet V-VIII) are required to complete ALL written assignments for the class regardless of credit hours.

Students in all dance classes (technique, lecture, etc.) must complete all assignments to receive a grade for the course. In the case of a student in good standing (with good class attendance, technical progress, etc.) who does not complete all assignments, an Incomplete MAY be given by the instructor to allow the student to complete the work (see protocol below). A grade change from an Incomplete to a letter grade may then be submitted for the course. In the case of all Incompletes, the student will be informed (via email if not by other means) of the reason for the Incomplete and a copy of the work required to complete the course will be on file in the office of the school secretary by the end of finals week. In the case of assignments, the student will not retake the course, but must complete the assignments or the Incomplete will change to an "F."

The following applies to all dance courses:

Assignment Protocol

All assignments must be completed to receive credit and a grade for the course. Late papers will receive zero points, but the student will be given credit for completing the assignment for the purpose of receiving a course grade. The deadline for turning in late papers is the last class meeting of the semester (week 15). Five points will be deducted from the course grade when late papers are submitted during final exam week. Late papers submitted to make up an Incomplete will result in a 10-point deduction from the course grade.

For free assistance with written assignments, see information on UA Writing Labs, pg. 16 of this handbook.

Incompletes and extra absence days may be granted (rarely) in extreme cases.

Incompletes Due to Injuries

Prolonged injury will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis and in consultation with the dance trainer, medical professionals, course instructor and department chair.

In the event of extended injury or severe injury or illness, the instructor and department chair, in consultation with health care professionals, will determine an optimal plan that a student must follow to ensure full recovery, health and wellbeing. Options may include an Incomplete for the course, course withdrawal, or other alternatives deemed acceptable. Injury does not guarantee that an Incomplete will be awarded to a student.

Students may petition for an Incomplete or extra absence days by **submitting a written request and rationale to The School Director**. Requests will be considered based upon a student's proximity to graduation, good history of work in all classes, a B+/A- average in technique classes, valid injury and compliance with rehabilitation, or severe family or health emergency. Decisions regarding the granting of a grade of "Incomplete" will be made at the discretion of the School Director, in consultation with the instructor, program's trainer and staff physician, as applicable. In the case of Incompletes in technique classes, the full semester (minus any paperwork already graded) must be made up in its entirety. For lecture classes, the requirements for the successful completion of an Incomplete will be determined by the instructor, in consultation with The School Director.

Make-ups of Incompletes must be completed the next semester that the class is offered. Make-ups for technique classes consist of participation throughout the entire semester including midterm and final practical exams and any other coursework deemed necessary. Written assignments need not be repeated if already submitted. Each student who is granted a grade of Incomplete will receive, in writing, from the granting instructor, notification of all written work to be completed. A copy of that notification will also be placed in the student's file in the Dance Program office.

- Consecutive Incompletes will not be granted.
- Permanent Incompletes will be granted.

In case of prolonged recovery periods, an Incomplete may be extended.

Midterm Exam Attendance

All dance technique classes (EXCEPT Ballet I and II, Modern I and II Tap I, Jazz I and Ballroom) include a juried practical midterm with the teacher of record and at least one other dance faculty comprising the jury. The jury constitutes 10% of the course grade. All students must be present for the midterm jury. In the case of an absence due to injury, illness, death in the family or approved activity, the student will be reviewed for his/her midterm by the teacher of record and at least one other dance faculty on another day during regular class meeting time. Students absent for other reasons will fail the jury and will not pass the course. Following the jury, each student is required to attend a midterm

conference with the instructor of record. Failure to attend a scheduled midterm conference results in a recorded absence for the course.

Final Examination Attendance

All dance technique classes require a juried practical final with the teacher of record and at least one other dance faculty comprising the jury. The final exam constitutes 20% of the course grade. All students must be present for the final jury. In the case of an absence due to injury, illness, death in the family or approved activity, the student will be reviewed for his/her final by the teacher of record and at least one other dance faculty on another day during (or prior to) finals week as can be arranged. Students absent for other reasons will fail the jury and will not receive a passing grade for the course. Exceptions to this policy and the rehabilitation policy include the case of injury within the last two weeks of classes, in which case the student will be given an Incomplete and be allowed to take the jury upon recovery, yet be enrolled for credit for the next semester. For seniors in their last semester, an estimated final jury grade may be given by the teacher of record to allow the student to graduate on time.

Student Concerns

Student-faculty governance questions will be reported to the director with the knowledge of the student and the student will be referred to the director for a meeting. The director will inform the faculty reporting that the student has or has not made an appointment and has or has not kept the appointment. Student requests for change in or clarification of governance will be brought before the faculty for consideration. As debate on governance issues proceeds, communication to students regarding its progress must be agreed upon by a majority of the full-time faculty in fairness to all parties.

Dance Studio Protocols

Please recognize and adhere to the following protocols when using the dance studios:

- No food or drink (except water) is allowed in the dance studios.
- Students must remove street shoes upon entering the dance studios.
- Please contact administrator Katie Logsdon to reserve an available studio. Studios must be reserved prior to use.
- Gum is not permitted in the dance studios.
- Do not place anything, especially water, on the pianos or speakers.
- To protect the marley floor, place a notebook under writing surfaces.

ATTENDANCE • INJURY • OBSERVATION • INCOMPLETE • WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Premise

Students are expected to be injury-free and in top physical condition at the start of each semester. Students who re-injure repeatedly or suffer a significant injury are encouraged to take time off from dance technique, rehabilitate thoroughly, and get back into shape before continuing the program. Not doing so will impede progress over the long term and can put the student at risk for chronic and career threatening injury. Students cannot progress at their best without consistent, injury-free work. In the professional dance and theatre world, attendance and full participation in classes and rehearsals is mandatory. Dancers who are repeatedly late, missing, or injured for extended periods are released from their contracts. Therefore:

Attendance with full participation is mandatory in all Dance Program courses.

A student is expected to attend all meetings of a class for which he or she is enrolled. However, absences occur for a variety of reasons including illness, transportation problems, auditions, funerals etc. To allow for these occurrences, the following are recommended departmental attendance guidelines to be used for the purpose of fair and equitable treatment of all students. However, faculty may deviate from these guidelines with alternative written attendance policies outlined in their syllabi. Students are expected to be familiar with and adhere to the attendance policy for each course in which they are enrolled.

One week of absences will be allowed for any class, as outlined below:

There will be no differentiation between “excused” and “unexcused” absences.

For courses that meet once a week: A maximum of one absence is allowed

For courses that meet twice a week: A maximum of two absences are allowed

For courses that meet three times a week: A maximum of three absences are allowed

For courses that meet four times a week: A maximum of four absences are allowed

For courses that meet five times a week: A maximum of five absences are allowed

Students who do not participate for an entire class period (100% of the class) for any reason (including injury, illness, parking issues, seeing dance trainer, etc.) will receive a half absence for that day and the half absence will count towards allowed absences. Two (2) half absences = One (1) absence. Students observing an entire class will receive a half absence. For each absence beyond the allotted one week of absences, a student’s grade will be lowered by one third (1/3) letter grade or up to 5% points of the final grade.

In the event of extended injury or severe injury or illness, see section on “Grading and Incompletes” above.

Additional rules governing attendance and participation in technique classes

Timelines

- Students are expected to be in attendance at the beginning of all classes.
- Due to the uniqueness of technique classes, and the potential for injury, students arriving later than 10 minutes after the beginning of a techniques class will not be allowed to take

class. Students will be required to observe class and will have their attendance recorded as a half absence for the day.

- Consistent late arrivals (0-10 minutes) will be recorded as absences beginning with the third late arrival.
- Students who leave class early will be considered as having “partial activity,” and their attendance will be recorded as half an absence.
- Students who leave class and return without their instructor’s permission will be considered as having “partial activity,” and their attendance will be recorded as half an absence.

Rehabilitation

- Injured students are expected to attend therapy sessions as scheduled.
- Injured students are expected to attend and observe technique classes that they are unable to participate in. Therefore, therapy sessions are not substitutes for class and must be scheduled outside of class time unless instructed otherwise.
- Students are expected to be compliant with rehabilitation protocols.
- Students taking partial class or who are absent are NOT allowed to participate in rehearsals.

Substitutions for Class

- Special projects cleared with the director and full-time faculty may be used as substitution for class (i.e., Touring Ensemble performances).

Proof of injury

- Injured students who are physically unable to participate in practical exams such as midterm juries and final exam juries must present proof of injury with a doctor’s note or written notice from the department’s graduate trainer.
- If a student withdraws from a technique class due to injury, it is recommended that the student present a statement about the injury and intention to withdraw from the course to his/her dance instructor.

STUDENT EVALUATIONS

Freshman Jury and Interview (7910:201)

All new dance majors are placed on probation for their first year of study at The University of Akron. To be admitted to a BA program in Dance, a student must, among other things, pass the Freshman Jury and Interview at the end of his/her first year (first year for transfer students). Students' work habits, growth, and progress in their current levels of dance technique classes and coursework, as well as their potential to reach and complete the levels of dance technique required for a BA, will be assessed and reviewed by the department.

There are several ways in which a student will be evaluated for the Freshman Jury: 1) a student will be rated by his/her dance professors, including part time faculty, on their work ethic, progress, quickness to learn classroom exercises, proneness to injury, and deportment/attitude; 2) a student is required to participate in a juried dance technique class (ballet and modern) which will occur at the end of spring semester; 3) a student must maintain a grade point average of 2.785 in all of his/her dance coursework.

Below is a list of broad categories in dance technique that will also be used by faculty for first-year evaluations. This is not a definitive list but a guide to provide students with an understanding of the Dance Program's assessment of dance majors' physical and technical abilities. These elements should constantly be addressed and improved in all dance technique classes over the course of a student's first year of study and into his/her dance career. Please see definition of terms for an explanation of each category.

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ___ Strength / core strength | ___ Coordination |
| ___ Stretch (legs/feet/arms) | ___ Transitions / movement sequencing |
| ___ Energy | ___ Execution of dance vocabulary |
| ___ Size of Movement | ___ Musicality |
| ___ Alignment / placement | ___ Presentation |
| ___ Use of spine / back | ___ Body conditioning |

For additional information on the Freshman Jury and Interview (7910:201), please review the course description in the current Undergraduate Bulletin.

Definition of Terms

Strength / core strength. Strength is the ability to maintain turnout, alignment, full range of motion and technique during all combinations, especially aerobically challenging exercises. In effect, the dancer has control over the body and movements, the movements do not control the dancer. Core strength refers to pulling the lower abdominals in and up while dancing and being

able to stabilize the pelvis and lower back while in motion or stasis. Shoulders, arms, and other areas of the body do not show tension if a dancer is strong. The mid-section of the body does not compress or collapse.

Stretch. Arms and legs are extended and reach full range of motion while performing both adagio and allegro exercises. Feet are fully stretched, especially during transitions and allegro work. Flexibility is included in this category. For example, a dance student needs 90-degree extensions without sacrificing spinal and pelvic alignment.

Energy. Energy is comprised of a variety of qualities and physical attributes such as resistance to gravity, the ability to extend extremities and expand shapes while holding positions or in locomotion regardless of tempo, and physical dynamics (sustained vs. percussive energy). There should be an indication of the ebb and flow of energy in the dancer's body while executing movement phrases. The dancer generates energy and movement from the core, and the dancer's movements do not appear labored or lethargic (unless choreographically required).

Movement size. Large shapes and movements are generally desired. Movements may get smaller when speed increases, but legs, feet and arms stretch to full capacity regardless of tempo. Turnout and/or alignment are not sacrificed when movements get larger.

Alignment / placement. Good alignment and placement mean that the dancer's hips do not twist, and the lower back does not collapse or arch when executing dance vocabulary. Pelvis stays neutral and does not tuck under or tip forward (except in arabesque lines above 25 degrees or modern dance movements designed to move the pelvis in this way). The dancer has an awareness of the relationship between shoulders, hips, knees, and feet. Knees track over toes in plié (especially landings of jumps).

Use of spine/back. Articulation of spine, especially in modern dance technique, is demonstrated. Ballet requires an erect spine and torso while modern dance requires one to roll through the spine, contract the torso, twist, etc.

Coordination. Coordination is the ability to incorporate epaulement and port de bras while executing dance vocabulary and the ability to use various body parts at the same time.

Transitions / movement sequencing. Turnout is held and legs and feet stretch in transitions (i.e., glissades); the center of the body is held during transitions; body awareness is consistent throughout transitions; movements flow and movement phrasing is not broken or choppy.

Execution of dance vocabulary. This includes movements in ballet, modern, jazz and tap techniques.

Musicality. Movements are performed on the correct counts; down beats are accented, and up beats are articulated where requested; movement phrases are parallel to music phrases (i.e., movement ends with music).

Presentation. In general, the dancer performs with a pleasant expression and is engaging to his/her audience. The dancer is alert and comports a professional demeanor. Dress and hair are neat.

Body conditioning. The dancer's body is lean, and muscles are toned (both upper and lower body); mid-section of body is toned and shaped. The dancer is aerobically fit.

BFA Audition (7910:200)

To be admitted to the BFA degree program in Dance in the School of Dance, Theatre, and Arts Administration, a student must first pass the Freshman Jury and Interview at the end of the first year. A student must then successfully pass the BFA Audition at the end of his/her second year of study by 1) maintaining a GPA of 2.875 in all dance classes for two years; 2) participating in and passing a practical exam juried by full-time faculty; and 3) completing a body composition analysis.

After passing the BFA Jury, students must meet with the dance advisor to change status from a BA major to the BFA major.

The practical exam consists of ballet and modern/contemporary dance technique. To pass this component of the jury, students must demonstrate a strong work ethic, artistic capabilities, and potential to reach technical levels of Ballet VIII and Modern VIII. Please see the current Undergraduate Bulletin for the BFA Audition (7910:200) course description and information on completing a BFA in dance. Also see the department's Ballet VIII and Modern VIII syllabi and grading guidelines (posted on *Brightspace* under the Dance Program Resource Portal) for information on the technical and artistic achievements students must reach to successfully complete the BFA degree.

The BFA Jury is not required of students in the BA program.

OBTAINING OFFICIAL STATUS AS A DANCE MAJOR

A student must complete the following steps to obtain official status as a dance major:

- 1) Pass the Freshman Jury and Interview (see above);
- 2) Upon completion of 30 academic credits and an overall GPA of 2.3, see Kevin Lewis, your dance advisor. He will process your change in status to a BA in Dance major.

UNIVERSITY SERVICES

Writing Labs

Bierce Writing Commons
For appointments call
330-972-6548

The Polsky Building, Room 303
For appointments call
330-972-7046

For additional information on writing, math, and study skills labs, visit:
<http://www.uakron.edu/tutoring/>

Counseling and Testing Center

Free, comprehensive psychological services are offered to currently enrolled students at the Counseling and Testing Center. A culturally diverse staff of licensed psychologists and doctoral trainees provide psychological counseling and psychotherapy, career counseling, testing services, outreach, and consultation to the university community. The College Survival Kit consists of numerous workshops that provide academic performance help, wellness education, and discussion of issues such as cultural diversity. The web-based career services SIGI and OCIS are provided for convenience in addition to personal career counseling with a psychologist. Counseling and Testing Center services are free with the exception of some nominal testing fees.

Simmons Hall, Room 306
(330) 972-7082
<http://www.uakron.edu/counseling/>

Student Health Services

Student Recreation and Wellness Center, Suite 260
(330) 972-7808
<http://www.uakron.edu/healthservices/>

Visit the Health Services website for the following information:

- Hours of operation
- Services offered
- Information on health insurance for students
- 24-hour emergency phone numbers and other important phone numbers

Career Services

Student Union Room 211
Polsky Room 451
College of Business Administration Room 260
career@uakron.edu
(330) 972-7747
<http://www.uakron.edu/career/>

The Career Center aids with job searches, resume development, career advising and programming, among many other employment related things.

Division of Student Affairs

This website offers helpful information about available student resources at the university: www.uakron.edu/student-success

UNIVERSITY-WIDE POLICIES AND UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

Policy of Non-Discrimination in Programs and Activities

The University of Akron does not discriminate on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, race, color, religion, age, handicap, status as a veteran, or national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loans programs, or other school-administered programs. The University also affirms that judgments about admissions, education and personnel evaluations at The University of Akron are based on merit, qualifications, and performance and not on personal attributes or convictions unrelated to academic or job performance, such as political views, marital status, sexual orientation, or happenstance of birth.

Sexual Harassment

The University of Akron is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination, including sexual violence and sexual harassment. This includes instances of attempted and/or completed sexual assault, domestic and dating violence, gender-based stalking, and sexual harassment. Additional information, resources, support, and the University of Akron protocols for responding to sexual violence are available at uakron.edu/title-ix.

Student Privacy Rights

Under FERPA, as a student attending a post-secondary institution, you are given a right to privacy. This protection prohibits the release of information concerning grades, assignments, your progress in this class, etc., to anyone other than you. As a result, faculty will not be posting grades or responding to grade requests by telephone or e-mail. Faculty will be happy to discuss your grade or class work with you on a face-to-face basis in their office.

Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, and Student Conduct

All University of Akron guidelines and policies on academic honesty and plagiarism must be adhered to (copies of these policies are available from the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards). The highest levels of ethical conduct are expected from students. Others may proofread or check work, but the student must originate the content of all work. It is the policy of The University of Akron that a student who is engaged in acts of plagiarism and/or cheating, may be subject to dismissal from a class and the University disciplinary procedures.

Plagiarism

Cite all sources whenever you are quoting or paraphrasing the ideas of others. If you do not give proper credit to the individuals from whom you are borrowing from, you are committing plagiarism. Plagiarizing is a serious offense with profound consequences (such as failure of the course and dismissal from the university). For more information about plagiarism go to: <https://libguides.uakron.edu/c.php?g=226544&p=1500917>
The following is a partial definition of plagiarism found in 3359-41-01 Code of Student Conduct of the University of Akron:

<http://www.uakron.edu/ogc/UniversityRules/pdf/41-01.pdf>

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

- (i) Intentional or unintentional representation of ideas or works of another author or creator in whole or in part as the student's own without properly citing the original source for those ideas or works.
- (ii) The use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

Student conduct

The University of Akron stresses the importance of proper conduct. To foster an atmosphere conducive to successful educational interaction, it is the responsibility of the student to conduct herself/himself in a manner that is appropriate for a collegiate educational environment. Students are expected to be mindful of the attitudes, values, and beliefs of other students, and conduct themselves appropriately in class. Behavior that is disruptive to teaching or learning (in or out of the classroom) cannot be tolerated and students who exhibit these behaviors will be subject to disciplinary procedures as described by The University of Akron Undergraduate General Bulletin and available on the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards website

<https://www.uakron.edu/studentconduct/>

University Attendance Policy

According to the University attendance policy (BOT Rule 3359-20-05D), [a] student is expected to attend all meetings of all classes for which the student is enrolled. A student may be dropped from a course by the dean if absences are repeated and the instructor recommends this action; a student can gain readmission only with the permission of both dean and instructor. A student dropped from a course receives an “F” which counts as work attempted whenever grade-point ratio calculations are made.

Registration Policy

Students whose names do not appear on the College’s official class list by the fourteenth day of the semester, (for all classes that meet for the first time during first week of the semester) will not be permitted to participate (attend class, take exams, or receive credit). Therefore, students should make sure to have all financial arrangements taken care of prior to the fourteenth day of classes.

Students with Disabilities Policy

In accordance with university policy, students with a documented disability for which accommodations may be required should contact the Office of Accessibility.

Simmons Hall 105

Akron, OH 44325-6213

Voice: 330-972-7928

TTY/TDD: 330-972-5764

Fax: 330-972-5422

E-Mail: access@uakron.edu.

Web: <http://www.uakron.edu/access/>

Inclement Weather Policy

As a service to its students and employees, The University of Akron has a 24-hour message line to provide continually updated information on class cancellations, temporary relocations, emergency closings and weather advisories. The number is 330.972.SNOW 330.972.7669 or TDD/Voice 330.972.6238. Please call 330.972.SNOW instead of University Police for information on school closings. Also, major Akron area radio stations will make school closing announcements.

Emergency text-messaging service (Z-Alert)

Students, parents, faculty, and staff can sign up for UA's free Z-Alert text-messaging service.

Text messages will be sent when campus closes or when a situation arises that immediately affects safety. <https://www.uakron.edu/safety/z-alert.dot>

Academic Dates

<http://www.uakron.edu/registrar/dates/>

Registration, add classes, drop/withdraw, etc.

Withdrawal Policy

<https://www.uakron.edu/dotAsset/bb5231f6-186f-4777-ae6f-73c834d21dde.pdf>

COVID-19 Safety Procedures

In order to maximize the safety of students, faculty, and staff; the following protocols will be in place for the University of Akron Dance, Theatre, and Arts Administration.

All students, faculty, and staff are strongly encouraged to be fully vaccinated

*Once an ensemble or class reaches 85% fully vaccinated, safety protocols could be potentially weakened

**Procedures are subjects change, pending UA and Summit County guidance

- General
 - All UA health policies apply to the DTAA
 - Read all signs and adhere to strict social distancing
 - Water fountains have been disabled- bring your own water bottle and fill it at the bottle filler between DTAA and SOM
- Dance Studios
 - Masks must always be worn by instructors and students
 - Masks must cover all parts of the face (mouth and nose)
 - Gators are not allowed
 - Students/instructors will be responsible for sanitizing individual spaces before/after each class
 - This includes door handles, barres, and electronic equipment
 - Virex may be sprayed on surfaces and needs at least 10 minutes to dry
 - Sanitizing-wipe stations will be placed throughout GH
 - Students wishing to access facilities for individual practice or for completing remote work while on-campus will schedule this with Katie Logsdon
 - UA is recommending maintaining a 3 feet social distance
 - Faculty are aware that dancing while wearing a mask can be challenging. To support students as much as possible, faculty are prepared to give more breaks between exercises to give students a chance to catch their breath, get water, etc.
- Dance non-performing facilities
 - The student lounge will be open, but students must remain masked

- All locker/changing facilities will be open
 - Please try to space out as much as possible when accessing locker facilities
- Dance Trainer
 - A trainer from Akron Children’s Hospital will visit weekly. More information will follow
- Theatre
 - Masks will always be worn, covering the nose and mouth
 - Productions will occur with minimal staging and presented virtually
 - Lana Sugarman will be directing a Covid-friendly production
- Arts Administration
 - Graduate Assistants may work remotely at times
 - The graduate student office schedule will be tailored to limit the number of students using AA facilities
 - Additional office space may be utilized by AA students to allow for greater schedule flexibility and proper protocols

Resources for Health and Wellness

General student health:

https://nasd.arts-accredit.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2016/04/CAA-Health_Issues-2009.pdf

Hearing protection and loss:

<https://nasm.arts-accredit.org/publications/brochures-advisories/nasm-pama-hearing-health/>

Voice and Neuromusculoskeletal Health:

<https://nasm.arts-accredit.org/publications/brochures-advisories/nasm-pama-nms-vocal-health/>