



Program Assessment Report (PAR)

Dance (DAN) Baccalaureate Degree

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ACADEMIC YEAR COVERED BY THIS REPORT: [AcademicYear]

I. PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Gain technical proficiency in dance (ballet, modern, and/or jazz) as well as stylistic and artistic versatility.
- Gain knowledge of contemporary dance styles.
- Gain competence in the creation and production of choreography.

II. PROCEDURES USED FOR ASSESSMENT

A. Direct Assessment

A. Direct Assessment Measure One Dance Juries All dance majors undergo a juried final at the end of fall semester and freshmen and sophomores undergo a juried final at the end of the spring semester. Freshmen and sophomores have a jury panel that consists of the three dance faculty. Juniors and seniors have a jury panel that consists of four dance faculty plus two outside panelists from the dance community. These dance juries assess ballet, modern and jazz contemporary dance styles and have been numerically evaluated. Due to Covid-19 and WSU's unexpected closure, Spring 2020 juries were cancelled.

B. Direct Assessment Measure Two Overall Grade in Various Disciplines Each dance major must maintain a minimum of a 2.5 grade in each of their dance technique courses in order to remain in good standing. Dance majors are required to take ballet, modern and jazz technique classes. Overall grades for each dance technique class include assessment of technique as well as artistry and versatility, an overall knowledge of these contemporary dance styles.

C. Direct Assessment Measure Three Senior Choreographic Project and Choreography II Evaluation All senior dance majors are required to take Senior Choreographic Project I and II courses during the fall and spring semesters of their senior year. Seniors are asked to choreograph an original dance work between 5 and 10 minutes in length using 3 or more dancers. These choreographic works hone and heighten the student's choreographic skills as well as their abilities to rehearse, organize and produce a high-level dance work. In addition, they are introduced processes of dance production and collaboration. Dance works are critiqued through four

public showings for faculty, graded and then performed during the Emerging Choreographers Concert in February. All student works are adjudicated in February and one is chosen to be presented on the faculty Spring Dance Concert in April. All students receive faculty feedback from each showing and grow exponentially from the first showing to the final presentation of their work in concert. Seniors are required to write a thesis paper during their final semester. All dance majors take Choreography II during the fall semester of their junior year. Juniors are required to choreograph four dance projects as part of this course. These projects are designed • to develop and apply the concepts of creativity and craft to a dance composition • to develop each individual student’s aesthetic style in an original and interesting dance vocabulary • to develop strong choreographic voices both in nonverbal and verbal manners • to develop skills in discussing and critically analyzing studies and compositions in both verbal and written terms • to develop, edit, and critically evaluate choreography culminating in a final performance in the Emerging Choreographers Concert.

B. Scoring of Student Work

Scoring of all Dance Juries includes a rubric of various elements, including technique, artistry, style, and musicality. Typically, three to four choreographic combinations in each dance discipline are executed for adjudication. Each adjudicator grades each area on a scale of 1-100. In addition, a comment section allows for objective feedback from the adjudicator to each individual student. These comments and grades are shared with each dance major at an individual meeting with full-time dance faculty. Scoring of the Dance Disciplines is outlined clearly in every dance faculty syllabus according to their expectations and requirements. Rubrics are used at midterm for ballet, and all dance majors and minors have midterm conferences to discuss their progress in each dance style class Scoring of Choreographic Works in Choreography II and Senior Project I and II are outlined clearly in the syllabus for each class.

C. Indirect Assessment

[IndirectAssessment]

III. ASSESSMENT RESULTS/INFORMATION:

1. Fall 2019 Juries Spring 2020 Juries

2. Overall Grade

in Various Disciplines

3.

Choreography Evaluation

1. 100% of dance majors achieved grades of an A or B in all juries, above average. Cancelled due to Covid-19

2. Fall 2019

and Spring 2020, 100% of seniors achieved passing grades in ballet, modern, jazz, and Senior Project I and II. The C in fall was due to a student's absences rather than any lack of technical proficiency in ballet, modern, jazz or choreography. Fall 2019 and Spring 2020, 100% of juniors achieved passing grades in ballet, modern, and jazz.

3. Fall 2019

and Spring 2020, 100% of seniors achieved passing grades in Senior Project I and II. Fall 2019, 100% of juniors achieved passing grades in Choreography II. The C in fall was due to a student's absences and late assignments rather than any lack of skill in choreography.

1. Dance majors successfully gained technical proficiency in dance (ballet, modern, and/or jazz) as well as stylistic and artistic versatility.

2. Senior and

junior dance majors gained knowledge of contemporary dance styles as shown in ballet, modern and jazz.

3. Senior and

junior dance majors gained competence in the creation and production of choreography.

IV. ACTIONS TO IMPROVE STUDENT LEARNING

The assessment of Measure One during both semesters demonstrates the continued attainment of technical proficiency in the disciplines of ballet, modern, and jazz. Faculty will continue to emphasize the individual skill set they teach that resulted in these positive results. The Dance Program will continue to utilize dance juries and finals as a significant standard to test the dancers' abilities in technical efficiency and artistic ability. The addition of outside professional adjudicators allows for total objectivity in adjudication at the advanced level. Comments from outside adjudicators and guest choreographers as well as specific feedback by the full time faculty provide additional information to the student through individual conferences. The assessment of Measure Two during both semesters reflects the success of dance majors at the advanced stage in training in knowledge of the contemporary styles of dance in ballet, modern and jazz. Versatility is assessed and evaluated within each style, as well as the curriculum requiring various styles of dance to the training of the dance major. The findings support the above average versatility and knowledge of these three dance styles. The assessment of Measure Three during both semesters demonstrates the continued knowledge and attainment of competence in the creation and production of choreography, presented through the four projects and four showings and ultimately during the Emerging Choreographers Concert. No additional curricular changes will be made at this time. With limited dance faculty, the dance program is hindered in the ability to provide additional courses for further instruction. Re V. SUPPORTING

DOCUMENTS The Dance Program has two full-time faculty with offices beside each other. Faculty meet regularly on a daily basis to discuss the progress and events of the program, so no formal meeting minutes are available. We formally meet with all adjuncts prior to the start of fall classes. Notes from that meeting are available if needed. The Dance Program meets with all the dance majors and minors the first Wednesday of each academic year to discuss policies, residencies, and all dance program information. Notes from that program meeting are available if needed.

V. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Additional documentation, when provided, is stored in the internal Academic Program Assessment of Student Learning SharePoint site.