

Rejoinder – Dance Program Licensure Proposal Readers' Comments and Questions

1. DNED 211 Introduction to Teaching Dance and DNED 390 Dance Pedagogy are listed as “Arts Core” courses. Do they apply to any other fine arts area? Please clarify how they apply as Dance content courses.

The one page Dance Education curricula “check sheet” included with the program proposal may have been somewhat misleading because we condensed the catalog format to fit a single page. I have included with this document a copy of the full listing in our 05-06 catalog.

Although DNED 211 and DNED 390 are listed under the main heading “Arts Core” those courses are further organized under either the Studio Option or the Teaching Option. Under the Teaching Option courses are listed for both Art Education and Dance Education. The more specific headings for arts education courses under the “Arts Core” are designed to distinguish those courses from content courses under the Studio Option. There are also similar specific headings under the main heading Professional Enhancement.

That being said, we do consider the BFA degree to be a professional, multiple-arts program (as stated under BFA degree program goals). Courses like DNED 211 Introduction to Teaching Dance and DNED 390 Dance Pedagogy (and other courses throughout the curriculum) maintain and foster the interconnectedness of the arts. This approach permeates the entire BFA degree program. Arts education courses within the program are dedicated to the merging of content area and relevant instructional approaches, strategies, and practices. Content and instruction are taught as part of an interrelated arts environment specific to both visual art and dance.

2. The field experiences and student teaching components should be described more thoroughly.

Dance Education students will take the following courses which require field experiences. Field experiences are sequential and developmental.

TCED 302 Integrated Strategies (15 hours)

Requires 15 hours of clinical laboratory experiences, directed observations, and participation in classroom settings. Candidates begin the semester doing structured observations, then serve as a teacher’s assistant and culminate by teaching two whole-class lessons. Candidates are evaluated by the public school cooperating teacher and the course instructor.

DNED 211: Introduction to Teaching Art (10 hours)

Requires 10 hours of directed observations and limited participation in classroom settings. Class structure, effective teaching practices, and teaching methods are the focus of this lab component. Directed observation (4 hours) Classroom participation (6 hours)

DNED 390: Dance Pedagogy (10 hours)

Dance Education students observe and teach two lessons in an area elementary school. Students further developmental experiences through directed observations and classroom participation in one of the following:

1. Pre-K classes (UTM Nursery School), Head Start programs, and After-School Program settings. Candidates practice teaching creative movement for mainstream children and for children with special needs.
2. Primary school art and music classrooms. Candidates learn to integrate dance with other arts instruction.
3. Magnate high schools or middle schools for the fine and performing arts.
4. Students brought to the UTM campus for special instruction or sponsored workshop.

Candidates are evaluated by the public school cooperating teacher and the course instructor. Dance Education candidates are assessed under increasing levels of involvement in preparation for student teaching.

Student teaching is coordinated through the Office of Education Student Services. Candidates must comply with all student teaching admission requirements including:

- Admission to the Teacher Education Program
- Submission of an appropriate application one semester in advance of the student teaching semester.
- Have a cumulative 2.50 GPA on all courses taken.
- Complete a minimum of 80% of course work in the endorsement area (area of emphasis)
- Have satisfactory progress on teacher education portfolio

Placements will be made in consultation with the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts. Appropriate placements would include magnate high schools in the performing arts with programs in dance and area elementary schools with specific arts instruction. The cooperating teacher and student teaching supervisor make evaluations of the candidate.

Candidates must fulfill all requirements for recommendation for licensure including Praxis Series examinations, application for teacher's license, etc.

Summary

Currently, candidates must have 35 hours of field experiences prior to student teaching. Dance education field experiences have recently been formalized in coordination with the faculty of art and are parallel to requirements in art education courses. Necessary

adjustments to field experience requirements are scheduled for discussion this coming fall semester. Additional hours and other varied kinds of experiences are to be considered.