

Degree Proposal: Associates in Arts in Theater with an Emphasis in Dance

Item 1. Program Goals and Objectives

The Associates in Arts in Theater with an emphasis in Dance facilitates a viable completion pathway that addresses both transfer and career goals. This degree is transferable and/ or terminal for those who may only be continuing education or seeking career training in the commercial dance arena. It provides students with a diverse skill set of fundamental motor abilities in different dance genres to prepare to successfully transfer into a four - year institution. The program gives them the pedagogical aptitude necessary to produce a discourse and critically analyze dance at a deeper level of understanding. The program also provides the skills to audition for the commercial dance world, perform in professional companies, and also to teach basic movement to children at local studios.

Item 2. Catalog Description

The goal of the Associates in Arts in Theater Arts with an emphasis in Dance (AA) at Los Angeles Pierce College is to prepare students to acquire skills in performance, choreography, and production as well as knowledge and appreciation of the role of dance in society. Major coursework covers dance history and appreciation, dance production, and knowledge of the basic areas of Modern, Ballet, and Jazz, as well as the career skills of choreography, performance, and dance for stage and film, and stage make up, lighting design, and technical theater skills. The Associates in Arts in Theater Arts with an emphasis in Dance prepares students with the skills and knowledge to work in the commercial dance industry, teach at dance studios, work in the concert dance field, or to continue their education at a California State University Campus leading to a baccalaureate degree, either B.A. or B.F.A. in Dance.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, students will:

- Students will possess the necessary beginning level skills in all the major technique areas (Modern, Ballet, Jazz) to be able to smoothly transfer into a four – year institution.
- Students will be able to research, identify, and describe major historical periods, cultural references, notable genres, key terminology, and defining events in the development of dance.

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- Develop and strengthen critical thinking, creative writing, and observation skills through choreographic analysis, self – reflective journal assignments, and written reviews of dance performances.
- Examine, illustrate, and discuss the collaborative nature of dance production on both the concert stage, as well as film, as an art form.

Item 3. Program Requirements

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Requirements	Dept. Name/ #	Name	Units	CSU-GE	IGETC	Sequence
Required Core Studies (6 units)	DanceST 805	History & Appreciation of Dance	3	C 1	3 A	Yr 1, F
	THEATER 100	Introduction to Theater	3	C 1	3 A	Yr 1, F
Required Core Technique Classes (6 Units)	DanceTQ 111	Ballet Techniques I	1	Area E		Yr 1, Sp
	DanceTQ 121	Jazz Dance Techniques I	1	Area E		Yr 1, SP
	DanceTQ 141	Modern Dance Techniques I	1	Area E		Yr 1, F
	DanceTQ 142	Modern Dance Techniques II	1	Area E		Yr 2, F
	DanceTQ 151	Dance for Stage and Film*	1	Area E		Yr 2, Sp
	DanceST 301	Choreography I**	1	Area E		Yr 1, F
Required Production Classes (4 unit)	DanceST 814	Dance Production I	2	C 1		Yr 1, Sp
	DanceST 815	Dance Production II	2			Yr 2, F
Required Theater Electives (3 Units)	THEATER 270	Beginning Acting	3			Yr 2, F
	THEATER 310	Introduction to Theatrical Lighting	3			Yr 2, F
	THEATER 411	Costuming for the Theater	3			Yr 1, Sp

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Required	DanceTQ 231	Conditioning for Dance I	1			Yr 2, Sp
Dance	DanceTQ 535	Dance Team Techniques	2	Area E		Yr 2, F
Electives	DNCESPS 171	Hip Hop Dance Techniques I	1			Yr 1, Sp
(3 unit	DNCESPS 441	Latin Social & Salsa Dance I	1	Area E		Yr 2, F
minimum)	DNCESPS 331	Tap Dance I	1	Area E		Yr 2, Sp
	DanceST 801	Modern Dance I	3		C1	Yr 1, F
	DanceST 806	Ballet I	3	3A	C 1, E 1	Yr 1, Sp
	DanceTQ 152	Dance for Film and Stage II	1			Yr 2, Sp

*Course being written for the mark

**Current course is DanceST 452 a two-unit course. DanceST 301 will take the place as a one unit technique course.

Required Major Total 22 Units⁺

LACCD GE Pattern 21 Unit.

CSU-GE Breath 39 min units + 22 units = 61 Units
for CSU.

IGETC Pattern 34 -37 units + 22 units = 56 – 59
units.

Transferable Electives (as many as necessary to reach 60 units.

Total Units 60 Units

+ The need for the 6 required electives is because there are many forms of dance that a student will be expected to be versed in upon graduation or transfer. The best dancer is a versatile dancer who does not only specialize in one genre or discipline of dance. Due to the doubling within the core curriculum, the student should be able to complete the necessary units requires while staying on the pathway to completion within a two - year time. A side note: Dance ST 814 and 815 are Saturday class, and not a traditional class as that it is a production class. This class

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does not hinder or block a student's enrollment in any GE classes, and most students take this as an additional course load because they enjoy the performance aspect.

Item 4. Master Planning

The Los Angeles Pierce College Department of Dance began in the late 70's and thrived into the 80's and 90's under former professor Marian Weiser. The department's dance concerts were massive events using over a hundred or more students from the Los Angeles Pierce College community. There was both a dance concert for concert dance, as well as a folkdance concert with strong roots in social dance performance. It has been stated in previous department meetings that for at least a decade now, the Los Angeles Pierce College Dance faculty has wanted to create a degree program to help boost enrollment, graduates, and expand the program out to the local high schools.

With Taft High School only a few blocks away with its own strong dance team, it seems only natural that Los Angeles Pierce College be able to cater to the needs of these talented students to give them the option of a quality community college degree with the option to transfer to a four-year institution to continue their life-long passion of Dance. Taft is often invited to perform at our dance concerts in the Fall and Spring semesters here at Los Angeles Pierce College.

This year is the first year that an AA in Theater with an emphasis in Dance has been offered in the LAACD, and that is currently being offered by East Los Angeles College, which is too far from our student body. There is a district push for the emergence of dance to create a formidable degree that is transferrable to 4-year institutions. The great state of California does not currently recognize a local associates degree in dance, so the degree will fall under the umbrella of its department head, which in the case of Los Angeles Pierce College, is Performing Arts, or Theater. Luckily the Performing Arts are so closely interwoven into the fabric of each other that little is needed to help form and stabilize this degree for future students.

The discussion and proposal of a Dance degree at Los Angeles Pierce College has been under discussion in the dance program for over a decade according to the current chair, little movement has been made until recently in the re-organization of class schedules, as well as the alignment of course offerings to the rest of the LACCD. It is now the perfect time to push forward with the emergence of this degree, especially in the valley where so many students are

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wishing to break into either the commercial dance industry, or to get the education necessary to transfer them to a 4 – year institution for dance. As that the performing arts is such a vital part of the Los Angeles economy with the emergence of dance being use in commercial, film, stage, competition, etc. and the emergence of shows such as *So You Think You Can Dance* and *World of Dance*, the popularity of dance as not only a means of expression, but of work and education is even more apparent.

As of the inception of this proposal the North Gym 5601 that houses our current dance studio is in conversations with plant facilities to overhaul the floor to an appropriate, raised dance floor with appropriate, vinyl covering from wall to wall, as is the standard of any professional dance studio in much of the world. This renovation will hopefully align with the genesis of this degree so that Los Angeles Pierce College can emerge as the number one dance program in the valley for dance.

During the Fall semester of 2018 we archived several class in order to align the curriculum with district dance discipline. The new course numbers and hours allow the students 4 levels of a technique. The creation of DanceTQ 151: Dance for Stage and Film I will take the place of the recently archived DanceTQ 710. The department has decided to adopt a 3- hour choreography class (DanceST 301) that is a one unit, 3- hour course that will fit better into the college blocks. This will replace the current DanceST 452: Introduction to Choreography that is a 4-hour class, 2 units. The replacement will actually save the department an hour that can be used elsewhere in the course offerings and help us remain budget neutral. In addition, the Introduction to Theater (Theater 101) and History and Appreciation of Dance (DanceST 805) are available online as part of the distance education program.

The proposal could feasibly include a maximum of 67 units because of the weight of the Modern Techniques classes and the need to repeat the course to be able to transfer it to a UC/CSU. Dance, unlike other areas of studies, involves several different styles that a well - trained dancer needs to be privy to prior to transfer, audition, etc. For this reason, the degree outline provides the student with a solid technical base, but also encourages classes in the other genres of Dance: Ballet, Salsa, Hip hop, Tap, jazz, production, etc. Depending on the path the student takes and the courses that interest them, the units of this degree may be higher than the 60 required.

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Item 5. Enrollment and Completer Projections

Class	F 2016			F 2017		
	# Sections	Enrollment	Completers	# Sections	Enrollment	Completers
DanceST 805	1	36	24	1	33	29
DanceST 814	1	8	8	1	11	10
DanceST 815	1	2	2	1	3	3
DanceTQ 111***	1	21	17	1	8	7
DanceTQ 112**						
DanceST 301*****	1	7	3	1	10	9
Theater 100	5	204	181	6	203	183
DanceTQ 121*****	1	17	12	1	4	3
DanceTQ122**						
Dance TQ 151*						
DanceTQ 141*****	1	34	28	1	13	12
Dance TQ 142**						
Grand Total	12	329	275	13	285	256

* Class not in rotation yet.

**Class data not available until 2018 due to curriculum revisions and course changes implemented at the recommendation of the District Dance Committee

*** Data taken from DanceTQ 434/ 466 which was the originator of this course.

****Data taken from DanceTQ 437/ 468 which was the originator of this course.

*****Data taken from DanceST 452: Intro to Choreography which was the originator of this course.

*****Data take from DanceTQ 431 which was the originator of this course.

Projections:

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These projections stem from a review of 2016 – 2017 Fall semester enrollments for dance courses across the disciplines of Dance studies, Dance Specialties, and Dance techniques. Based on this information it is possible that we may produce between 8 –15 degree completers through the 2 – year program.

A note: as that the state of California does not recognize Dance as a viable degree at the Associates level, with the exception of a few colleges who were grandfathered in to the system back in the 1980’s, the graduation data is inconclusive for the Dance Top Code 1008.00. However; for those schools who are in fact state recognized and recorded, 2016 saw 111 AA degrees in Dance received, and 2018 saw 138 AA degrees received in Dance. There are probably more that have not been recorded because those colleges have to create degrees such as this one that fall under their parent department.

Item 6. Place of Program in Curriculum/ Similar Programs

- a.) No changes need to be changed in connection with the approval of this proposed program.
- b.) This program does not replace any existing programs in the college inventory.
- c.) There are no related programs in the college.

Item 7. Similar Programs at Other Colleges in the Service Area

Santa Monica College offers a Two - Year associates degree in dance, a dance certificate to teach dance Pre- 5K, and a Teacher of Dance Certificate.

East Los Angeles College offers an Associate Degree in Theater with Dance Emphasis beginning Fall 2018.

Addendum: Articulation information via Ms. Rodriguez, Pierce articulation officer

CLASS	UC TRANSFER	IGETC AREA APPROVAL	CSU TRANSFER	CSU GE AREA APPROVAL	MAJOR ARTICULATION (Information is based on Legacy ASSIST 16-17 articulation data which is all I have access to during the ASSIST NG transition.)
DANCEST 805	Yes	3A	Yes	C1	None

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DANCEST 814	Yes	-	Yes	C1	Cal Poly Pomona - Theater
DANCEST 815	Yes	-	Yes	-	None
DANCETQ 111	Yes	-	Yes	E	No info since it's a new course after 2016 and not in Legacy ASSIST
DANCETQ 112	No	-	Yes	-	No info since it's a new course after 2016 and not in Legacy ASSIST
THEATER 100	Yes	3A	Yes	C1	Cal Poly Pomona – English; Gender Ethnicity & Multicultural Studies; Theater CSU Chico – English; Liberal Studies CSU Dominguez – Liberal Studies CSU Fullerton – Dance CSU Long Beach – Comparative World Literature; English; Liberal Studies CSU Monterey Bay – Liberal Studies; Theater CSU San Bernardino – Liberal Studies San Jose State – Creative Arts
DANCETQ 121	Yes	-	Yes	E	No info since it's a new course after 2016 and not in Legacy ASSIST
DANCETQ 122	Yes	-	Yes	-	No info since it's a new course after 2016 and not in Legacy ASSIST

No other information is available at this time because the courses are all fairly recent.