

# DANCE AND PERFORMANCE STUDIES

Majoring in Dance and Performance Studies at RWU allows you to embrace your passion as a dancer and graduate with experience on your resume and a career path ahead of you. Collaborate with your peers and professional visiting artists, create choreography, and perform, all while gaining the competitive skills needed for professional success.



## STUDENT EXPERIENCE

### Learn and Do More at RWU

With a focus on experiential learning at RWU, Dance and Performance Studies majors:

- Enter the Freshman Company, and right away, be cast in a piece choreographed by both a faculty member and a professional guest artist. First-year students also gain experience as understudies and dance in at least two concert series their very first semester.
- Spend the fall semester of junior year in London working with their own team of international teachers and choreographers while also attending the best professional studios and exploring their choices of classes and teachers. Students attend dozens of dance and theater performances presented by both British and international companies.
- Collaborate and develop a professional network with professional guest artists – while learning a diverse range of movement styles, cultures, and choreographic strategies during week-long residencies.
- Perform at national dance conferences and get feedback from professionals in the field.

- + Do you love to dance?
- + Are you excited about the idea of collaborating and performing with professional artists?
- + Would you like to learn how to turn your passion into a career?

## CAREER OUTLOOK

RWU Dance and Performance Studies alumni are:

- Choreographing and dancing in national and international venues and productions
- Dancing in professional companies in major cities like Boston and New York
- Managing their own companies and studios
- Teaching in public and private schools, dance studios, and universities
- Providing expressive dance therapy to children, adults, and seniors
- Working as chiropractors, physical therapists, and occupational therapists

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

“I felt like I was doing the right thing in life and that’s what helped me work so hard. It was because the dance department believed in me.”

Giovanni Pinto '17

RWU journalism; Dance and Performance Studies double major  
Teacher, choreographer and dancer for Ballet Wyoming  
and News Reporter for ABC Affiliate K2TV

## CURRICULUM

### Structure

Dance and Performance Studies majors take courses in technique (Ballet, Contemporary, Modern, Mime, Movement Theatre, Ethnic and Social forms), choreography, history, pedagogy, movement analysis, kinesiology, performance techniques, and other special topic courses to keep them on the forefront of emerging topics of the field. Majors complete 42 credits of required courses and apply their remaining credits to electives. You can set yourself apart by using those flexible electives to pick up a second major or minor.

### Auditions

The Dance and Performance Studies program is looking for technically proficient and creatively oriented students who wish to study Dance, Performance, and Movement Theatre. For acceptance into the program, an audition is required.

### Faculty

At RWU, your faculty are professional dancers and artists. Your professors work as a team to offer a diverse set of experiences and perspectives for each student. They also work to hone your individuality so you can distinguish yourself as a professional with your own unique style and career skill sets.



## OVER 80% OF RWU STUDENTS GRADUATE WITH MORE THAN JUST A SINGLE MAJOR

Design your experience with your passion and have a unique career advantage with a minor or double major. Many students combine **Dance and Performance Studies** with:

- Psychology (for Dance or Movement Therapy)
- Biology (for Occupational or Physical Therapy)
- Educational Studies (for various careers in educational settings)
- Public Relations (for Dance Communications)
- Arts Management (for nonprofit or studio management)



*Last Updated: July 2021*