Admission Requirements
evident in the following contexts:
- Development of a personal artistic process and mission and should be
definition. Individual research and analysis should culminate in the
inquiry that leads to the development of a sophisticated sense of self-
dynamic learning atmosphere for critical engagement with choreographic
of individual movement research and embodied practice to create a
in contemporary culture. The program embraces a wide spectrum
individual movement research and embodied practice to create a
dynamic learning atmosphere for critical engagement with choreographic
process.

The Department of Dance expects MFA candidates to conduct a creative
inquiry that leads to the development of a sophisticated sense of self-
definition. Individual research and analysis should culminate in the
development of a personal artistic process and mission and should be
evident in the following contexts:

- Choreographing: Candidates will develop a distinctive choreographic
research methodology and demonstrate its skillful application in a
performative context. This ideology must establish solid foundation for
ongoing research and engagement that contributes to the global
discourse about dance and contemporary culture.
- Communicating: Candidates will develop the ability to express their
choreographic vision and process in verbal and written language that
is clear, cogent, and convincing and demonstrates clear analytic skill,
critical thinking, awareness of historical context, and knowledge of
contemporary culture.
- Moving: Candidates will demonstrate a commitment to movement
investigation and practice that defines, advances, and sustains their
choreographic vision.
- Teaching: Candidates will apply their research vision in clear
pedagogic principles while fostering a stimulating teaching/learning
environment.
- Career Planning: Candidates are assessed on their ability to develop
innovative career strategies in order to advance their artistic mission
for ongoing research and engagement that contributes to the global
discursive culture.

Admission Requirements
Prerequisites for admission to the MFA program are:

1. An undergraduate degree and significant experience in dance is
required.
2. Demonstrated choreographic achievement and potential to make
innovative contributions to the field.
3. Demonstrated potential to engage in critical thinking and writing.

International students must be eligible for full status admission.
International students who receive a TOEFL score greater than 103 on the
internet-based test, 257 on the computer-based test, or 613 on the paper
test are eligible for full status admission. Students with these scores are
exempt from the English as a Second Language Placement Test. The GRE
is not required.

Faculty Research Interests
An extraordinary faculty of artists, researchers and scholars has gathered
at Illinois, who are creating new paradigms for interactions between
the professional arena and the academic training ground. Our group
of professional artists includes Jan Erkert, Sara Hook, Philip Johnston,
Linda Lehovec, Jennifer Monson, Kemal Nance, Rebecca Nettl-Fiol, Tere
O’Connor, Cynthia Oliver, Kirstie Simson, Endalyn Taylor, John Toenjes,
and Abby Zbikowski, all of whom share a commitment to teaching and
preparing students for leadership roles in the field of dance.

Financial Aid
Two forms of financial aid are offered to graduate students by the
Department of Dance:

- Teaching and administration assistantships are available to graduate
students. Assistantships of 25% or greater qualify the student for
a tuition waiver. All students are required to apply for Federal Work
Study.
- A variety of Fellowships are available through The Graduate College
each year, including: (A full listing of Fellowships can be found at:
www.grad.illinois.edu/fellowships (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/
fellowships))
  - The Creative and Performing Arts Fellowship, which may include
stipends up to a maximum of $6,000 for a student demonstrating
outstanding choreographic and performance talent.
  - The Graduate College Fellowship for Underrepresented Students
provides fellowships in the amount of $8,000 and are available to
outstanding minority students.

Prospective MFA candidates are encouraged to apply for financial
assistance through the Office of Student Financial Aid, 420 Student
Services Bldg., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL
61820. (217) 333-0100.

Master of Fine Arts in Dance
The MFA Curriculum is designed to promote a candidate’s progress
through our stated objectives: Choreography, Communication, Moving,
Teaching, and Career Planning.

Included in these are courses in dance studies, somatics, pedagogy,
and two semesters devoted to an innovative lab team taught by our
faculty and designed in collaboration with students. The final year of
study is devoted to synthesizing the above objectives evidenced by
the production of the candidate’s choreography, their written thesis
document, oral presentation, and plans for propelling students’ career
into the professional sphere.

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<th>Code</th>
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<td>Physical Practice, at least 2 hours through DANC 560</td>
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<td>Historical and Theoretical Studies</td>
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### Dance

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<td>DANC 510</td>
<td>Grad Seminar/Special Topics</td>
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<td>DANC 541</td>
<td>Contemporary Directions I</td>
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<td>DANC 542</td>
<td>Contemporary Directions II</td>
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<td>DANC 462</td>
<td>Composition Workshop</td>
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<td>DANC 562</td>
<td>Graduate Composition II</td>
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<td>DANC 420</td>
<td>Perf Pract Student Works II</td>
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<td>DANC 421</td>
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<td>Creative Thesis Project</td>
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<td>DANC 530</td>
<td>Somatics in Dance Training</td>
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<td>Dance in related area of research</td>
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<td>Electives which may be taken in Dance or related areas of interest</td>
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<td>Total Hours</td>
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#### Other Requirements

Other requirements may overlap

- Course work taken to completed undergraduate deficiencies will not receive graduate credit.
- Residency requirement of three years (six semesters)
- Minimum GPA: 2.75

1 For additional details and requirements refer to the department’s MFA Handbook [http://dance.uiuc.edu/prospective-students/mfa](http://dance.uiuc.edu/prospective-students/mfa) and the Graduate College Handbook [http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook](http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook).

- Minor in Dance [http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/dance/minor-in-dance](http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/dance/minor-in-dance)