Bachelor of Fine Arts (Dance)

From your first year you will learn the fundamentals of choreography, dance history and dance analysis as well as collaborate in the creation and presentation of student work. You’ll also begin to explore all the creative career options on offer for you.

Your studies will then progress to understanding advanced choreographic practice, composition and where appropriate, the application of these in a range of contexts, as well as introducing studies from your other areas of interest you have chosen.

In your third and final year you’ll tailor your course to transition towards your future career by choosing to work on real industry projects, work integrated learning or undertake study tours.

Why choose this course?
Through this three-year degree, you’ll build on your passion for dance while future proofing your career by diversifying your interests to open up a wide range of career opportunities.

If your passion is for creating dance or following a love for choreography or production then combining your studies with areas such as screen studies, drama, music or entertainment will expand your skill set and versatility.

If you want to become the next generation of creative producer, company manager, arts manager or even dance journalist this course will allow you to ground your passion for dance while also nurturing these other interests and future proofing your career in a changing world.

If you’re interested in teaching dance this degree will allow you to share your passion with others by laying the foundation for a teaching career. You’ll learn the core techniques of genres and dance styles including contemporary dance, hip hop, ballet, that can be applied to studio teaching, while additional studies can also allow you to teach in schools in Australia and beyond.

We welcome applications from people of all backgrounds and creative styles via an audition, please review the course requirements for further audition details.

Lucy Turner
Follow your passion

‘I have danced both in and out of school my entire life, and am extremely passionate about teaching dance. I absolutely loved my dance teachers in school and aspire to inspire my students, making them feel safe the same way my teachers did for me.’
Real-world learning
In this course, you’ll develop real-world skills by being involved in at least one Australian or international project where you’ll work with professionals in a variety of dance settings, including the community, dance education and performance environments.

Dance students also take part in a wide variety of work integrated learning opportunities with placements taken to suit a wide variety of career paths. Past experiences include:
- Teaching dance with placements available in many secondary schools and dance academies across Brisbane.
- Dance performance with placements in companies and studios including Queensland Ballet, Australian Dance Performance Institute, Westside Performers, National Conservatoire Ballet Company and Promenade Dance Studio.
- Performance arts and musical theatre with the Australian Dance Performance Institute, Brisbane Immersive Ensemble or Jam Performing Arts.
- Wellbeing, yoga or health with Grounded Koh Tao Wellbeing Centre, Active Arts Australia or RIPE Dance.
- Dance promotion and administration with organisations like Ausdance National.

You’ll also learn from internationally recognised teaching staff and visiting dance specialists, and connect with local and global professional networks or take part in international exchange programs.

Entry requirements
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Minimum English requirements
Students must meet the English proficiency requirements.

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Course structure
Your course
To meet the course requirements of the Bachelor of Fine Arts (Dance), you must complete the following:
- Two common units (KYB101 and KYB102) – 24 credit points
- Dance major – 168 credit points
- Complementary studies – 48 credit points from the Situated Creative Practice Extension plus 48 credit points chosen from a minor or unit options (electives).

Year 1
- technique studies focus on physical and conceptual approaches
- cover a range of genres, for example, contemporary dance, ballet, hip hop, latin dance
- learn the fundamentals of choreography
- study dance history and dance analysis

Year 2
- study dance styles from around the world
- advance your choreographic practice
- create dance works for film
- contextualise cutting-edge performance and choreography
- non-dance units can be selected from across QUT

Year 3
- tailor your course to transition into your chosen professional area
- further your studies within a second discipline, for example, drama units to become a dance and drama teacher
- develop sophisticated workshop materials to communicate your choreography
- explore the application of your disciplinary knowledge within collaborative multidisciplinary projects

Study overseas
Study overseas while earning credit towards your QUT creative industries degree with one of our worldwide exchange partners. Overseas study can be for one or two semesters (or during the semester break) and the units you take can be in a creative or non-creative discipline area, depending on how they match with your QUT course. Saving your electives for exchange will allow you the most flexibility. Find out more about studying on exchange.

Customise your degree
Through this course you can choose to study other creative industries disciplines including creative writing, drama, entertainment, fashion, interior design studies, journalism, music studies and visual arts practice.

Teach Dance
Throughout this course you’ll explore and consider dance teaching concepts as they apply to a variety of contexts which may include studio teaching, community teaching and formal education settings. As a QUT Dance student, you have the exciting opportunity to complete the Royal Academy of Dance Teacher Training course, while at QUT to gain Registered Teacher Status to teach in these contexts.

If you wish to become a school dance teacher, you have some options. You can complete your dance degree first and then follow with a Master of Teaching which allows you to teach Dance alongside Drama, Music or Visual Arts.

Alternatively, you can undertake a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Dance) / Bachelor of Education (Secondary) and complete two separate degrees in just four and a half years full time. This will allow you to combine your passion for dance while teaching English, History, Geography or Maths.

Create Dance
Pursue your passion for choreography, teaching artistry, and independent practice by combining your dance studies with majors in Screen Production, Interactive and Visual Design, Drama and Performance, and Music and Sound. Expand your skill set and versatility, and nurture innovative creative thinking and practice.

Get agile
Become the next generation of creative producer, company manager, arts administrator and journalist by combining your passion for dance with other interests such as Media and Communication, Journalism or Entertainment. this will help you get the skills you need to work in a variety of dance-related roles including arts management and community arts projects.

Careers and outcomes
Graduates of the dance major often move into careers as dance teachers in schools (with an appropriate teaching qualification), private studios, universities and professional dance company education programs. Graduates also work as dance researchers and academics, community engagement officers for dance companies, dance journalists, festival and community project directors and producers, independent dance...
Bachelor of Fine Arts (Dance)

practitioners, private dance studio owners, community dance artists, arts administrators, and dance health professionals (with further specialised training).

Additional fees
Additional Costs
There are requirements that you will need to meet as a student in this course. Information is available from the Additional course requirements and costs website.