

DANCE

Dance
510.430.2175
dance@mills.edu

Faculty & Staff List (<https://www.mills.edu/faculty/dance/>)

Each year, dancers arrive on campus in all their wonderful variety—as tappers, ballet dancers, hip-hoppers, world-dance dancers, krumpers, improvisers and more. All are welcome. As the fall semester starts, each student is invited to join the department community and dive into rigorous physical, intellectual, and artistic work, sharing their unique gifts with their peers. At the end of the undergraduate experience, each mover emerges with an artistic voice that has been refined, a mind that has been stretched, and a heart that has grown larger by the joy of learning in a community of impassioned peers and professors.

To capture the rich variety of students' interests, the College's dance major is divided into three areas of concentration: **dance, dance/theater** and **dance and digital performance**. These share a group of core classes and then branch into focused study, letting students opt for a program that closely fits their performance and academic passions.

Because we are dedicated to the dancer as a whole being, the Dance Department provides a curriculum that deepens the conversation between body and mind through such courses as somatics, dance history, live and digital media, dance studies and cultures, improvisation, and composition. The Mills College Repertory Dance Company invites students to sharpen their performance skills under the guidance of gifted faculty and renowned visiting artists, while the annual Undergrad Underground gives our undergraduates the chance to curate and mount a show of their own devising. Undergraduates also get to work closely with our small, committed group of MFA and/or MA students, engage with noted members of the dance community, go on field trips, and attend life-changing performances at some of the many theaters in the area. Each year the department also participates in the exciting inter-college Bay Area Dance Exchange, often hosted by Stanford University, and the American College Dance Festival, which represents colleges by region across the country.

Learning Outcomes

- Students, as skilled movers, will be able to dance at various rates or qualities of speed, force, effort and shape in more than one dance idiom.
- Understand space and time as the foundation for dancing and dance-making.
- Identify conceptual, physical, and emotional ideas in a piece of choreography.
- Students will be able to receive and apply critical assessments during classroom, rehearsal, and production activities, and to demonstrate teamwork.
- Identify dances across cultures or through time.

Majors & Minors

Major

Dance Major—BA (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/dance/dance-ba/>)

Minor

Dance Minor (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/dance/dance-minor/>)

Accelerated Degree Program

BA/MFA in Dance (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-degree-programs/ba-mfa-dance/>)