

**THE DEPARTMENT OF DANCE
WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**

DEPARTMENTAL POLICY STATEMENT ADDENDUM

CLASS SIZE POLICY

Accepted by the Faculty: May 2, 2007

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The Faculty of the Department of Dance adopts the following policy statement on class size. This statement is adopted under the collective bargaining agreement between the Western Michigan University Chapter of the American Association of University Professors and Western Michigan University.

The Department of Dance offers courses that require one or more studios, a classroom, the conditioning room, or a combination of these facilities, all of which are currently housed in the Dorothy U. Dalton Center. Except in a few cases of new courses, the cap sizes offered in this Departmental Class Size Policy are based on what has already been used in practice. Class sizes have been established based on facility size, equipment needs, methods of instruction, student level, course content, safety, and the standards of the National Association of Schools of Dance. In the case where a dance course is offered in a facility other than the Dorothy U. Dalton Center, the department chair determines the class size in consultation with the instructor, and takes into account the factors listed above.

The dance faculty believes that major-level students will be able to progress through graduation with the following class size ceilings:

A. Introductory/Non-Major Studio Courses

Non-major students develop fundamental skills in these courses. Class size allows for a balance between individual attention and group corrections.

The introductory technique courses in the department include DANC 1010 – Beginning Ballet, DANC 1020 – Beginning Jazz, DANC 1030 – Beginning Modern Dance. The maximum size of these courses is 30 students in Studio A and 35 in Studio B.

DANC 1040 – Beginning Tap is taught in Studio C, the smallest instructional dance studio. The maximum class size is 18 students.

The maximum size for DANC 1810 – Dance Improvisation is 25 students due to the creative nature of the course. If the class size is too large it becomes difficult to monitor each individual student's progress.

B. Major Studio Courses

Major students develop progressively complex skills in these courses. Class size allows for the individual attention that is necessary for improvement at these levels, and takes into account the spatially complex movement sequences.

DANC 1100 and 2100 – Ballet Technique I and II, DANC 1200 and 2200 – Jazz Technique I and II and DANC 1300 and 2300 – Modern Dance Technique I and II require close observation by the instructor. The maximum size of technique level I and II courses is 25 students.

DANC 3100 – Ballet Technique III, DANC 3200 – Jazz Technique III and DANC 3300 Modern Dance Technique III are advanced level courses that are combined with technique level II courses on Fridays. The maximum size for level III technique courses is 20 students. Safety in the studio for combined classes dictates these class sizes and the smaller class size for level III courses reflects the student numbers enrolled in the advanced technique courses.

DANC 4100 – Supplemental Ballet Technique, DANC 4200 - Supplemental Jazz Technique, and DANC 4300 – Supplemental Modern Technique students are combined with either the 2000 or 3000 level courses of those genres twice a week, so the enrollment is restricted to a maximum of 5 students.

C. Creative Courses

The department's choreography sequence includes four courses. These courses provide the opportunity for students to develop and realize their personal aesthetic as it relates to the creation of dances. Instruction is achieved primarily through one-on-one mentoring in the following courses: DANC 1800- The Creative Choreographer, DANC 2800- Choreographing for a New Millennium, DANC 3800- The Choreographer in the Community, and DANC 4800- Graduating Presentation. If the class size is too large it becomes difficult to monitor each individual student's progress.

The maximum size for DANC 1800 is 15. The maximum size for DANC 2800 and DANC 3800 is 14. The enrollment in DANC 4800 is limited to senior Bachelor of Fine Arts candidates; therefore the class size varies.

D. Dance Theory – History, Methods, Science and Analysis, and Music

Dance History: DANC 1450 – Experiencing Dance is an introductory history course that can be taken to fulfill the Area I: Fine Arts general education requirement. The maximum size for this course is 40 students due to the size of the classroom and studio capacity. The maximum size for DANC 2450 – Ballet History is 30 students to accommodate anticipated incoming class sizes of 24-30 students. DANC 3450 – 20th Century History serves as the department's Baccalaureate Writing Course. The maximum size for DANC 3450 is 20 students due to the extensive written assignments and grading that are required in this course.

Dance Science and Analysis: Class size for these courses is determined based on the proportion of classroom and/or studio instruction. The maximum size for DANC 1950 – Introduction to Bartenieff Fundamentals and DANC 2960 – Introduction to Laban Movement Analysis is 24 students. If these courses are instructed in Studio C, the maximum class size is 20. DANC 1960 – Conditioning for Dancers has a maximum size of 24 because of the number of reformers in room 3121. The maximum size for DANC 2950 – Introduction to Dance Science and Kinesiology is 30 students to accommodate anticipated incoming class sizes of 24-30 students.

Music Courses: The maximum size for DANC 1850 – Music Fundamentals for Dancers and DANC 2850 – Musical Style and Form for Dancers is 30 students to accommodate anticipated incoming class sizes of 24-30 students. Both courses rely on the practice of music-making as part of instruction, and this pedagogical practice requires some individual instruction and the use of specialized instruments.

Other Theory Courses: Class size for these courses is determined based on the proportion of classroom and studio instruction. The maximum size for DANC 2900 – Dance in Elementary Schools is 30. The maximum size for DANC 3890 – Lighting and Staging for Dance is 20 students. The maximum size for DANC 4400 – Teaching Dance Technique, DANC 4450 – Senior Seminar, DANC 4700 – Senior Capstone Project and DANC 4890 – Dance Management is 25 students due to the advanced nature of the assigned projects and the need for one-on-one instruction. These class sizes should accommodate all anticipated seniors.

Online Course: The maximum size for DANC 1140- Digital Media in the Arts is 12 because sections from Art, Music and Theatre are also included.

E. Dance Practicum, Performance and Independent Study

The maximum size for DANC 1000 – Freshman Performance Class is 30 students. This class size accommodates all freshmen, who are required to enroll in this course in their first fall semester. For the following courses, the class size is variable and will be determined by the department chair in consultation with the instructor of record: DANC 4000 – Practicum, DANC 4600 – Performance, DANC 4960 - MTP Performance, DANC 4980 – Readings in Dance, DANC 4990 – Non-Reading Independent Study in Dance, DANC 5980 – Readings in Dance, DANC 5990 – Non-Reading Independent Study in Dance.

The maximum size for DANC 4650 – Dance Ensemble is 15 to allow for cost-effective touring. The maximum class size for DANC 4950 – Music Theatre Performance Workshop is 20 due to facility size, course content and one-on-one instruction.

F. Special Studies

The department chair, in consultation with the instructor of record, will take into account the subject matter and the facilities in which the course will be taught to determine class sizes for Special Studies in Technique at the beginning through advanced levels. Class sizes for DANC 1250 – Special Studies in Introductory Technique, DANC 2250 – Special Studies in Intermediate Technique and DANC 4250 – Special Studies in Advanced Technique will vary. DANC 4250 – Special Studies in Advanced Technique-Pointe & Variations, a course with combined levels, has a maximum class size of 20. Due to the specific demands of pointe technique and the increased potential of injury, greater individual instruction and observation are necessary.

The department chair, in consultation with the instructor of record, will take into account the subject matter and the facilities in which the course will be taught to determine class sizes for DANC 3250- Special Studies in Theory. Therefore, class sizes for DANC 3250 will vary.

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DEPARTMENT OF DANCE COURSE CAPACITIES
May 2, 2007

Class size proposal

Course #	Course Name	Studio/Room	Proposed Cap
1000	Freshman Performance Class	A or B	30
1010	Beginning Ballet	A or B	A: 30, B: 35
1020	Beginning Jazz	A or B	A: 30, B: 35
1030	Beginning Modern	A or B	A: 30, B: 35
1040	Beginning Tap	C	18
1100	Ballet Technique I	A or B	25
1140	Digital Media in the Arts	On-line	12
1200	Jazz Technique I	A or B	25
1210	Roots of Jazz	A or B	25
1250	Special Studies in Introductory Dance Technique	Varies	***
1300	Modern Technique I	A or B	25
1450	Experiencing Dance	3127 & A or B	40
1800	The Creative Choreographer	ABCD	15**
1810	Dance Improvisation	A or B	25
1850	Music Fundamentals for Dancers	3125 or 3127	30
1950	Introduction to Bartenieff Fundamentals	A or B or C	A/B: 24, C: 20
1960	Conditioning for Dancers	A or B & 3121	24
2100	Ballet Technique II	A or B	25
2200	Jazz Technique II	A or B	25
2250	Special Studies in Intermediate Dance Technique	Varies	***
2250	Intermediate Tap	C	18
2300	Modern Technique II	A or B	25
2450	Ballet History	3125 or 3127	30
2800	Choreographing for a New Millennium	ABCD	14**
2850	Musical Style and Form for Dancers	3125 or 3127	30
2900	Dance in Elementary Schools	3215 or 3127	30
2950	Introduction to Dance Science and Kinesiology	3127	30
2960	Introduction to Laban Movement Analysis	B or C and 3125 or 3127	B: 24 C: 20
3100	Ballet Technique III	A or B	20*
3200	Jazz Technique III	A or B	20*
3250	Special Studies in Dance Theory	Varies	Varies
3300	Modern Technique III	A or B	20*
3450	Twentieth Century American Dance	3125 or 3127	20**
3800	The Choreographer in the Community	ABCD	14**
3890	Lighting and Staging for Dance	B	20
4000	Practicum	Varies	Varies
4100	Supplemental Ballet Technique	A or B	5
4200	Supplemental Jazz Technique	A or B	5
4250	Special Studies in Advanced Technique	Varies	***

4250	Special Studies in Advanced Technique- Pointe & Variations	A or B	20
4300	Supplemental Modern Technique	A or B	5
4400	Teaching Dance Technique	3125 or 3127 & A, B or C	25
4450	Senior Seminar	3125 or 3127	25
4600	Performance	Varies	Varies
4650	Dance Ensemble	A or B	15
4700	Senior Capstone Project	3125 or 3127	25
4800	Graduating Presentation	Varies	Varies
4890	Dance Management	3125 or 3127	25
4950	Music Theatre Performance Workshop	C	20
4960	Performance in Music Theatre	Varies	Varies
4980	Readings in Dance	Varies	Varies
4990	Non-Read Independent Study	Varies	Varies
5980	Readings in Dance	Varies	Varies
5990	Non-Read Independent Study	Varies	Varies

* These 3000 level courses are combined with 2000 level courses on Fridays.

**These courses are grading intensive and require an extraordinary amount of individual instruction to ensure a quality learning experience.

***Depends on studio/classroom needs and course content.