

UNC Charlotte Department of Dance Strategic Plan

Mission: The Department of Dance provides exemplary, integrated dance training and academic preparation in a diverse and inclusive community that values lived experience, creative process, and performance. Through intersections of artistry, education, and inquiry, the department centers embodied practices, histories, and research to nurture and support individuals.

Vision: To become a community hub for inclusive, accessible, and antiracist dance practices and studies by strengthening existing networks and building new connections through embodied work.

The department's vision is shaped by our values:

- To center the body in our inquiries: acknowledge embodiment as essential to our work and meaning-making practices
- To honor cultural and disciplinary specificity: redress systemic marginalization and build new programs from an equity standpoint
- To respect multiple ways of being and knowing: recognize the many ways engagement with dance practices, histories, cultures, and research approaches is shaped

Goal 1: Prioritize access and belonging in the curriculum, individual and collective pedagogy and departmental culture to foster civic responsibility and global understanding.

Objective 1.1: Develop and sustain a culturally responsive community among faculty, staff, and students.

Objective 1.2: Increase the use of diverse, equitable, and inclusive teaching practices.

Objective 1.3: Increase the number of dance majors, with a focus on populations underrepresented within the major.

Objective 1.4: Ensure contextualization of dance as concert form, cultural practice, and community building agent in curriculum and departmental programming.

Goal 2: Develop and sustain mutually beneficial community partnerships.

Objective 2.1: Increase ties with regional partners for training, internship opportunities, and creative practice in multiple dance forms.

Objective 2.2: Build department's reputation and legibility as a community partner in the Charlotte region.

Objective 2.3: Serve as a resource for teachers and students in North Carolina schools.

Objective 2.4: Increase engagement with alumni network to support students' career development.

Goal 3: Support students in developing dance-adjacent skills to envision, plan for, and enact sustainable careers

Objective 3.1: Create avenues for professional experience in dance-adjacent areas.

Objective 3.2: Incorporate wellness support structures into curriculum.

Objective 3.3: Increase students' capacity to transfer skills and communication processes across and within disciplines.