

Master in Dance - Minor in Faith-Based Movement Therapy

HBI University

Course Duration: 2 years

Credit Hours: 69 (including 15 credit hours for minor)



Program Description

The Master in Dance at HBI University is designed for students seeking expertise in choreography, performance, movement analysis, and dance education. This program integrates contemporary dance, cultural dance traditions, and dance production techniques to prepare graduates for careers in performance, teaching, choreography, and therapeutic movement practices.

The Minor in Faith-Based Movement Therapy offers a specialized focus on using dance for spiritual and emotional healing, community engagement, and faith-based wellness programs. Students will explore the role of movement in worship, therapeutic dance interventions, and faith-driven dance outreach initiatives.

This 69-credit hour program includes 30 credit hours of foundational dance courses, 24 credit hours of core choreography and movement training, 15 credit hours in Faith-Based Movement Therapy, elective coursework, a supervised practicum, and a research-based master's thesis or capstone project.

Admissions Requirements

- Bachelor's degree in dance, performing arts, movement therapy, or a related field
- Minimum GPA of 3.0
- Two letters of recommendation from faculty or dance professionals
- Statement of purpose outlining career goals in dance and faith-based movement therapy
- Audition or choreography portfolio submission (required)
- Interview with faculty committee (if required)

Practicum Requirement

Students must complete a 300-hour supervised practicum in dance therapy clinics, church dance ministries, nonprofit movement wellness programs, or community engagement dance initiatives. Practicum placements include faith-based dance outreach programs, therapeutic movement clinics, and school or church dance leadership roles.

Master's Thesis / Capstone Project

Students must complete either a research-based master's thesis on sacred dance traditions, movement therapy in faith-based settings, or dance for emotional and spiritual well-being, or develop a capstone project implementing a movement-based healing or worship initiative.

Program Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

- Develop and perform original choreography for sacred and contemporary dance.
- Use movement therapy techniques to promote spiritual and emotional healing.
- Lead faith-based dance programs and community wellness initiatives.
- Integrate movement analysis into performance, worship, and educational settings.
- Advocate for the role of dance in holistic healing and faith-based outreach.

Career Outcomes & Potential Salary

- Choreographer & Dance Director (Sacred & Contemporary Dance) – \$50,000 - \$130,000
- Faith-Based Movement Therapist & Dance Healer – \$55,000 - \$120,000
- Sacred Dance Educator & Worship Arts Leader – \$45,000 - \$110,000
- Professional Dancer & Performance Artist – \$40,000 - \$125,000
- Community Outreach Coordinator for Dance & Wellness Programs – \$55,000 - \$140,000

Advocacy and Professional Development

Students are encouraged to join organizations such as:

- International Association for Dance Medicine & Science (IADMS)
- Christian Dance Fellowship International
- National Dance Education Organization (NDEO)
- Sacred Dance Guild

Participation in faith-based movement therapy workshops, sacred dance performances, and dance ministry leadership training is highly recommended.

Course Breakdown (Total: 69 Credit Hours)

A. Foundational Dance Courses (30 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
DANC-101	History & Cultural Perspectives of Dance	3
DANC-102	Choreography & Composition Techniques	3
DANC-103	Contemporary Dance Performance & Improvisation	3
DANC-104	Dance Pedagogy & Teaching Methodologies	3
DANC-105	Movement Analysis & Kinesiology for Dancers	3
DANC-106	Research Methods in Dance Studies	3
DANC-107	Liturgical Dance & Worship Arts	3
DANC-108	Dance Production & Stage Management	3
DANC-109	Dance & Spiritual Expression	3
DANC-110	Music for Movement & Sacred Dance Accompaniment	3

B. Core Choreography and Movement Training (24 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
DANC-201	Ballet & Modern Dance Technique	3
DANC-202	Jazz, Hip-Hop, & Contemporary Dance Styles	3
DANC-203	Sacred Dance & Spiritual Movement Practices	3
DANC-204	Dance in Healing & Wellness	3
DANC-205	Multicultural Dance Forms & Global Expressions of Worship	3
DANC-206	Dance & Social Justice: Advocacy Through Movement	3
DANC-207	Faith-Based Dance Ministry & Leadership	3
DANC-208	Supervised Dance Practicum	3

C. Faith-Based Movement Therapy Minor (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
FBMT-401	The Role of Dance in Worship & Faith Communities	3
FBMT-402	Healing Through Movement: Faith-Based Applications	3
FBMT-403	Dance Therapy Techniques for Emotional Well-Being	3
FBMT-404	Mindfulness, Prayer, & Movement Integration	3
FBMT-405	Ethics in Dance Therapy & Holistic Healing	3

D. Electives (9 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
ELEC-3801	Dance & Neuroscience: Movement for Mental Health	3
ELEC-3802	Digital Dance Media & Performance Technology	3
ELEC-3803	Dance, Embodiment, & Theology	3