VCA Dance

New area text blocks...

Bachelor of Dance

756-130 Dance Technique 1A

Credit points: 18.75

Contact: 15 hours per week *(Semester 1).*

Description: The study of a range of dance techniques provides intensive training for the dance artist. Four classes a week in both Contemporary Dance and Ballet, plus one class a week in Jazz Dance and a tenth elective class in either Ballet or Contemporary Dance form this subject. Training in the 3 techniques will focus on dynamic alignment, development of strength, coordination, flexibility, agility, cardiovascular endurance and control.

Assessment: Assessment in practical class work is comprehensive and includes assessment for progress, random assessment, self assessment and formal assessment class.

756-131 Dance Technique 1B

Credit points: 18.75

Contact: 15 hours per week *(Semester 2).*

Description: Continued study of a range of dance techniques establishes a paradigm for training versatile, kinaesthetically intelligent dance artists. Four classes a week in both Ballet and Contemporary Dance, plus one class a week in Jazz Dance and a tenth elective class in either Ballet or Contemporary Dance form this subject.

Assessment: Assessment in practical class work is comprehensive and includes assessment for progress, random assessment, self assessment and formal assessment class.

756-132 Choreography 1A

Credit points: 6.25

Contact: 3 hours per week *(Semester 1).*

Description: An introduction to the basic elements of dance composition and choreography. The subject focuses on an understanding of dance as a space/time art form. Practical tasks include the generation of movement through improvisation, and the manipulation and development of movement using a variety of compositional strategies in order to develop a personal movement vocabulary and style.

Assessment: Participation and contribution to course work (40%); studies/projects for assessment (40%); written assignments and log book equivalent to 1,500 words (20%). Hurdle requirement - 80% attendance.

756-133 Choreography 1B

Credit points: 6.25

Prerequisites: Choreography 1A

Contact: 3 hours per week *(Semester 2).*

Description: Further study of the basic elements of dance composition and choreography. The subject continues to focus on an understanding of dance as a space/time art form. Practical tasks include the manipulation and development of movement using a variety of compositional strategies which enhance an understanding of the relationship between form and content.

Assessment: Participation and contribution to course work (40%); studies/projects for assessment (40%); written assignments and log book equivalent to 1,500 words (20%). Hurdle requirement - 80% attendance.

756-120 Performance Management

Credit points: 6.25

Contact: 4 hours per week *(Semester 1).*

Description: This subject is delivered through a series of workshops, seminars and lectures to assist students with strategies to achieve optimal performance in dance. Areas of study include performance psychology, communication studies including group dynamics, goal setting and motivational strategies, health and nutrition, injury prevention and management with a focus on safe dance practice.

Assessment: Participation and contribution to course work including satisfactory completion of set tasks (60%); written assignments totalling no more than 2,000 words (40%). Hurdle requirement - 80% attendance.

756-125 Performance 1

Credit points: 6.25

Prerequisites: Dance Technique 1A

Corequisites: Dance Technique 1B

Contact: 5 hours per week *(Semester 2).*

Description: Development of performance skills and artistry is central to a dancer's development. During the three year course students will work with leading and emerging choreographers on the development and performance of new dance works and existing repertoire. A variety of performance experiences will extend and enhance the student's skills and artistry. Performance 1 will culminate in the performance of a dance work by a leading or emerging choreographer as part of the School of Dance November performance season. It may also include the performance of a Jazz Dance in another venue. Production Studies lectures will focus on technical aspects of the theatre, theatre terminology, etiquette, personnel and stage make-up.

Assessment: Performance assessment (50%); participation and contribution to rehearsals and production studies lectures (30%); written essay of 2,000 words (20%).

756-134 Allied Dance Studies 1A

Credit points: 6.25

Contact: 4 hours per week *(Semester 1).*

Description: This subject comprises contemporary duo, pas de deux, repertoire (ballet or contemporary), improvisation, pointe and music. Students are required to complete music and to elect 3 units of study from the other 6 units. Music includes the development of rhythmic and aural skills through study of notation, an overview of Western Art Music from the Medieval to the present, awareness of non-Western musical forms and introduction to musical genres, development of instruments, basic notation and conducting. The elective units must be studied sequentially for 2 semesters. Elective units in Allied Dance Studies 1 and 2 can be sequential to allow for specialisation or non-sequential to facilitate breadth in content.

Assessment: Participation and contribution to course work (55%); performance in an assessment class/es in each elective unit (30%); music examination (15%). Hurdle requirement - 80% attendance.

756-135 Allied Dance Studies 1B

Credit points: 6.25

Prerequisites: Allied Dance Studies 1A

Contact: 4 hours per week *(Semester 2).*

Description: This subject comprises contemporary duo, pas de deux, repertoire (ballet or contemporary), improvisation, pointe and music. Students are required to complete music and to elect 3 units of study from the other 6 units. Music includes the development of rhythmic and aural skills through study of notation, an overview of Western Art Music from the Medieval to the present, awareness of non-Western musical forms and introduction to musical genres, development of instruments, basic notation and conducting. The elective units must be studied sequentially for 2 semesters. Elective units in Allied Dance Studies 1 and 2 can be sequential to allow for specialisation or non-sequential to facilitate breadth in content.

Assessment: Participation and contribution to course work (55%); performance in an assessment class/es in each elective unit (30%); music examination (15%). Hurdle requirement - 80% attendance.

756-136 Kinetic Studies 1A

Credit points: 6.25

Contact: 3 hours per week *(Semester 1).*

Description: This subject is designed to provide a foundation in safe dance practice, based on anatomical knowledge and ideo-kinetic principles. The subject includes the study of Anatomy and Kinesiology. The anatomy component includes the study of the musculo-skeletal system, muscle and synovial joint form and function, postural alignment and efficient technique to prevent dance injuries. Kinesiology includes the study and practice of ideokinetic processes to foster a balanced alignment of the skeletal system and re-education of neuromuscular habits in movement.

Assessment: Participation and contribution to course work including completion of set tasks (40%); written assignment (20%); practical assessments and written examinations (40%). Hurdle requirement - 80% attendance.

756-137 Kinetic Studies 1B

Credit points: 6.25

Prerequisites: Kinetic Studies 1A

Contact: 3 hours per week *(Semester 2).*

Description: This subject is designed to provide a foundation in safe dance practice, based on sound anatomical knowledge and a practical understanding of different kinetic practices. The subject includes the study of Anatomy, Pilates and other kinetic practices. The anatomy component includes the further study of the musculo-skeletal system, muscle and synovial joint form and function, postural alignment and efficient technique to prevent dance injuries. Kinetic practices provide a basis for core stabilization and balanced alignment to facilitate efficiency in movement.

Assessment: Participation and contribution to course work including completion of set tasks (50%); written examinations (25%); set tasks (25%). Hurdle requirement - 80% attendance.

756-230 Dance Technique 2A

Credit points: 18.75

Prerequisites: 87.5 credit points from Year 1 including Dance Technique 1A & 1B

Contact: 13.5 hours per week *(Semester 1).*

Description: Four classes a week in both Ballet and Contemporary Dance, and a ninth elective class in either Ballet or Contemporary Dance. Classes in ballet will facilitate mastery of exercises at the barre, in the centre, steps of turning and allegro. In Contemporary Dance classes students consolidate their understanding of the principles of contemporary dance and refine their movement skills as sequences develop in rhythmic and coordinative complexity. Classes in both areas will concentrate on efficient alignment, cardiovascular endurance, coordination, expression and musicality.

Assessment: Assessment in practical class work is comprehensive and includes assessment for progress, random assessment, self assessment and formal assessment class.

756-231 Dance Technique 2B

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: Dance Technique 2A

Contact: 12 hours per week *(Semester 2).*

Description: The training paradigm in contemporary and classical dance techniques is continued with 4 classes a week in each technique. Training in each of the techniques will deepen the knowledge of the body and its movement possibilities. Students will study the advanced steps of Ballet with an emphasis on demi-pointe work and steps of grand elevation. In Contemporary Dance classes, presentation of more demanding movement sequences assists students to develop greater technical proficiency and a more extensive movement range.

Assessment: Assessment in practical class work is comprehensive and includes assessment for progress, random assessment, self assessment and formal assessment class.

756-232 Choreography 2A

Credit points: 6.25

Prerequisites: 87.5 credit points from Year 1 including Choreography 1A and 1B

Contact: 4 hours per week *(Semester 1).*

Description: Choreography 2A comprises dance-making and dance analysis. Through practical, studio-based dance-making activities and seminars, which examine theoretical approaches to the analysis of dance works, this subject extends choreographic experience and investigates the relationship of artistic practice to critical and cultural theories. Two 1.5 hour studio-based classes each week explore the relationship between form and content in choreography and techniques to devise and manipulate movement. Improvisation and the movement derived from a range of thematic or inspirational sources will be used to develop choreographic material. Collaborative working processes will be emphasised. A one-hour seminar in dance analysis each week will examine the purposes and functions of dance as human behaviour and review Contemporary Dance and Modernism in the twentieth century.

Assessment: Participation and contribution to course work including satisfactory completion of set tasks (30%); practical and written assignments (including a log book), totalling no more than 2,000 words (70%). Hurdle requirement - 80% attendance.

756-233 Choreography 2B

Credit points: 6.25

Prerequisites: Choreography 2A

Contact: 4 hours per week *(Semester 2).*

Description: Choreography 2B examines artistic dance practice through an integrated approach to practical, studio-based dance-making activities, seminars and research. Two 1.5 hour studio-based classes each week focus on advanced analysis of the relationship between form and content in choreographic structures and the capacity to manipulate movement, spatial environment and music/soundscape. The relationship of dance composition to musical scores and soundscapes will be analysed. Skills in direction of a group will be developed. A one-hour seminar in Dance Analysis each week will examine post-modernism and other trends in dance practice into the twenty first century. There will be reference to dance on film, video and in live performance as well as readings from source material, philosophical and aesthetic writings and dance critiques.

Assessment: Participation and contribution to course work including satisfactory completion of set tasks (30%); Practical and written assignments (including a log book), totalling no more than 2,000 words (70%). Hurdle requirement - 80% attendance.

756-213 Performance 2A

Credit points: 6.25

Prerequisites: 87.5 credit points from Year 1 including Performance 1

Contact: 5 hours per week *(Semester 1).*

Description: During the three year course students will work with leading and emerging choreographers on the development and performance of new dance works. Students may also study and perform a range of dance repertoire. This will provide a variety of performance experiences. Performance 2A will culminate in the performance of a dance work as part of the School of Dance mid-year performance season, involving 2nd and 3rd Year students. Lectures in Production Studies (approximately 6 hours per semester) will focus on technical aspects of the theatre, including use of video equipment and lighting effects.

Assessment: Performance assessment (50%); participation and contribution to rehearsal process and production studies (30%); written essay of 1,000 words (20%).

756-234 Performance 2B

Credit points: 6.25

Corequisites: Dance Technique 2B

Contact: 5 hours per week *(Semester 2).*

Description: During the three year course students will work with leading and emerging choreographers on the development and performance of new dance works. Students may also study and perform a range of dance repertoire to provide a variety of performance experiences. Performance 2B will culminate in the performance of a dance work as part of the School of Dance November performance season, involving 1st and 2nd Year students. Lectures in Production Studies (approximately 6 hours per semester) will focus on technical aspects of the theatre and include technical assistance in a college performance by postgraduate students, Student Works, ArtEd performance or similar.

Assessment: Performance assessment (50%); participation and contribution to rehearsal process and production studies (30%); evaluation report of 1,000 words (20%).

756-220 Career Planning and Management

Credit points: 6.25

Prerequisites: Performance Management

Contact: 3 hours per week *(Semester 2).*

Description: This subject will be delivered through a series of workshops, seminars and lectures. In preparation for entry into the dance industry the emphasis will be on potential career pathways in dance and dance-allied professions. The course will identify strategies for sustaining personal practice as a dance artist and managing career transitions. The course will also cover grant application writing and project management (focusing especially on responsible budgeting), CV preparation and contractual, legal and ethical issues as they relate to the dance artist.

Assessment: Participation and contribution to course wok, including satisfactory completion of set tasks (60%); written assignments totalling no more than 2,000 words (40%). Hurdle requirement - 80% attendance.

756-235 Allied Dance Studies 2A

Credit points: 6.25

Prerequisites: 87.5 credit points from Year 1 including Allied Dance Studies 1A and 1B

Contact: 3 hours per week *(Semester 1).*

Description: This subject comprises contemporary duo, pas de deux, repertoire (ballet or contemporary), pointe and improvisation. Students are required to elect 3 units of study in each year to complete 6 units in Allied Dance Studies 1 & 2. The elective units must be studied sequentially for 2 semesters. The 6 units elected in Allied Dance Studies 1 and 2 can be sequential to allow for specialisation or non-sequential to facilitate breadth in content.

Assessment: Participation and contribution to course work (20%x3); performance in an assessment class/es in each unit (10%x3); written assignment totalling no more than 1,500 words (10%). Hurdle requirement - 80% attendance.

756-236 Allied Dance Studies 2B

Credit points: 6.25

Prerequisites: 87.5 credit points from Year 1 including Allied Dance Studies 1A and 1B

Contact: 3 hours per week *(Semester 2).*

Description: This subject comprises contemporary duo, pas de deux, repertoire (ballet or contemporary), pointe and improvisation. Students are required to elect 3 units of study in each year to complete 6 units in Allied Extension Studies 1 & 2. The units can be sequential to allow for specialisation or non-sequential to facilitate breadth in content.

Assessment: Participation and contribution to course work (20%x3); performance in an assessment class/es in each unit (10%x3); written assignment totalling no more than 1,500 words (10%). Hurdle requirement - 80% attendance.

756-237 Kinetic Studies 2A

Credit points: 6.25

Prerequisites: 87.5 credit points from Year 1 including Kinetic Studies 1A and 1B

Contact: 4 hours per week *(Semester 1).*

Description: The subject will involve further study and practice of ideokinetic processes to foster a balanced alignment of the skeletal system and re-education of neuromuscular habits in movement. Students will also investigate the mechanical principles underlying the design of kinetic imagery and the relationships of both bone and muscle groups in relation to postural alignment and efficient physical coordination. Students will experience moving from a source of imagery, emanating from Skinner Releasing Technique, ideokinesis and/or anatomical based releasing techniques. Other kinetic practices, such as Feldenkrais will also be studied. Students will study the development and use of imagery in movement and postural integration, components of good alignment, core stabilisation as well as structure, function and integration of the upper body structures.

Assessment: Participation and contribution to course work (10%); practical examination (30%); written requirements totalling no more than 2,000 words (60%). Hurdle requirement - 80% attendance.

756-238 Kinetic Studies 2B

Credit points: 6.25

Prerequisites: Kinetic Studies 2A

Contact: 4 hours per week *(Semester 2).*

Description: The subject will involve further study and practice of ideokinetic processes to foster a balanced alignment of the skeletal system and re-education of neuromuscular habits in movement. Students will also investigate the mechanical principles underlying the design of kinetic imagery and the relationships of both bone and muscle groups in relation to postural alignment and efficient physical coordination. Students will experience moving from a source of imagery, emanating from Skinner Releasing Technique, ideokinesis and/or anatomical based releasing techniques. Other kinetic practices, such as Feldenkrais will also be studied. The course in second semester will cover the stabilisation and integration of lower body structures. This will include the examination of safe turnout. Students will also participate in a series of Skinner Releasing technique classes.

Assessment: Participation and contribution to course work (10%); practical examination (30%); written requirements totalling no more than 2,000 words (60%). Hurdle requirement - 80% attendance.

756-313 Performance 3A

Credit points: 12.5

Corequisites: Dance Technique 3A

Contact: 10 hours per week *(Semester 1).*

Description: Development of performance skills and artistry is central to a dancer's development. During the three year course students will work with leading and emerging choreographers on the development and performance of new dance works. Students may also study and perform a range of dance repertoire. This will provide a variety of performance experiences that will extend and enhance the student's skill base and artistic development. Performance 3A will culminate in the performance of a dance work as part of the School of Dance mid-year performance season, involving 2nd and 3rd Year students.

Assessment: Performance assessment based on the quality of performance (60%); participation and contribution to rehearsal process (40%).

756-332 Performance 3B

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: Performance 2A

Corequisites: Dance Technique 3B

Contact: 10 hours per week *(Semester 2).*

Description: Development of performance skills and artistry is central to a dancer's development. Across the three years students will work with leading and emerging choreographers on the development and performance of new dance works. Students may also study and perform a range of dance repertoire. This will provide a variety of performance experiences that will extend and enhance the student's skill base and artistic development. In Performance 3B students will work as an ensemble on the development and performance of a graduation season.

Assessment: Performance assessment based on the quality of performance (60%); participation and contribution to rehearsal process (40%).

756-317 Special Study

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: Choreography 2A and 2B

Contact: Tutorial time arranged as required *(Semester 1).*

Description: The student will select an appropriate dance work (solo or duet) to research and perform in consultation with his/her tutor. The selected work must not be one which forms part of the course of study during the student's period of enrolment. Students are required to research the historical background of the choreographer, details of music and design, history of the performance, the aesthetic values of the work, and its place in the annals of dance. Each student should arrange supervision of his/her study with an appropriate member of staff as well as book studios for rehearsals.

Assessment: End of semester 1 - Research essay of 3,500 words (40%); performance of the solo/duet before a panel (40%); viva voce before a panel (20%).

756-330 Dance Technique 3A

Credit points: 18.75

Prerequisites: At least 87.5 credit points from Year 2 including Dance Technique 2A and 2B

Contact: 15 hours per week *(Semester 1).*

Description: Dance Technique 3A and 3B represent the culmination of the dance artist's training at the VCA. The training paradigm in contemporary and classical dance techniques is continued with 5 classes a week in both Ballet and Contemporary Dance and regular exposure to practising artists from the field.

Assessment: Assessment in practical class work is comprehensive and includes assessment for progress, random assessment, self assessment and formal assessment class.

756-331 Dance Technique 3B

Credit points: 18.75

Prerequisites: Dance Technique 3A

Contact: 15 hours per week *(Semester 2).*

Description: Dance Technique 3A and 3B represent the culmination of the dance artist's training at the VCA. The training paradigm in contemporary and classical dance techniques is continued with 5 classes a week in both Ballet and Contemporary Dance and regular exposure to guest teachers and practising artists from the field.

Assessment: Assessment in practical class work is comprehensive and includes assessment for progress, random assessment, self assessment and formal assessment class.

756-320 Choreography 3A

Credit points: 6.25

Prerequisites: Choreography 2A and 2B

Contact: 3 hours per week *(Semester 1).*

Description: Students will further explore individual movement qualities, the manipulation of movement phrases, choreographic processes and structures.

Assessment: Participation and contribution to course work including satisfactory presentation of set choreographic tasks (70%); Written assignments and logbooks totalling no more than 2,000 words (30%). Hurdle requirement - 80% attendance

756-321 Choreography 3B

Credit points: 6.25

Prerequisites: Choreography 3A

Contact: 5 hours per week *(Semester 2).*

Description: Students design their own projects in discussion with the supervisor. Students are encouraged to extend their knowledge and choreographic practice in a specific interest area, subject to the availability of resources, staff and student numbers. Students further explore individual movement qualities and create a number of different studies involving such aspects as sound design for dance, creation of dance for video and site specific dance. Students develop skills in production management, stage management, lighting, set and costume design and projection and apply these to the presentation of their choreographic studies.

Assessment: Participation and contribution to course work including satisfactory completion of set tasks (30%); presentation of choreographic project (70%). Hurdle requirement - 80% attendance.

756-322 Choreography 3C

Credit points: 6.25

Prerequisites: Choreography 3A

Contact: 5 hours per week *(Semester 2).*

Description: Students will collaborate in development prcesses and performances of new dance works with Choreography 3B choreographers and/or Postgraduate choreographers, as approved by the supervisor. Students will develop skills in production management, stage management, lighting, set and costume design and projection and apply these to the collaborative and performance processes.

Assessment: Participation and contribution to course work including satisfactory completion of set tasks (30%); Performance of at least two works totalling a minimum of 15 minutes (70%). Hurdle requirement - 80% attendance.

756-401 Honours Fieldwork Project

Credit points: 50

Contact: Full time fieldwork for one semester within some aspect of the dance industry, negotiated via contract, to include regular consultation with project supervisor *(Semester 1).*

Description: Preparatory seminar program to introduce students to current workplace practices in the dance industry and subsequent field experience with a dance organisation.

Assessment: The fieldwork placement as negotiated (70%); daily journal of work practice including a weekly summary of 400 words (30%).

756-402 Research Project

Credit points: 25

Contact: Regular individual consultation with assigned tutor *(Semester 2).*

Description: Original research on an approved research project may be in fields such as dance history, dance in a particular cultural context, dance kinesiology or therapy, aesthetics or philosophy of dance. A minimum of 80% of the student's research project must involve theoretical study culminating in a written essay of 5,000 words. This may be supported, in the oral presentation, by documentation in other media such as video or notation or by a performance of relevant movement material.

Assessment: Oral presentation of research findings in chosen topic in an open forum (20%); a final essay of 5,000 words (80%).

756-403 Group Devised-Demonstration Program

Credit points: 25

Contact: 2 hours per week *(Semester 2).*

Description: Students will undertake the development of a public demonstration program including the exploration and selection of appropriate materials and methods; rehearsal of material chosen; and the management of resources necessary to achieve a cohesive public demonstration. These will include:

. a prepared address;

. three or four short group works, making up approximately 15 minutes of dances devised and performed by the students in the group;

. a studio workshop program devised to introduce some of the practical aspects of dance making to non-trained people.

Assessment: Assessment by supervisor(s) of the student's contributions to the process of devising performance works (40%); assessment by supervisor(s) of the student in performance situation (40%); a paper of 1,000 words summarising the process and evaluating the outcomes of the subject (20%).