

# DANCE AT CAL POLY

## Cal Poly San Luis Obispo Dance Program Information

### Webpages

#### Theatre and Dance Department:

[theatredance.calpoly.edu](http://theatredance.calpoly.edu)

#### Dance Minor Requirements:

[theatredance.calpoly.edu/  
students/dance-minor/  
curriculum](http://theatredance.calpoly.edu/students/dance-minor/curriculum)

### Facebook

[www.facebook.com/  
CPDanceProgram/](http://www.facebook.com/CPDanceProgram/)

[www.facebook.com/  
CPOrchesisDance/](http://www.facebook.com/CPOrchesisDance/)

### Instagram

@cpslo\_danceprogram

@orchesisdancecp



photo: Kiel Carreau

## Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the Dance Program at Cal Poly. The Theatre and Dance Department offers a minor in Dance, and students do not have to audition to apply for the dance minor. The minor can be added to the degree at anytime during the college career by signing up with a faculty advisor. Students do not have to be Dance Minors to enroll in classes.

Modern, Ballet and Jazz technique are emphasized in the minor, we also offer Choreography, Teaching Methods, Dance Appreciation, as well as Advanced Contemporary Jazz, Folklorico and other techniques. We have an Advanced Ballet Repertory class and a Contemporary Repertory class in the Fall which culminates in a performance piece for our winter concert – Ballet Repertory is a pointe class. We do two main stage productions a year, and there are many other performance opportunities in the community.

We have a dynamic, inclusive and enthusiastic dance program that focuses on the creative and artistic development of the whole individual. Dance Minors, the Orchesis Dance Company, and Dance Program class members are diverse students with majors like Engineering,



## The Dance Minor

Please check the Theatre and Dance webpage for the minor course requirements. Besides our studio classes, students are required to take a lecture class:

Dance Appreciation (DANC 221) counts towards General Education requirements (in Area C). If a student is accepted into the Orchesis Dance company (by audition only), all dance minor elective requirements are automatically fulfilled by the two production courses the dancer must take. A student does not, however, have to be a member of the company to fulfill the minor, as there are other courses available to count towards the elective unit requirements.

If you have any further questions, please email Diana Stanton at [dstanton@calpoly.edu](mailto:dstanton@calpoly.edu)

*Please note, the Dance Program in Theatre and Dance is an academic department, the "Dance Team" is an extracurricular organization that focuses on cheerleading and half-time activities at sports events. Orchesis is a Concert/Artistic dance organization.*

Architecture, Liberal Arts, Kinesiology, Education, Business and Psychology etc. They find interesting connections between dance and their regular life studies and academe. Many levels of dance students study here, and many are just beginning their journey. Our strengths lie in offering creative and artistic study and introducing other aspects of the dance world to dancers who are studio trained. We value this aspect of our program. Some of our graduates have gone on in dance and pursue MFAs in dance with the intent to teach in universities, start their own local dance companies, or work in commercial fields.

## Orchesis Dance Company

Founded in 1969 by Dr. Moon Ja Minn Suhr, the Orchesis Dance Company produces one dance concert per year during Winter Quarter. Auditions for Cal Poly students, faculty, and staff occur during the first week of Fall Quarter. Those chosen, approximately 25-30 intermediate to advanced-level dancers, engage in the creative process with faculty, guest, and student choreographers through Fall Quarter in the Dance Program course, DANC345. It is through this class that dancers also get to take master classes in modern, jazz, ballet, yoga, West African, plus additional dance techniques and somatic practices. The mission of Orchesis is to provide an experience that parallels the artistic and technical rigor of that of a dance major in a condensed period of time.

You can find out more about the Orchesis Dance Company on Facebook, Instagram or our web page, at [theatredance.calpoly.edu/orchesis](http://theatredance.calpoly.edu/orchesis)

Auditions for the company are Tuesday and Thursday evenings the very first week of classes. A jazz, modern and ballet combination are given at the audition. It is not necessary to be exceptional in each form, but the dancer must be able to perform at an intermediate to advanced level in at least one form. If dancers make the company, they will enroll in Dance 345 Fall quarter (T/Th 6pm - 10), and Dance 346 Winter quarter. Rehearsals for individual dances are held on weekends or on Monday, or Wednesday weeknights, or on Fridays. Dancers are placed in pieces depending on their school and work schedules. We provide further information at the workshops, prior to learning the combinations. Workshops and Audition are all conducted at the Moon Ja Minn Suhr Studio (formerly Crandall Dance Studio across from Mustang stadium) building 60 Room 6. Come ready to dance!