

# PERFORMANCE STUDIES - BA

The BA in Performance Studies offers an interdisciplinary approach to the study of performance. The BA provides a foundation in critical reflection, analysis, and creative practice from which students can launch a variety of careers. In the core Performance Studies courses, BA Students are immersed in performance theory, learn the craft of creating live performance, and cultivate essential research and writing skills to be successful citizens, scholars, and artists in the 21st century.

## Four Pillars of the BA in Performance Studies

- Performance as Research
- Intercultural Performance Practices
- Performance and Technology
- Performing Communities

## Performance as Research

In Performance Studies, we embrace the fact that live, embodied performance provides a unique way to know and understand the world. We value and champion such repertoires of knowledge alongside the many other ways of knowing represented in institutions of higher education. Students in our BA program use performance as a method for conducting research. In every Performance Studies class, students stage plays and concerts, conduct ethnographic research, make films and podcasts, or present to varied audiences. This practice embraces the fact that a musician, an actor, a dancer, or performer of any stripe knows the world differently by virtue of their performance practice. BA students are trained to translate that knowledge into a format which can be shared widely and effectively.

## Intercultural Performance Practices

Faculty privilege performance as a location of intercultural encounter. Artists are brought in from around the world to campus to work with students, and equip them with the tools they need to be responsible global citizens.

## Performance and Technology

Faculty emphasize the intersection of performance and technology, and equip students both to take advantage of technological advances in their creative and professional lives, and to recognize the risks and rewards technology can provide to our communities. Students can take advantage of our extensive collection of technological equipment while gaining hands-on experience in the recording studio, Black Box Theatre, Electroacoustic Sound Lab, Scene Shop, and Costume Studio.

## Performing Communities

Faculty value the use of performance to create and circulate knowledge for and within communities. Students in the BA program can take classes that study arts administration and work with non-profit organizations, that investigate performance in public institutions as varied as the City Council and the United Nations, and that focus on performance practices in museums, journalism, and so on. Faculty foster the development of informed and responsible citizens who use performance to serve their communities and the wider world.

## Program Requirements

### First Year

Fall		Semester Credit Hours
PERF 101	Introduction to Performance Studies	3
American history ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history</a> )		3
Creative arts ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts</a> )		3
Foreign language <sup>1</sup>		4
General elective <sup>2</sup>		3
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>16</b>

Spring		
ENGL 104	Composition and Rhetoric	3
Foreign language <sup>1</sup>		4
Mathematics ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics</a> )		3
Social and behavioral sciences ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences</a> )		3
Performance studies elective <sup>3</sup>		3
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>16</b>

### Second Year

Fall		
PERF 301	Performance in World Cultures	3
Select one of the following:		3
COMM 203	Public Speaking	
COMM 205	Communication for Technical Professions	
COMM 243	Argumentation and Debate	
ENGL 103	Introduction to Rhetoric and Composition	
ENGL 203	Writing about Literature	
ENGL 210	Technical and Professional Writing	
Foreign language <sup>1</sup>		3
Government/Political science ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science</a> )		3
General elective <sup>2</sup>		3
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>

Spring		
Foreign language <sup>1</sup>		3
Government/Political science ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science</a> )		3
Life and physical sciences ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences</a> )		3
Performance studies elective <sup>3</sup>		3
General elective <sup>2</sup>		3
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>

**Third Year****Fall**

American history ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history</a> )	3
Life and physical sciences ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences</a> )	3
Mathematics ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics</a> )	3
Literature directed elective ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/performance-visualization-fine-arts/">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/performance-visualization-fine-arts/</a> )	3
Performance studies seminar <sup>4</sup>	3
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>	<b>15</b>

**Spring**

PERF 303 Creating Performance	3
Language, philosophy and culture ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture</a> )	3
Life and physical sciences ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences</a> )	3
Performance studies seminar <sup>4</sup>	3
General elective <sup>2</sup>	3
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>	<b>15</b>

**Fourth Year****Fall**

Language, philosophy and culture or creative arts ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture</a> )	3
Social and behavioral sciences ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences</a> )	3
Performance studies elective <sup>3</sup>	3
Performance studies seminar <sup>4</sup>	3
General elective <sup>2</sup>	3
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>	<b>15</b>

**Spring**

PERF 481 Capstone Seminar: Performance as Research	3
Literature directed elective ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/performance-visualization-fine-arts/">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/performance-visualization-fine-arts/</a> )	3
Performance studies elective <sup>3</sup>	3
General elective <sup>2</sup>	3
General elective <sup>2</sup>	1
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours</b>	<b>120</b>

course-descriptions/perf/) or FILM 300-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/film/>) may be applied.

<sup>3</sup> Select from PERF 100-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/perf/>); FILM 100-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/film/>); ANTH 324/PERF 324; AFST 327/PERF 327; AFST 398/FILM 398; CHIN 465/FILM 465; CLAS 415/FILM 415; COMM 345; COMM 435/FILM 445; ENGL 251/FILM 251; ENGL 324/FILM 324; ENGL 351/FILM 351; ENGL 356/FILM 356; ENGL 358/FILM 358; ENGL 385; EURO 405/FILM 405; FREN 425/FILM 425; GERM 435/FILM 435; INTS 215/FILM 215; ITAL 455/FILM 455; PHIL 376/FILM 376; WGST 343/FILM 343.

<sup>4</sup> Select from PERF 450-480 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/perf/>).

Graduation requirements include 3 hours of International and Cultural Diversity (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/international-cultural-diversity-requirements/>) courses and 3 hours of Cultural Discourse (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/cultural-discourse-requirements/>) courses. A course satisfying a Core category, a college/department requirement, or a free elective can be used to satisfy this requirement. The required 6 hours may be met by courses satisfying other areas of a degree program. See your academic advisor for further information.

**General Degree Requirements:**

Minimum 2.0 GPA overall and a minimum 2.0 GPA in major coursework.

A grade of C or higher is required in all coursework within the major.

18 hours of major coursework completed at Texas A&M.

Complete 36 hours of upper division (300-400 level) hours in residence, 12 hours of which must be completed in major coursework.

Complete two PERF courses formally designated as writing or communication intensive. At least one course must be completed with the writing intensive designation.

<sup>1</sup> Complete 14 hours of a foreign language (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/performance-visualization-fine-arts/>) through the intermediate level. If you choose to enroll in a language you have studied previously without receiving college credit, you must first take a placement test. See academic advisor.

<sup>2</sup> Select from any 100-499 course not used elsewhere, up to 12 hours of courses from PERF 300-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/>)