PERFORMANCE STUDIES - BA

The BA in Performance Studies offers an interdisciplinary, liberal arts 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
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 perform: stage plays and concerts, conduct ethnographic research, make films and podcasts, or present a scholarship 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 study the latest developments in digital music-making, virtual reality filmmaking, acoustic surveillance, and so on. The performance and technology pillar prepares students for life in the 21st century.

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester Credit Hours</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>PERF 101 Introduction to Performance Studies 3</td>
<td>ENGL 104 Composition and Rhetoric 3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>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</td>
<td>Foreign language 1 4</td>
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<td>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</td>
<td>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</td>
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<td>General elective 2 3</td>
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<td>Semester Credit Hours 16</td>
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Second Year

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<th>Semester Credit Hours</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>PERF 301 Performance in World Cultures 3</td>
<td>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</td>
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<td>Select one of the following: 3</td>
<td>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</td>
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<td>COMM 203 Public Speaking</td>
<td>Performance studies elective 3</td>
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<td>COMM 205 Communication for Technical Professions</td>
<td>General elective 2 3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>COMM 243 Argumentation and Debate</td>
<td>General elective 2 3</td>
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<td>ENGL 103 Introduction to Rhetoric and Composition</td>
<td>Semester Credit Hours 15</td>
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<td>ENGL 203 Writing about Literature</td>
<td>Semester Credit Hours 15</td>
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<td>ENGL 210 Technical and Professional Writing</td>
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General Elective:
- 2 credit hours

Semester Credit Hours:
- First Year: 16
- Second Year: 15
Third Year

Fall
American history (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history) 
Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences) 
Mathematics (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics) 
Literature directed elective (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/performance-visualization-fine-arts/) 
Performance studies seminar 
Performance studies elective 
PERF 303 Creating Performance 
Semester Credit Hours 15

Spring
PERF 303 Creating Performance 
Language, philosophy and culture (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture) 
Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences) 
Performance studies seminar 
General elective 
Semester Credit Hours 15

Fourth Year

Fall
Language, philosophy and culture or creative arts (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture) 
Social and behavioral sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences) 
Performance studies elective 
Performance studies seminar 
General elective 
Semester Credit Hours 15

Spring
PERF 481 Capstone Seminar: Performance as Research 
Literature directed elective (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/performance-visualization-fine-arts/) 
Performance studies elective 
General elective 
General elective 
Semester Credit Hours 15

Total Semester Credit Hours 120

1 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.

2 Select from any 100-499 course not used elsewhere, up to 12 hours of courses from PERF 300-499 (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/perf/) or FILM 300-499 (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/film/) may be applied.


4 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.