

# Dance

## Undergraduate Student Handbook

### 2021-2022



This handbook is designed to help you navigate the School of Creative and Performing Arts and your degree. Please take the time to read the practical advice contained in these pages. Enjoy your time at the University of Calgary. We look forward to working with all of you.



**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
School of Creative and Performing Arts

[scpa.ucalgary.ca](http://scpa.ucalgary.ca)

# Welcome to the School of Creative and Performing Arts

The faculty and staff of the **School of Creative and Performing Arts** (SCPA) would like to welcome you to another wonderful year at the University of Calgary! As you immerse yourself in scholarly and artistic pursuits, we encourage you to take some time to explore the **SCPA website** and review the key information for your program. We also encourage you to attend as many concerts, plays, and dance presentations as you can throughout the year in order to fully explore your own artistic development through the inter-arts enrichment that the SCPA offers.

[scpa.ucalgary.ca](https://scpa.ucalgary.ca)

The SCPA website is your primary link to program information, to upcoming events, to important forms, to contact information, and to connect you with resources.

## The School of Creative and Performing Arts during COVID-19

We are excited to see everyone in-person again this fall! The university continues to work very closely with Alberta Health Services to ensure our return to campus strategy aligns with the latest health guidelines. As it has been since the start of the pandemic, your safety is our top priority. For more information about return to campus, check out the [Fall 2021 FAQ](#) web page.

We hope that together, we can create a strong community of caring by making sure that we all stay safe and healthy, and by looking out for one another.

- Stay updated! Monitor your UCalgary email frequently and regularly check the **UCalgary's COVID-19 response website** and the **SCPA COVID-19 Guidelines** on the SCPA website.
- Stay home if you are sick and make sure to contact your instructor.

With care and attention, let's make this year safe and successful.

# SCPA administrative office

The SCPA administrative office is located in Craigie Hall D100.

Please note that most of your student advising inquiries can and should be answered by the Arts Students' Centre

## Key administrative contacts

**Please note:** Due to COVID-19, many faculty and administrative staff members are working remotely. The best way to get in contact with someone is through email.

Marie France Forcier  
Division Lead, Dance  
[mariefrance.forcier@ucalgary.ca](mailto:mariefrance.forcier@ucalgary.ca)

Division of Dance  
[scpa@ucalgary.ca](mailto:scpa@ucalgary.ca)

Bruce Barton, PhD  
Director, SCPA  
[bruce.barton@ucalgary.ca](mailto:bruce.barton@ucalgary.ca)

Room Bookings  
[scpa@ucalgary.ca](mailto:scpa@ucalgary.ca)

## Announcements and Events

Important information is regularly posted on the Online Bulletin Board, located on the [SCPA website](#). Here you will find details about upcoming events, auditions, important forms, deadlines and announcements.

## Student Centre Contact Information

The University of Calgary, which includes professors, instructors and staff, communicates with students primarily through electronic communications. This includes email and Student Centre notifications. University of Calgary students are provided with a UCalgary email address. Official notifications and communications from the University of Calgary will only be sent to your UCalgary email address. You **must** register for your UCalgary email account and ensure that the contact information in your Student Centre is current. Students are responsible for the accuracy and validity of their contact information. **Your [ucalgary.ca](#) account is your primary account, so check it often.**

# Academic advising

## Arts Students' Centre (ASC)

The Arts Students' Centre (ASC) is your "one stop shop" for all Arts program advising and questions. You can speak with their knowledgeable advisors about course planning, course selection, registration, program progression, degree requirements and more.

To accommodate the wide variety of student schedules there are several ways you can reach the ASC team:

Remember to include your student ID and use your **@ucalgary.ca** email.

### General questions?

**[ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)**

The virtual reception desk is available Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday.

**[Visit website](#)**

### Program advising and registration questions?

**[artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca)**

### Telephone

**403.220.3580**

For assistance with registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees, deferred exams, awards, transcripts and navigating issues with your Student Centre, contact **Enrolment Services**.

**[esdocs@ucalgary.ca](mailto:esdocs@ucalgary.ca)**

**[Visit website](#)**

For assistance with learning support, success seminars, writing support, peer support and broad academic planning advice, connect with the **Student Success Centre (SSC)**.

Taylor Family Digital Library (TFDL), 3rd Floor

**[success@ucalgary.ca](mailto:success@ucalgary.ca)**

**[Visit website](#)**

For information on all student wellness services on campus: counselling, health care, health promotion and peer support, please connect the **Wellness Centre**.

**[Visit website](#)**

# Academic Requirements and Calendar

Academic Requirements (AR) is a tool for academic program planning, accessed through your Student Centre quick links. However, SCPA programs are different than most programs in the Faculty of Arts and sometimes AR will not give you complete information. We suggest that you use both AR and the Arts Students' Centre advisors to make sure you are receiving the most accurate and complete information about your degree progression.

Students are also encouraged to review the program information that is available in the **University Calendar** (scroll down for program specific requirements).

## Registration Tips

Find useful information regarding common registration concerns below. If you have questions about any of these processes, **connect** with the **Arts Students' Centre** for advice, answers, and referrals.

**Tip: For full-year courses, remember to register in part A (fall term) and part B (winter term).**

**Audit forms:** These forms are available **online**. Students are responsible for collecting all instructor signatures and submitting the form to the Arts Students' Centre for the Faculty permission.

**Requesting pre-requisite waivers, overloads, or course substitution:** Please contact **Arts Students' Centre** directly to explain your situation. Remember to include your UCID.

**Course-specific questions:** Please contact the instructor directly. Current and archived course outlines are available **online**.

**Course auditions:** Please be aware that there are course auditions for some classes, including advanced-acting classes, dance technique classes, and music ensembles. Make sure to check the **online bulletin board** for announcements.

**Can't find a course in your class search?** When you search for classes, make sure that you **UNCHECK** the box that says, 'show open classes only' (on the first screen where you select the term, subject) so that you can see all the courses that are being offered during a term regardless of whether they are at full capacity or not.

## Transfer Students and Transfer Credit

Courses completed at other post-secondary institutions may be accepted for credit towards a degree program at the University of Calgary; students must normally complete a minimum of two full years of study at the University of Calgary in order to qualify for a degree. Copies of course outlines are required in order to obtain transfer credit (particularly if the post-secondary institution is outside of Alberta); these course outlines must include a detailed list of topics covered, textbooks used, grading practices, number of weeks of attendance, and number of lecture/tutorial/lab hours. Connect with the [Arts Students' Centre](#) for more info.

## Minor

Students declare a Minor by requesting a [Change of Program](#) through the Student Centre. Students may declare up to two Minors. The completion of a Minor is recorded on the transcript. To earn a Minor, students must complete at least 30 units and no more than 36 units from the minor Field of Study, including the requirements specified for the particular Minor under [program details](#). Apply by Feb. 1 for fall admission.

## Graduating

Applications for graduating are available online. Before you apply to graduate, schedule an appointment with an advisor in the Arts Students' Centre to complete an official grad check. Visit the [registrar website](#) for more details and a graduation checklist.

## Directed studies

Senior-level students may undertake a directed studies course (DNCE 571) to delve more deeply into a topic not covered by other courses, with the approval of the Division Lead. You must have a faculty member who will supervise you. You will also be required to complete a [directed study form](#), including a course outline. Once you and the instructor have signed and submitted the application, the Division Lead reviews the proposal and makes the decision whether to approve the directed studies course. Completed forms must be submitted to [scpa@ucalgary.ca](mailto:scpa@ucalgary.ca).

## Performance practicum

Practicum courses (DNCE 295, 395, 397, 495) provide students with course credit for major artistic projects and teaching - performing in Mainstage, performing in student works for Dance@Noon and Dance@Night. For course prerequisites, see the [University Calendar](#). Completed [forms](#) must be submitted to [scpa@ucalgary.ca](mailto:scpa@ucalgary.ca)

# Dance Injury Prevention at UCalgary

Together with your onsite healthcare provider, the Sport Medicine Centre (SMC), the Dance Science research team have put together a pre-season dancer screening program for first year dance majors that is designed to support your health and reduce your chances of getting injured as you progress through your dance training at UCalgary.

## Background

- In order to master their artform, dancers participate in rigorous training that incorporates both physical and artistic requirements.
- Research suggests that this training increases a dancer's susceptibility to musculoskeletal injuries and renders dance a high-risk activity.
- For example, 78% of UCalgary dancers reported experiencing at least one injury that impacted their dancing during the 2015-2016 academic year.
- The key to developing strategies that reduce these injuries, and inform onsite medical professionals of dancers' needs, involves identifying what puts dancers at risk.

## Purpose

The goal of our pre-season dancer screening program is to identify potential risk factors for injury among first year dance majors before they may happen.

## Participation

Your participation includes spending approximately 1 hour with us at the beginning of the academic year to assess your injury history, coping skills, joint range of motion, muscle strength, and balance ability (all evidence-informed measures often associated with increased injury risk). You will receive feedback from the physiotherapists and dance science research team that will enable you to set goals for effective dance training, minimizing possible risk of future injury.

Please note that there is a small fee to be paid ahead of time.

# Healthy Dance Practice Certificate

The Division of Dance is the only Canadian institutional Registered Provider of the Health Dance Practice certificates produced by Safe in Dance International (SiDI), an organization that provides international recognition of a dance teacher's understanding and practical application of healthy dance practice through a dance teaching certificate.

Over the course of your degree, you have the option to register for this certificate, whose curriculum is embedded alongside three university dance courses.

The Healthy Dance Practice Certificate is —

- designed for those teaching or leading dancers in any setting and in any style
- focused on educating dance teachers/leaders about best practices to optimize performance, minimize injury, and enhance dancing
- evidence for parents, students, and employers that a teacher has all the knowledge they need to support their dance students in the studio and in their ongoing dance development
- helping put teachers at the forefront of current healthy dance knowledge and practical application, giving them the tools and understanding to stay there

As a candidate of this teaching certificate, you will learn about essential principles that uphold healthy dance practice, including —

1. Health and safety in the dance environment
2. Injury prevention and management
3. Nutrition and hydration
4. Psychological aspects of dance practice
5. Anatomical and biomechanical principles of alignment
6. Individual anomalies and adaptations
7. Group specific needs and risk factors (age and ability/disability)
8. Warm-up and cool down
9. Integrated and supplementary physical conditioning
10. Safe progression, sequencing, and structure of dance activities

Completing the full certificate, involves answering a series of short questions, writing a few short essays on specific topics, providing and reflecting on a recording of yourself leading a dance session, demonstrating your understanding of the essential principles.

<http://www.safeindance.com/>

# Facilities

## University Theatre Services

University Theatre Services (UTS) is a support service unit within the SCPA whose primary function is to support the academic programs of the divisions within the School. UTS also provides a wide variety of production, publicity, box-office and management support services to all users of the University Theatre, the Reeve Theatre, and the Rozsa Centre, including the Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall, and the Boris Roubakine Recital Hall, for both on-campus and off-campus customers. UTS offices are located in Craigie Hall D Block.

## Taylor Family Digital Library (TFDL)

The University of Calgary **Libraries and Cultural Resources** supports the Dance programs with extensive collections and services, including research advice and accessing materials (audio/visual, books, periodicals, online databases). These collections and services are a valuable resource for students and faculty so please make good use of them. If you have specific questions, connect with the music librarian **Marc Stoeckle**.

## Integrated Arts Media Labs

The Integrated Arts Media Labs (IAML) are a dedicated digital arts education and production environment located on the 6th floor of the Art Building (Parkade), created specifically for students in Art, Dance, Drama, and Music. The IAML consists of the Main Lab (AB 659, 22 stations) and the Small Lab (AB 605, 10 stations). Each station is equipped with a Mac computer, MIDI keyboard, and a colour-calibrated display(s). It offers a full range of creative software, including video editing, 2D graphics and animation, 3D modeling and animation, CAD, music/audio sequencing, music notation, and interaction design and authoring. Equipment for short-term loan (e.g., audio recorder, DSLR) and printing services are also available for Art and SCPA students. Visit the **IAML website** for more information.

Art, Dance, Drama, and Music Majors can gain access to the Main Lab seven days a week from 7 a.m. until 11 p.m. by simply tapping their UNICARD on the proximity pad outside the door. (Note that the Art Building is locked at 10 p.m. daily.) If your card does not open the front door or if you are pursuing a minor in Art, Dance, Drama, or Music, contact the Head Technician during staff hours to obtain access.

**Please note:** Some restrictions on card access may be put in place in the 2021-22 academic year due to COVID-19, so you may not have access as shown. For more details, visit the **website**. Staff hours are Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. excluding lunch. (Staff may be working remotely at times but will be accessible via **email**.)

# Other useful resources

## Lockers

Locker rentals are handled by the Students' Union. Visit the [website](#) for more information or connect by [email](#).

## Finding your way around

Visit [ucalgary.ca/map](http://ucalgary.ca/map) for a campus map or to use the interactive room finder. Rooms on campus use the first two or three letters to designate the building and the number to designate the room. A room with a number in the 100s is on the main floor, in the 200s is on the second floor and a room such as 004 or 012 is in the basement. For example: the main office for the SCPA is CHD 100. It's located on the main floor of Craigie Hall, Block D.

## Studios

Rehearsal studios for Dance, Drama, and Music are located in Craigie Hall in blocks D, E and F and vary in size from small practice rooms to large studios.

## Classrooms

The majority of classes in the SCPA are taught in Craigie Hall in blocks D, E and F with a few lecture classes booked in campus lecture halls and large dance classes hosted in Kinesiology.

## Performance spaces

The SCPA has a number of performance spaces that support our work. These spaces are all close or connected to Craigie Hall and can be found in the creative block, which includes the Rozsa Centre, The F.R. Matthews (CHF101), Joyce and Quentin Doolittle (CHF206), Reeve, and University Theatres as well as several other, smaller performance spaces.

# Studio learning

## Placement for technique classes

Continuing students are graded on how well they have coped with and demonstrated their understanding of their current level of technique. It is not unusual for students to need to repeat a level of technique; it is important to be a strong dancer, and dancers do not necessarily progress at the same rate. Dance strongly believes that it is best for students to take the time to work at a suitable level of technique rather than risking physical and/or psychological injury in an unsuitable one. Recommendations will be given to continuing students for work over the summer break in particular areas, including conditioning, Pilates, ballet, modern, yoga, etc., as well as continuing your dance practice.

While it is expected that most students will proceed to the next level of technique each September, official placement classes for ballet, jazz and contemporary technique will be held during the first week of the term. Final movement assignments will be adjudicated by a panel. Placement classes are mandatory for all entering and returning students and take place during the first week of term.

## Etiquette

The in-studio dance classes are a crucial component of your dance education in the Dance program. Since students come to the studio with varying levels of technique and expertise, it is expected that individuals will, to some degree, progress at different rates. There are, however, some goals that will help to unify and create a healthy, vibrant, and cohesive work environment: put away phones; no food or drinks other than water; and please keep shoes and bags on the mats at the back of the room. Professionalism is much more an attitude about how you work than the act of receiving money for your work. It is about having confidence and pride in your work with a willingness to contribute to the group. Students are therefore expected to maintain a disciplined and professional approach to their work, their fellow classmates, their course instructors and the accompanists at all times.

## How to dress for class

To give students, the best possible guidance in studio classes, teachers must be able to see the entire body.

Postural alignment and joint and muscle use cannot be corrected if the body is hidden by too loose or too bulky clothing.

- For ballet class, speak to your instructor.
- For contemporary dance classes, though dress is generally less prescribed than ballet, please be aware that teachers must be able to see the entire body.
- For jazz dance classes please consider the above and bring appropriate jazz shoes

Please be considerate of your fellow dancers. Avoid long fingernails and jewelry (including watches, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, and large rings); a loose or sharp piece of jewelry can be extremely dangerous to yourself and to other students.

- Hair should be worn off the neck and face to facilitate correct alignment and technique.

## Before class

Preparation for a positive studio experience begins before the instructor enters the room. Students are expected to arrive at their studio classes at least 10 minutes before start time to begin both mental and physical warm-up. At the university level, students are expected to review course material between classes. It is recommended that this review occurs well in advance of the beginning of class. When the course instructor or visiting artists enter the room students should indicate a readiness to begin.

## Concentration

Since dance classes have many participants, the course instructor often requests exercises to be performed in groups. Dancers waiting for their turn should honour their colleagues' concentration by watching silently at the side. Being attentive to and supportive of your fellow classmates helps create an efficient and positive workplace.

## Program fees

To help cover the costs of musical accompanists, supplemental fees are attached to dance technique courses and will appear on your tuition bill.

BFA Dance Program Fee (per fall and winter term)	\$212.50
BA Dance Program fee (per fall and winter term)	\$132.50
Dance Minor program fee (per fall and winter term)	\$100.00
BA Dance/BKIN and BA Dance/BEd Concurrent Programs (per fall and winter terms)	\$106.00

## Feedback

Dance instructors will provide feedback on performance throughout the technique class and throughout the term. Feedback is provided through their demonstration and approach to the material, through comments and insights shared during class, and through the way they move the class forward through the material: i.e., altering timing or movement complexity, slowing or accelerating phrasing, as well as increasing or decreasing the technical difficulty. Instructors might also elect to provide feedback in small group discussion, offer a brief written assessment, utilize a model of peer or self-assessment, or provide opportunities for self-reflection through video. Individual meetings might be scheduled when necessary. Whether provided as individual

or group notes, in class or in meetings, take every note as direct, individual feedback. Explore it, apply it. If you think you have it, take it further! If you have questions about your performance, try to be specific with your questions and email to request an appointment for longer discussions that cannot be accommodated at the close of class.

## **Leaving the studio**

A student who must leave before class is over should let the course instructor know before the class commences. Students should acknowledge the course instructor and accompanist when leaving. Do everything within your power to avoid leaving the studio before class has ended. At the end of class, you have the opportunity to show your appreciation to the instructor and the musician. A demonstration of thanks may take the form of a formal reverence (as in a ballet class) and/or applause. If that moment is not provided, take the time to say thank you. It is very likely that there is another class scheduled in the studio immediately after yours. Gather your personal belongings quickly and move to another place to reflect, stretch, practice and/or cool down.

## **Attendance**

Attendance is a crucial component of one's overall professionalism; therefore, regular attendance and participation are required in all studio and theory courses. Poor attendance adversely affects the student's ability to make physical progress, to demonstrate understanding, and to participate in class discussions. For these reasons, missed classes will be reflected in your grade. As the occasional absence may be unavoidable, the following guidelines are in place for studio technique courses:

### **Absenteeism**

You are permitted to miss the same number of classes per term as are scheduled for that course in a week. For example, if you take three contemporary classes per week in a particular course, you may miss up to three classes of that course in a term without penalty; however, you are responsible for material covered during the absences. Missed classes beyond the excused absences per term will have an adverse effect on your final grade. It is the responsibility (and to the advantage) of the student that absences are recorded.

### **Punctuality**

Each studio course instructor sets her/his own punctuality policy. Some prefer that latecomers observe and take notes. Others request that latecomers not enter at all. Be sure about each course instructor's policy before you are late for the first time.

### **Observing class**

Each course instructor sets his/her own policy for students who are late or injured. You may be asked to observe and take notes or to assist with the class. Clarify expectations with the course instructor. Do not come to class if you are ill. Speed your recovery (and avoid spreading possible contagion) by getting the rest your body needs.

## A note about performing

Performances are an important part of your education and require a significant commitment of time and energy. Careful planning is essential. Be sure to arrive early, allowing time for warming up and practicing material before rehearsal, and for cooling down and stretching after rehearsals. Bring water, healthy snacks, layers of warm clothes and a notebook for the choreographer's notes. Remember, don't over-commit yourself. It is great to dance in a lot of works, but running from rehearsal to rehearsal, frazzled and too tired to give one hundred percent is not good for you, your fellow dancers, the choreographer or the final performance, and can lead to injury and other serious problems.

Be responsible when making your commitments. Acceptance of casting is a verbal contract. If you are not sure what this means, ask the choreographer what is expected of you, what the time commitment will be, performance dates and theatre rehearsal schedules, if extra rehearsals may be called, and be sure to let them know what your limitations might be. It is not acceptable to miss or arrive late to rehearsals due to other obligations if these have not been cleared with the choreographer before the casting was accepted. Once you move into the theatre, be sure to be respectful of all the creative team, including costume and lighting designers, technical crew and costume assistants. Without their professionalism, the magic of the theatre could turn into a real nightmare. Be on time for your call and your fittings, be quiet backstage, do not leave your belongings and/or trash in the theatre, and thank the technical crew - we could not do it without them. A dance performance is a very special thing to be a part of. After all is said and done, enjoy yourself!

## A word on academic standards

You have embarked on an exciting journey. The road you travel is full of adventure, unexpected challenges and intense demands. We expect you to become clear thinkers in both the studio and the classroom so that you emerge from this program with the ability to dance well and to be articulate about dance in general. You will be required to dig deep within yourself and the rewards will be great. If you can learn, in addition to many other things, to manage your energy and to take care of yourself, you will profit enormously from your time here. In practical terms, this means being careful to eat properly to get enough nourishment, and to watch that you do not over commit to extra-curricular activities, no matter how tempting. It is not at all unusual to feel stressed out or overwhelmed even by the basic workload demand. Should you feel at a loss or simply need to talk, the faculty in the Dance Division can provide guidance. There is also extensive support through the **Wellness Centre** and the **Student Success Centre**.

# Division injury guidelines

Students who have been injured and have physically completed less than 90% of their technique course(s) may find it necessary to drop the course. The course instructor(s), in consultation with the Dance Division Lead, will determine whether the recommendation to drop is necessary.

## Injuries

Injuries are an ever-present health worry for dance students. It is almost inevitable that at some point in your dance training you will have an injury. This can be a traumatic break or sprain caused by a bad landing or fall, or it can be a chronic injury such as tendonitis which develops over time as a result of faulty technique or hard floors. Whatever the cause of your injury, students are encouraged to ice the injury immediately! Ice is available at Kinesiology Client Services (KNA 104) and Barron's Court (KNA 102).

## Accident reporting procedures

In case of an accident, injury, illness or other similar situation:

- Students should notify a University Representative (UR). It is important that your instructor is notified, if they cannot be immediately informed, please seek an employee, or another student—as soon as possible.
- The UR should ensure that the accident victim is safe, comfortable, and secure. Ice is available at Kinesiology Client Services (KNA 104).
- The UR should contact Campus Security at 403.220.5333 (indicate location and type of injury).
- The UR should notify the **Division Lead for Dance**, and the **Faculty of Arts Associate Dean** of the incident as soon as possible.
- The UR should complete an **Accident Report Form**.

The UR should print a copy of the accident report and file it with the **Faculty of Arts Associate Dean**

# Supporting Dance students' health

## Sports Medicine Centre

The UCalgary Sports Medicine Centre (SMC) is pleased to assist all Dance students with their pain and injuries. Services include physiotherapy, nutrition, massage therapy, athletic therapy and sports medicine.

### Visit website

#### What does SMC do?

Their physiotherapy staff has many years of experience and can assist in expediting your access and recovery. The focus of their treatment and rehabilitation services of all sports and dance-related injuries include:

- Acupuncture
- Core muscle evaluation
- Intra-Muscular Stimulation (IMS)
- Shockwave Therapy - excellent for chronic tendonopathy/tendonitis
- Spinal pain
- Concussion treatment

SMC also provides expertise in:

- Sport injury prevention / pre-season evaluation screening for sport and dance
- Manual therapy and spinal manipulation
- Non-invasive Rehabilitative Ultrasound Guided Imaging - to assess the 3 essential lumbopelvic stabilizers (i.e. pelvic floor, transverse abdominus, multifidus).

Their focus is on exercise prescription, manual therapy and preventative programs, but they also have all the modalities necessary to expedite acute injuries:

- Laser Therapy
- Ultrasound Guided Imaging
- Interferential Current Muscle Therapy

#### How to book?

Whenever possible, SMC will get UCalgary Dance students in to see a practitioner within 24-48 hours of your injury.

Call 403.220.8232 and declare you are a UCalgary Dance major.

# UCalgary Student Wellness Services

With a student-centered approach, the **UCalgary Student Wellness Services** offer comprehensive, holistic and accessible programs and services to foster all dimensions of wellness. Services include medical services, mental health services, and chiropractic, massage and walk-in clinic.

## How to book?

Call 403.210.9355 to book an appointment. The SU Wellness Centre is located in Room 370 of the MacEwan Student Centre and is open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. from Monday to Friday.

## Counselling Services

Counselling and mental health support services are offered through Student Wellness Services. Single Session Counselling appointments are available on a bookable basis. Book an appointment by **email**.

For access to mental health support, email **sar@ucalgary.ca**. If you are a student in immediate distress, please contact the after-hours partners:

### The Distress Centre:

- Call 403-266-4357, available 24/7.
- Visit the **Distress Centre website** to access online chat from 3–10 p.m. on weekdays and 12–10 p.m. on weekends.

For additional crisis support from **Wood's Homes Community Support Team**:

- Call 403-299-9699 or 1-800-563-6106, available 24/7.
- Text 587-315-5000 between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m.
- Visit **Wood's Homes website** for live chat between 9 a.m. - 10 p.m

## Health Coverage

### Students' Union Health and Dental Plan

The Students' Union offers competitively priced health and dental plans for all full-time students. Visit the **Students' Union** website for detailed information.

# Opportunities

Dance students are encouraged to get involved in the multitude of art activities available to them at the University and in the community. Attendance at theatre and music performances as well as visual art events, is strongly recommended. There is a wealth of activity around you - enjoy it. Feed your artistic spirit. There are a few Dance social gatherings during the year; usually at the beginning of the academic year, and often at the end. Please come to meet and greet new students and say goodbye to departing graduates. In addition, there are group Dance meetings during the year in which you have the opportunity for some dialogue with the group of Majors as well as the faculty. Get to know your student representatives and communicate to them your ideas, your excitement, and your concerns.

As for advice for new students to the program, be open to whatever opportunities arise. Ask questions, get to know your classmates, and audition for performances as much as you can in order to meet new people and be recognized. Overall, students should take advantage of what the University has to offer and enjoy the learning experience.

Attending performances is expected of Dance Majors. Attendance at community dance performances is expected and, in some courses, it is required, so put them in your calendar early. This is an important and exciting part of your education.

## Decidedly Jazz Danceworks Professional Training Program

The Division of Dance entered a partnership with Decidedly Jazz Danceworks (DJD) in 2014. Students entering their fourth year will be able to audition for and (if successful) take the DJD Professional Training Program to receive up to 6 half-courses of credit (18 units) towards open options in their BA Dance degree. Students will be required to declare their interest by the end of second year. During the fall and winter.

## Arts Co-Curricular Enhancement (ACE) Credit

The UCalgary ACE Experience encourages (and rewards) students to pursue five different arts experiences as part of their undergraduate education. Collect all five cards listed below to receive your ACE Credit on your Co-Curricular Record:

- Ace of Hearts: Attend a performance as an audience member
- Ace of Spades: Participate in arts creation as an artist
- Ace of Diamonds: Attend or participate in an event with cultural/historical significance
- Ace of Clubs: Join and participate in an arts-based club
- Joker (Wild Card): Another experience that relates to any of the above

If you are interested in participating, visit the [website](#) for more information.