REQUEST FOR NEW UNDERGRADUATE MINOR OR CHANGE IN MINOR

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

Program: Theatre
Minor: Dance
College: Fine Arts

Department: Theatre
CIP Code: 50.0501

Accrediting Agency (if applicable): ______

Section II: New Minor

Minor Prerequisites (list course prefix, number and title): ______

Minor Requirements (list course prefix, number and title):

Minor Electives (list course prefix, number and title):

Total Hours Required: ______

Rationale for Proposal: ______

Section III: Change in Minor Requirements

Current
KHP 147 Dance Foundations
KHP 181 Modern Dance I
KHP 182 Modern Dance II
KHP 293 Classical Ballet I
KHP 592 Choreography
KHP 155 Principles of Conditioning
KHP 240 Nutrition and Physical Fitness
KHP 290 History and Philosophy of Dance
KHP Dance Activities in Elementary School
KHP 393 Rhythmatic Forms, Improvisation, and Analysis

And 4-6 hours from the following:
KHP 293 Classical Ballet I
KHP 294 Classical Ballet II
KHP 391 Jazz Dance I
KHP 392 Jazz Dance II
KHP 393 Independent Study in KHP

Proposed
TA 140 Introduction to Dance (3 cr.)
TA 141 Modern Dance I (2 cr.)
TA 241 Modern Dance II (2 cr.)
TA 245 Choreography (2 cr.)
TA 370 Dance History (3 cr.)
TA 392 Dance Ensemble Practicum (1 cr., 3 hours)

Plus 6 hours from the following courses:
TA 142 Ballet II (2 cr.)
TA 242 Ballet II (2 cr.)
TA 143 Jazz Dance I (2 cr.)
TA 243 Jazz Dance II (2 cr.)
TA 246 Dance Improvisation (2 cr.)
TA 447 Studies in Dance: Subtitle Required (2 cr.)
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Current Total Hours: 22-24 hours

Proposed Total Hours: 23 hours

Rationale for Proposal:

The Department of Theatre in the College of Fine Arts requests this opportunity to introduce a Dance Curriculum into our programming and take over the ownership of the Dance Minor at UK. We believe that this decision will benefit students across all areas of campus, as well as students in the Colleges of Fine Arts and Education. Although Dance has historically been located in the College of Education at UK, a decision was made recently to eliminate the dance program from its home in KHP. An April 22, 2010 article in the Kentucky Kernel highlighted student enthusiasm for dance courses, affirmed the curricular importance of Dance at the University of Kentucky, and explained the College of Education’s decision to eliminate the program based on limited resources and enrollment. (See attached.)

The Department of Theatre would like to take this opportunity to bring dance into our curriculum, a place where it would have a fitting home in the College of Fine Arts. Our proposed Introduction to Dance as an Arts and Creativity Course will provide 400+ students with access to an additional option in this General Education category. The Dance Minor in the College of Education currently has 35 students, and the Dance Ensemble has an annual membership of nearly 40 students. Consequently, many UK students will benefit from the inclusion of the Dance Minor in the Department of Theatre.

The legitimacy of this proposal is based in a history of arts programming within Higher Education across the country. Until the 1970’s most University Dance Programs resided in Colleges of Education until the majority of Dance Programs in the U.S. migrated to Arts Colleges and Departments of Theatre. According to Diana DeFries, Executive Director of the American College Dance Festival, of their 349 participating member departments, only 2 are aligned with Education. Of the remaining 347 programs, 112 are aligned with Theatre Departments and the rest are stand-alone Dance Departments. Leading University programs that house combined Theatre and Dance programs are University of Texas at Austin, University of Florida, University of California at San Diego, and UC Davis. In fact, of UK’s current Top 20 benchmark institutions all but two offer dance programs aligned with Schools of the Arts.

In terms of the General Education Reform Arts & Creativity Rubric, Dance can and should play an important role at the University of Kentucky. According to dance scholar Lynette Overby in a Rationale for Dance in Education, “Dance transforms images, ideas, and feelings into movement sequences that are personally and socially significant.” In addition, education in the arts has been found to have a positive effect on both student motivation and academic performance (J.L. Hanna, Connections: Arts, Academics, and Productive Citizens, 1992).

The proposed Introduction to Dance and other technique and history courses will provide an opportunity to support the Arts and Creativity Rubric approved curricular template to “explore the human need to experience, comprehend, and utilize processes that transcend the conventions of utility, whether that involves the mastery of rules or the decision to break them, the desire to identify and refine the expressive or to recognize and prize the ineffable.”

Moreover, dance courses, and the Dance Minor will enhance critical thinking and analytical skills, cooperation and teamwork, self-expression and self-esteem, organization and problem solving, and cultural literacy. In short, maintaining a Dance Minor in the UK curriculum through the Department of Theatre will align with UK’s mission to achieve Top 20 status, provide Arts and Creativity programming for nearly 500 UK Freshmen, and retain many other UK students.
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UK Honors sophomore Martha Groppo describes the student perspective regarding potential loss of Dance Courses at UK poignantly in an impassioned letter to President Lee Todd dated January 5, 2010:

"I am a National Merit Scholar who was tenaciously recruited by this University... UK’s dance program has kept me in school. The dance program is full of honor students, Governor’s scholars, scholarship recipients, and students from technical majors like math and engineering. We all came to UK because we could continue to dance while pursuing an education."

Finally, Melody Noland, the Chair of KHP, is enthusiastic about the fact that the Department of Theatre wants to take over the Dance Minor, and is willing to provide any help necessary for a smooth transition.

Will this program be printed in the Bulletin?  

Yes ☒  No ☐
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General Information:

Proposal Name: Dance Minor, Department of Theatre
Proposal Contact Person Name: Nancy C. Jones, Chair
Phone: 7-3297 Email: Nancy.Jones@uky.edu

INSTRUCTIONS:
Identify the groups or individuals reviewing the proposal; note the date of approval; offer a contact person for each entry; and obtain signature of person authorized to report approval.

Internal College Approvals and Course Cross-listing Approvals:

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<th>Reviewing Group</th>
<th>Date Approved</th>
<th>Contact Person (name/phone/email)</th>
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<tr>
<td>CHAIR, KHP</td>
<td>1/21/11</td>
<td>Melody Noland: 7-5825, <a href="mailto:noland@uky.edu">noland@uky.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>CHAIR, THEATRE</td>
<td>1/20/11</td>
<td>Nancy Jones: 7-3297, <a href="mailto:nancy.jones@uky.edu">nancy.jones@uky.edu</a></td>
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External-to-College Approvals:

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Comments: __________________________

¹ Councils use this space to indicate approval of revisions made subsequent to that council's approval. If demand proposed by the revision council.