

**Postgraduate Programme in Dance of the Federal University of Bahia
(Programa de Pós-Graduação em Dança. Universidade Federal da Bahia)**

by Fabiana Dultra Britto

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Date of opening: March 2006

MASTER'S IN DANCE

Year the degree course was founded: 2006

Accredited as a university degree since 2006

Professions the degree prepares students for: teaching staff at the university

Specificity of the programme:

The complexity of the processes involved in creating in dance, and their different configurations, requires an articulated contribution from different fields of knowledge, dedicated to studies about the body, about human cultural production and its historical contexts.

This course proposes a model of graduate studies in dance based on a bringing together of science and art, particularly through the use of concepts from General Systems Theory, the Neo-Evolutionary Theories of contemporary biology, and studies in the Cognitive Sciences of the body and its processes of generating and transferring knowledge.

Understanding theory and practice as cognitive activities of the body, the Master's Degree in Dance experiments with a model by which artistic practice is incorporated into the development process of academic research. This aims at integrating the students of the course in a feedback process between procedures of artistic and academic research in the form of guided laboratory practice, included in the curriculum as a course: Artistic Residence Accompaniment.



Instead of theories or themes, the two Research Lines corresponds to the two instances of Dance manifestation:

1. Studies of Processes: studies of forms of interaction between information about bodily processes, historic-cultural processes, and evolution. This line encompasses studies that seek to characterize and critically analyze the operative dynamics of these processes and their respective implications. Included are studies of dance and its historical/evolutionary, anthropological, political, educational, and cognitive processes; artistic processes of creating and composing; processes of bodily training; processes of communication; dance mediation (dance curation, dance criticism, programming, and production); and correlated subjects.

2. Studies of Configurations: studies the forms resulting from these processes or the organizing formats that processed information acquires. This line of research encompasses study projects that seek to characterize and critically analyze organizational structures generated by processes in the field of knowledge of dance, be they choreographic, editorial, or social-cultural in nature. Included in this field are studies of choreographic works in their own right, and of artistic and cultural products of dance, such as texts, discourse, films, popular and religious manifestations, festivals, exhibitions, and video-clips, among others.

The body understood as a field for the processing of cognition, communication and evolution involved in life and cultural systems allows us to understand dance as a configuration that clearly expresses and fosters such processes.

Aims:

- to promote an academic qualification and education of researchers at master's level that acknowledges the complex nature of dance and that deals with its specificity.
- to develop dance research along academic research lines which are compatible with the integration of knowledge that characterises complex organisations.
- to consolidate lines of thinking that recognise theory and practice as concomitant elements in the production process of artistic and academic dance knowledge.
- to foster the insertion of dance as an specific knowledge area in the already consolidated in order to encourage this studies, as well as the understanding of cognition, evolutions and communication processes involved in the dancing body.

Total number of current students: 27

Maximum number of admitted students per year: 20

Maximum number of admitted students per degree: 20



Estimated number of graduate students per year: 15

Admission requirements for regular students:

Undergraduate degree
English Proficiency level

Required submission materials:

CV, Research plan.

Selection procedure: written exam

Evaluation criteria:

Argumentative capacity, ability for logical organization of ideas, critical analytical capacity, previous experience on intended research, general knowledge about the actual dance context.

Financial aspects:

Registration fees: Selection Subscription Tax: R\$ 40,00
Scholarships / grants: 8 grants of R\$ 1.200,00 monthly

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

Duration of the programme: min. 24 months, max. 30 months

Total number of credits: 24 credits

Modules / Structure

3 compulsory courses: 4 credits / 60 hours

- Advanced seminars
- Project development
- Methodology of research on dance

2 optional courses: 3 credits / 45 hours

4 programmed activities: 1 credit each

- Research Group Participation
- Teaching Practice
- Oriented Research Seminar
- Tutorial guidance



Credits distribution:

Theory: 20

Pedagogy: 1 (teaching practice)

Individual / personal mentoring: 1 (orientation)

Participation in the Research Group: 1 credit.

Orientation - 1 credit

Subjects:

LECTURES

Compulsory:

- Advanced seminars
- Methodology of research on dance

Project development

Presentation of necessary theoretical foundation to write the dissertation. Structural aspects of the itinerary of a research project on dance and its main topics will be discussed: definition of the topic and ways of dealing with it, relationship between object of research, theoretical basis and methodology of dance research. Guidance through the process of definition and composition of the research object and selection of a suitable methodology. Presentation and discussion of projects in the course of the seminar.

- Contemporary issues in dance

Optional:

- Evolutive processes in dance
- Dance configurations - Brazil

Research on the process of historical transformation of dance based on the relationship between its different artistic configurations and the corresponding thinking structures. Conceptions of history and corresponding understandings of temporality. Co-evolution of cultural systems.

- Assistance of artistic residence

Theoretical-practical exercise of participation in artistic research projects in dance proposed by invited artists in residence for the analytical assistance in the process of development of collaborative technologies in order to establish a reciprocity between artistic research and academic procedures in a practice-based laboratory which, nevertheless, preserves the respective specificity of each profile (academic and artistic).

- Dance and cognition
- Dance and technology



- Dance ethnographies

LABORATORIES:

- Participation in research group. Compulsory
- Participation in a research project developed by the mentor's research group based on the affinities between the respective lines of research.

GROUP DISCUSSION:

- Seminar for orientated research. Compulsory
- All these courses take place regularly on a weekly basis.

TUTORIAL

- Research orientation. Compulsory. Monthly

Assessment and monitoring of the student:

Tutorial support. Agreed between student and mentor

Final exam. public defence of the Dissertation

Mid-term exam

Yearly reports about the students' work

Final dissertation

Formal requirements: all credits must be completed.

Accepted formats: Written theoretical work

Average number of dissertations per year: 15

Examining board: Mixed. 70% internal, 30% external

Skills obtained by the student on completion of the degree:

- Artistic skills. Project organization, knowledge of artistic research methodology, experiences in public intervention and activism
- Theoretical knowledge. Historiography, Evolutionary Theory, Complexity Studies, General Systems Theory, Post Disciplinary Studies, Cultural Policies, Cultural Economy, Cognitive Theories, Embodied Mind Theory
- Analytical skills. Dance ethnographies, Dance critic
- Research skills. Dance research methodology, Project organization, Group research methodologies
- Pedagogical skills. Teaching experience
- General skills. Organization and production of academic and artistic events, Political action



TEACHING STAFF

Required academic qualifications:

PhD Certificate

Public Concourse

Percentage of teaching staff: Tenured staff 90%, Non-tenured staff 10%

Other figures: Collaborator

Departmental structure

There is one department (Colegiado de Pós-Graduação) in which all 11 teachers of the programme are involved

It is divided in two research fields:

Studies of Process. 7

Studies of Configurations. 4

Departmental financing

Official funding. 100%

RESEARCH GROUPS

LABZAT

Subject areas: Creativity Process, Knowledge Process, Political Process

Departments involved: Programa de Pós-Graduação em Dança

Objectives:

to develop theoretical-practical studies on methodologies in order to promote the artistic and academic research articulation.

to foster discussions on political issues of dance, experiences of collaborative studies of dance research

Completed projects:

- Clash satellite 1: br

- Ensaio em Estudo

Financing: CNP. Conselho Nacional de Pesquisa – support for the website creation

LaPAC. Laboratorio de Pesquisas Avançadas do Corpo (Laboratory for advance research on the body)

Subject areas: Technology and Dance, Memory and Temporality

Departments involved: Programa de Pós-Graduação em Dança

Completed projects:

- Memory of Dance, School UFBA



- Grupo de Dança Contemporânea

Financing: Fundo Estadual de Cultura – grants for the undergraduate students that are dancers of the Grupo de Dança Contemporânea.

PROCEDA. Processos Educacionais em Dança. Educational Processes in Dance

Subject areas: Pedagogy, Artistic Creation Process

Departments involved: Programa de Pós-Graduação em Dança

CONTEXT

Academic network:

Collaborating centres: Escola de Dança da Fundação Cultural do Estado da Bahia, FID (Forum Internacional de Dança), CED (Centro de Estudos do Corpo PUC-SP),

External networks:

Collaborating institutions:

National:

Programa de Pos-Graduação em Arquitetura e Urbanismo – UFBA, Fundação Cultural do Estado da Bahia, Festival Contemporaneo de Dança – SP, FID – BH (Forum Internacional de Dança), SESC-SP, CEC – PUC/SP (Centro de Estudos do Corpo)

International:

BAUHAUS Universität - Weimar

Monitoring of graduates:

- Reports from the graduate about their professional activity
- Links with graduates (invitations, teaching contracts)

INFRASTRUCTURES

Rooms for theory classes, Laboratories for teaching staff and for students, Rooms for individual work (any dance studios or theory classes rooms can be used by previous reservation), Audiovisual studios, Library, Theatre / hall for presentations, 6 Dance studios.

These facilities are shared with other undergraduate degrees courses

SELF ASSESSMENT

In the form of discussion groups (twice a year) and personal assistance (when asked)

