

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY DANCE PLACEMENT AUDITION FAQ

The Dance Program now holds placement auditions prior to clearance for registration in intermediate and advanced level dance classes. Auditions will take place in

- **February (for fall registration)**
- **August (prior to the start of classes for fall registration)**
- **October/November (for spring registration)**

These auditions enable standardized registration procedures and curriculum regulation in all dance technique courses.

Who should audition?

You should attend the audition if you fit any of the following criteria:

- You have never taken a dance course at American University, but plan to register for an intermediate or advanced level course next semester.
- You are planning to register for an intermediate or advanced level dance course in a style you have not taken at American University
- You believe you are in the incorrect level

Who does not need to audition?

- Students currently taking a dance course in a beginning or intermediate level who want to progress to the next level in the same style next semester do not have to audition. Your current instructor will complete a recommendation form for you after midterm.
- Students planning to take beginning level dance courses
- Students planning to register for the same course at the same level

Why do I need to audition?

The purpose of the placement audition is to assess students for the proper technique level in the AU Dance Program. Each dancer brings to campus a spectrum of training, and the dancer's perception of "beginning" or "advanced" may--or may not--match the rigors of the technical training at the university. Placement in an inappropriate level can result in injury or frustration for the student. The placement audition helps the dance faculty meet you and make this assessment.

What is the format of the audition?

The audition will consist of a short ballet barre and locomotor patterns, modern dance center floor and locomotor movement phrases, and a short jazz combination. The audition will last approximately 1.5 hours. You must stay for the full audition.

What should I bring to the audition?

Bring appropriate dance shoes for each style (ballet shoes, jazz shoes, bare feet for modern dance). Wear dance clothing that allows full range of movement and the lines of your body to be visible; no extra layers. Hair should be secured; no large or bulky jewelry. Please arrive early to fill out forms and to warm up.

Do I need to register for the audition?

YES. Please contact the Dance Program Director Melanie George at mgeorge@american.edu to register. Register no later than 12:00 pm prior to the day of the audition date.

When will I find out the results?

Placement results will be sent via email. Students will be cleared to register for classes when the AU online registration system permits.

What if the level I'm in does not fit in my schedule?

Students may register for a lower level than placed, but, due safety and health concerns and the continuity of curriculum, students will not be allowed to register for courses above their designated level. Please note, placement results do not guarantee students a spot in any course. AU priority registration rules still apply.

If I am unhappy with the results can I re-audition prior to the start of classes?

Students auditioning in April may re-audition in August if desired.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT DANCE PROGRAM DIRECTOR,
MELANIE GEORGE AT MGEORGE@AMERICAN.EDU.**