B.A. DANCE

Each year of this plan includes milestones that support the four pillars of career development — self-discovery, exploration, experience, and action. These milestones are here to guide you, not limit you — your journey may move at a different pace, and that's completely okay.

YEAR 1 | BUILD FOUNDATIONS

- ❍ Visit Garnet Gate & the August Student Org Fair to explore and join clubs or orgs for your major
- ❍ Explore success/support options and Office of Student Advocacy
- ❍ Check your major map & verify all first year academic grade requirements
- ❍ Explore top Dance employers
- ❍ Review your specific interests & next steps by meeting with a MCAS CC & looking at the What Can I Do With This Major? page
- ❍ Attend the Part-Time Job Fair and All Majors Career & Internship Fair in the fall/spring to understand relevant employers and fair etiquette
- ❍ Identify your career goals & take career & personality assessments to understand your skills, interests, values and strengths
- ❍ Explore your options to see where Dance alumni are working & what skills they have developed
- ❍ Get involved to build on the eight Career Competencies employers look for
- ❍ Meet with MCAS CC to discuss a 4-year plan and create a collegiate resume
- ❍ Find summer experiences related to your goals/interests

YEAR 2 | EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES

- ❍ Review Dance overview
- ❍ Participate in a formal mentoring program through Mentorship Hub and join LinkedIn to connect with USC Alumni
- ❍ Explore the CC Toolkit to explore additional career readiness resources to guide your documents
- ❍ Consider new experiences, part-time on-campus jobs, student organizations, leadership roles to gain experience, campus auditions, undergraduate research,or assisting in conservatory and workshop programs
- ❍ Explore study abroad/exchange programs for a global experience to study art & design at a university or art academy
- ❍ Investigate Graduation with Leadership Distinction
- ❍ Read up on Department and Dance news to stay current
- ❍ Review your resume and talk about your personal brand, goals & next steps with a CC or PPA
- ❍ Explore companies and organizations that hire USC interns and start looking for a summer internship

YEAR 3 | FIND FOCUS

- ❍ Secure a summer internship/co-op, micro-internship, job shadowing or faculty research experience to build on skills and enhance professionalism — start looking EARLY
- ❍ Explore trainings and interdisciplinary certifications to enhance skills and knowledge
- ❍ Assess previous involvement & participate in leadership roles
- ❍ Join a new major-related club or organization to network and enhance skills
- ❍ Review past career assessments to see your top work values
- ❍ Explore study abroad/exchange programs for a global experience to study art & design at a university or art academy
- ❍ Attend panels, workshops, on-site visits, job shadowing on-site, and informational interviews to gain confidence & grow connections
- ❍ Reflect on your 2nd year and summer experiences and skills & update your resume with relevant courses & experiences
- ❍ Maintain relationships with Theatre and Dance faculty and past employers for networking & recommendations
- ❍ Start thinking about after graduation plans & desired career path and work with a CAS CC to make a game plan
- ❍ Continue to connect with alumni and employers

YEAR 4 | PREPARE FOR LAUNCH

- ❍ Reach out to professors, supervisors, and key connections to write recommendation letters or serve as a reference for you
- ❍ Join professional groups or organizations & set up job alerts for your search
- ❍ Utilize any relevant resources to network & reach out to contacts
- ❍ Research online to know more about companies and positions that interest you and explore career paths, job titles, and salaries
- ❍ Review & update your professional documents & online profiles
- ❍ Review your top skills & relevant experiences from the last four years
- ❍ Research graduate school versus full-time job
- ❍ Verify graduation requirements and complete GLD
- ❍ Meet with a MCAS CC or PPA to create a plan for your job search, gap year/grad school applications
- ❍ Engage in interview preparation & practice – create a document with most relevant experiences and STAR method
- ❍ Complete the Graduation Survey to share your post-grad plans

Legend

CC Career Coach
PPA Pre-Professional Advisor
Handshake
Gamecock GradStats

Revised June 2026

Career Center
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
sc.edu/career

GAMECOCK GRADSTATS DATA

Curious about what you could make with a B.A. in Dance? Check out Gamecock GradStats for real-time salary information of graduates who majored in Dance.

Skills Employers Look for

(in no particular order)

Acting
Customer Service
Digital Marketing
Instruction
Leadership
Microsoft Excel
Microsoft Office
Organizational Skills
Powernote
Project Management
Public Speaking
Sales
Social Media Management
Social Media Marketing
Teaching

DON'T FORGET THESE IMPORTANT TASKS!

- ❍ Build & update your **Handshake** profile.
- ❍ Create & update **professional documents** (resume, CV, references, etc.).
- ❍ **Schedule an appointment** with Career Coaches and/or Pre-Professional Advising staff.

DISCOVER EMPLOYERS HIRING YOUR MAJOR

CAREER CENTER TOOLS

Check out the links below and explore all the tools the Career Center has to offer.

CANDID CAREER

Candid Career is our provider for thousands of video informational interviews with industry professionals. You can get real insight on careers, as well as tips to sharpen your the job search.

CAREERSHIFT

CareerShift is an online tool that allows you to search, select and store job listings from all job boards and all company job postings. You can also find up-to-date contact information for millions of companies.

GAMECOCK GRADSTATS

Explore the possibilities! Search & view USC students' post graduation career paths: where they work, skills they use, & how much they earn.

HANDSHAKE

Handshake is the Career Center's online resource for jobs, internships, events and employer connections. Handshake is also where you can find resources and make appointments with a career coach.

INTERSTRIDE

Interstride is a one-stop-shop that empowers you to thrive internationally.

MENTORSHIP HUB

Mentorship Hub is an online platform that connects the USC community. The platform provides career support, career resources, and an opportunity to mentor or seek mentorship.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS MAJOR?

Explore unexpected career possibilities for your degree and see how other students turned their major into amazing careers.

Other Campus Resource Links:

- Academic Advising
- Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning
- Leadership and Service Center
- Office of Undergraduate Studies
- Undergraduate Research

The Career Center realizes that every student has a unique journey during their time here at the University of South Carolina. All students move at different paces along different paths. We acknowledge your individual needs and will meet you at whatever stage you are in. This document is meant to serve as a milestones guide to help you plan your future and your goals.