**Master of Fine Arts in Choreographic Inquiry - Fall 2023 Admission**

Dear Graduate Applicant,

We are happy that you have chosen to apply to the Master of Fine Arts in [Choreographic Inquiry](https://grad.ucla.edu/programs/school-of-arts-and-architecture/world-arts-and-culturesdance-department/choreographic-inquiry/) program in the Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance at UCLA. Normative time for the program is two years. Fall 2023 applications are now [available](https://grad.ucla.edu/admissions/admission-application-for-graduate-admission/).

The MFA program in Choreographic Inquiry provides a unique emphasis on the ethics and aesthetics of art-making, exploring the cultural and political issues that arise for any contemporary artist, especially with regards to interculturality and interdisciplinarity. Our MFA is organized around a series of intensive courses in which students are encouraged to develop an individual artistic ‘voice’, to create innovative and challenging work, and to explore the relationship between intuition and analysis, politics and performance. The faculty’s goal is to identify an entering group of students with diverse interests, experiences, and movement practices who would benefit from our department’s mission.

The application process has two phases. In order to complete Phase 1 of the admissions application for the MFA in Choreographic Inquiry, you will need to complete the UCLA Application for Graduate Admission (<https://grad.ucla.edu/admissions/>), which includes a link to submit the Experiential Background Questionnaire (attached to this document). You will be informed of the results of your Phase 1 application before the end of December 2022. If you are selected to continue to Phase 2 of the application process, you will be asked to send an additional video and will be invited to participate in a remote interview with members of the faculty on Friday, January 20, 2023 between 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM PST. **Should you be invited to advance to Phase 2, you will receive detailed instructions before the end of December 2022.**

Information regarding supplemental material can be found below. When completed, please upload the Experiential Questionnaire as an attachment to your UCLA Application for Graduate Admission. **The deadline for Phase 1 is December 1, 2022**. We encourage you to submit before the deadline. Late applications will not be considered.

If you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact us at wacdadmissions@arts.ucla.edu.

Most sincerely,

Janet O’Shea, Chair

UCLA Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance

Please use thischecklist as a guide to help organize your application.

[ ] **Experiential Background Questionnaire** (attached) including Description of Video Sample #1 and #2 uploaded to the application

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**Admission Checklist**

[ ] **Video samples of two original choreographic works**; the two samples together should total no more than 10-15 minutes: (1) solo; (2) group piece trio or larger. Please keep in mind that if you are selected to continue to Phase 2 of the application process, you will be asked to submit a third video in which it is preferred that you appear as a performer.

[ ] **Statement on Choreographic Inquiry**: Not to exceed 500 words. This is in addition to the Statement of Purpose required by [UCLA Graduate Admissions](https://grad.ucla.edu/admissions/research-requirements/).

* Describe your choreographic interests.
* What questions do you want to investigate, and in relation to what sources?
* What new knowledge and skills that apply to this interest area are you expecting to develop through graduate study?
* What do you see as evidence that the necessary resources are available at UCLA?

[ ] **Unofficial Bachelor’s Degree transcript** and any additional transcripts showing work completed at *all* other higher education institutions to be uploaded to your application. Official transcripts will be requested if an offer of admission is extended.

**International students** are required to upload their transcripts AND degree certificates/diplomas in their native language AND English translations.

Please see here for more information: <https://grad.ucla.edu/admissions/international-applicants/>

[ ] **Three Letters of Recommendation**

[ ] **English Requirements** If your first language is not English, or if you did not receive your bachelor’s degree in an Anglophone country, you must certify proficiency in English when you apply to UCLA. This applies to U.S. citizens and Permanent Residents as well as international applicants. If you are admitted, you may also be required to confirm your proficiency upon arrival.

Submit your scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic as part of your application.

Please see here for more information: <https://grad.ucla.edu/admissions/english-requirements/>

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**Experiential Background Questionnaire**

A bachelor’s degree is required for graduate admission to the program, regardless of what major the degree is in. Your dance experience may have been gained outside the academic setting through such avenues as public performance, or private dance studies. Other experiences that might prepare you for World Arts and Cultures/Dance could include involvement in production: community/site-specific based work; studies in the arts, humanities, and social sciences; and/or community service. **Applicants are recommended to obtain professional dance experience after receiving their bachelor’s degree and before starting the MFA program**.

In order to assist us in assessing your background, please complete the following form.

Under each subject heading, identify any learning experiences you have had that are relevant. Please use as much space as needed. If you have no experience in a particular area, please leave that section blank. The final subject heading may be used to describe other related experiences that have prepared you for this degree program.

Full Name (Last, First Middle):

1. DANCE TECHNIQUE

*Summarize your experiences in dance/movement practices; beginning, intermediate, and/or advanced levels. You are welcome to include a discussion of dance forms that are not taught in formal settings and/or are not separated by rank or qualification. Include any training in movement analysis, anatomy, and/or somatic practices.*

Type your response here (text box will expand):

1. CHOREOGRAPHY

*Summarize your experiences in beginning, intermediate, and/or advanced levels of improvisation, choreography (including solo and/or group work), including the use of music, sound, projection, and/or media, and use of varied spaces.*

Type your response here (text box will expand):

1. DANCE STUDIES

*Experience in critical analysis of dance as a creative experience, historical perspectives, dance criticism, dance education, etc. Academic work in areas relevant to the study of dance and performance in cultural context (e.g. anthropology, art history, ethnomusicology, gender studies, psychology, sociology, queer studies, disability studies, critical race studies, decolonial studies, studies of specific world cultures, etc.).*

Type your response here (text box will expand):

1. PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE

*Experience in production and/or technical aspects of performance, including producing, costume design, lighting design, set design, stage managing, arts management, etc.*

Type your response here (text box will expand):

1. OTHER CREATIVE/ARTISTIC EXPERIENCE

*Training and/or creative activity in other fields of the arts (e.g. theater, visual and plastic arts, creative writing, music, video, film, and digital arts).*

Type your response here:

1. COMMUNITY SERVICE/OUTREACH

*Practical/applied work in the public or private sectors, including internship experience, volunteer work in the community, etc.*

Type your response here:

1. OTHER EXPERIENCE

*Any additional information you feel relevant to your experiential background in consideration of the MFA in Choreographic Inquiry.*

Type your response here:

VIII. HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT US?

Please let us know how you heard about the MFA in Choreographic Inquiry graduate program at UCLA? Check all that apply.

[ ] Student referral

[ ] Faculty referral

[ ] World Arts and Cultures/Dance Website

[ ] Other (please list):

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**Video Work Samples**

**PHASE 1 of the admissions process includes submission of two video samples of your choreographic work. Deadline: December 1, 2022.**

During Phase 1, faculty will assess your movement skills, compositional abilities, writing, and prior experience. The original choreography you present in your video samples should show a range of approaches to movement, thematic content, and originality of ideas. Each sample should be from a different work, i.e. please do not submit two excerpts from the same work. We strongly recommend that one video sample be a group piece (trio or larger). It is preferred that one of your Phase 1 video samples not include you as a performer, and that at least one of them refers to a professional project (as opposed to a project made in the context of being a student). The combined length of the two videos should total approximately 10-15 minutes. Please keep in mind that if you are invited to advance to Phase 2 of the admissions process, you will be asked to submit a third video, preferably featuring you as a performer. That might inform your choices for Phase 1.

Upload to either Vimeo or YouTube the two Phase 1 video samples. Please provide us with the direct links for your videos in the spaces below. Make sure to test those links on several devices before you submit them to us. If your videos are password protected, please provide us with the passwords, below. We do not accept individual video files, only Vimeo or YouTube links. If Vimeo or YouTube are not available in your geographic region, please contact the Department for further instructions.

Video submissions should be well lit and in focus. Capturing full body movement with full choreographic intent should be the goal of the presentation. Aim for **minimal video editing and post-production effects**, unless the clip was created as a “Dance for Camera”. Do not send a promotional reel, or a video featuring an explanatory voiceover.

Below, please provide a **written statement** abouteach sample you are submitting. Please write no more than 500 words for each sample. Concise statements are appreciated. Each statement should briefly summarize your approach to the choreography. This could include personal processes in creating the work, aesthetic values, movement concept(s), influences, choreographic interests, political concerns, and the context in which you made the work and/or your motivations. The statement should include the titles of the works, composer(s) of the music/sound (if any), and any other credits as needed. Please include brief information about the performers (i.e. a high school group for whom you choreographed, dance students, freelance professional dancers, or a company you worked with, etc.), and indicate if you are a performer in the group.

**VIDEO WORK SAMPLE #1: Provide** **video link:**

 **Provide password:**

**WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR VIDEO SAMPLE #1 (500 words max.)**

**VIDEO WORK SAMPLE #2: Provide** **video link:**

 **Provide password:**

**WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR VIDEO SAMPLE #2 (500 words max.)**

**PHASE 2** of the admissions process is **by invitation only, based on the results of Phase 1** of your application, and includes:

* By no later than January 8, 2023: the submission of a third video work sample
* On January 20, 2023: a remote interview with MFA faculty, and an opportunity to meet remotely with current WACD graduate students

You will be informed before the of end of December 2022, after the initial review of Phase 1 of your application, as to whether you are invited to proceed to Phase 2. More information will be provided upon invitation.

*Please note: We regret that we are unable to provide feedback on applications declined after either Phase 1 or Phase 2*.

***PRIVACY NOTICE: The California Information Privacy Act requires the University to list the following information for individuals who are asked to provide information about themselves.***

*1. The principal purpose for requesting the enclosed information is to consider your application for admission to World Arts and Cultures/Dance at UCLA.*

*2. This information is solicited in accordance with University policy, adopted pursuant to Article IX, Section 9, of the California Constitution.*

*3. Failure to furnish each item of information will delay or may prevent completion of the purpose for which this questionnaire is intended.*

*4. Information furnished in this questionnaire may be used by various University departments and may be transmitted to State and Federal government agencies if required by law.*

*5. This questionnaire is maintained by the Graduate Adviser for the Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance, UCLA, 148 Kaufman Hall, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1608.*