



# Supplemental Dance Coursework Modification Proposal

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# Who we are



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Co-President,  
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Dr. Lindberg is a postdoctoral scholar at UCLA, and adjunct faculty at California State University, Northridge teaching the Dance Methods course for credential candidates. She also currently serves as co-president of the California Dance Education Association.



**Cherie Hill**

Assistant Professor in  
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Cherie is a former CDEA Co-President, and a Dance Education fellow on the Center Artes Arts Credential Pathway Program. She is also a Dance Credential Fieldwork Supervisor for CSU East Bay Credential Program and taught dance in K12 for over 10 years.

## Background:

While Supplementary Authorizations have been issued by the Commission since 1979, specific Content Areas of Study required for coursework in Dance have not been updated since the reinstatement of the Dance Credential or the revisions to the *California Arts Education Framework and Standards in Dance* in 2021.

**Coursework offered in dance education in California schools has evolved rapidly since required Content Areas of Study were developed and updated.**

## Background:

The California Arts Education Framework and Standards in Dance that adopted in 2021 emphasize: **Dance as communication, creative personal realization, culture, history, and connection, a means to well-being, community engagement, and as a profession.**

The *California Arts Education Framework* focuses on diversity and cultural relevance.

Revising the current dance technique requirements will align with the California Arts Education Framework and Standards in Dance.

“Given the diversity of the [arts] classroom, all instruction should be culturally relevant to the students so that students see themselves and [the artwork] of their culture and social identity within their educational system. This validates the students as they see that who they are is found within the world of [the arts] and that all [art], created by all people, is equally important.”

# Proposed modifications to Supplementary Authorization in Dance

To achieve parity with our counterparts in Theater, Music, and Visual Art, to align more closely with the CA Arts Standards in Dance, and to broaden the opportunities for dance educators in CA, we recommend the coursework required to earn a Supplementary or Subject Matter Authorization in Dance be updated to read:

**“Coursework to be completed in dance technique, dance theory, and dance history.”**

## The proposal:

These revisions reflect a change in focus from preparation to teach being *only* jazz and contemporary dance technique to a ***broader preparation inclusive of various dance technique styles and genres***, in addition to coursework in ***dance history for preparation to understand and teach dance.***



# Justification:

Broadening the category of dance technique classes from merely *jazz and contemporary* provides flexibility for how a candidate can meet this new criterion (see tables), and increases the possibility for diverse offerings and dance educators with expansive experiences in the arts to become credentialed dance educators in California.

This revision strengthens the quality and relevance of the Supplementary and Introductory Subject Matter authorizations in Dance while maintaining its original purpose as subject-matter-based credentials.

# Table A: Current Supplementary Authorization in Dance

Authorization	Unit Requirements	Content Areas of Study
<p>Introductory Supplementary Authorization – Dance</p> <p>(Authorizes the holder to teach the subject matter content typically included in curriculum guidelines and textbooks approved for study in grades 9 and below.)</p>	<p>Must possess a valid prerequisite teaching credential.</p>	<p>Requires at least one course in each of the specified areas listed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• jazz dance</li> <li>• contemporary dance</li> <li>• dance theory</li> </ul>
<p>Supplementary Authorizations for Multiple Subject and Standard Elementary Teaching Credentials – Dance</p> <p>(Authorizes the holder to teach the subject matter listed on the credential in departmentalized classes in grades 9 and below).</p>	<p>20 Semester Units or 10 Semester Units of Upper Division Semester Units.</p>	<p>Requires at least one course in each of the specified areas listed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• jazz dance</li> <li>• contemporary dance</li> <li>• dance theory</li> </ul>

**Table B: Proposed Modifications to Content Area of Study Coursework Supplementary Authorization in Dance**

Authorization	Unit Requirements	Content Areas of Study
<p>Introductory Supplementary Authorization – Dance</p> <p>(Authorizes the holder to teach the subject matter content typically included in curriculum guidelines and textbooks approved for study in grades 9 and below.)</p>	<p>Must possess a valid prerequisite teaching credential.</p>	<p>Requires at least one course in each of the specified areas listed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● dance technique</li> <li>● dance history</li> <li>● dance theory</li> </ul>
<p>Supplementary Authorizations for Multiple Subject and Standard Elementary Teaching Credentials – Dance</p> <p>(Authorizes the holder to teach the subject matter listed on the credential in departmentalized classes in grades 9 and below).</p>	<p>20 Semester Units or 10 Semester Units of Upper Division Semester Units.</p>	<p>Requires at least one course in each of the specified areas listed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● dance technique</li> <li>● dance history</li> <li>● dance theory</li> </ul>

**Table C: Comparison between current and proposed changes**

Authorization	Unit Requirements	<b>CURRENT</b> Content Areas of Study	<b>PROPOSED</b> Content Areas of Study
Introductory Supplementary Authorization – Dance	Must possess a valid prerequisite teaching credential.	Requires at least one course in each of the specified areas listed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>jazz dance</b></li> <li>● <b>contemporary dance</b></li> <li>● dance theory</li> </ul>	Requires at least one course in each of the specified areas listed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>dance technique</b></li> <li>● <b>dance history</b></li> <li>● dance theory</li> </ul>
Supplementary Authorizations for Multiple Subject and Standard Elementary Teaching Credentials – Dance	20 Semester Units or 10 Semester Units of Upper Division Semester Units.	Requires at least one course in each of the specified areas listed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>jazz dance</b></li> <li>● <b>contemporary dance</b></li> <li>● dance theory</li> </ul>	Requires at least one course in each of the specified areas listed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>dance technique</b></li> <li>● <b>dance history</b></li> <li>● dance theory</li> </ul>

## Justification:

While the proposed California Code of Regulations (CCR) language does not name NCAS or the CA Arts Standards directly, it reflects their core values: **the integration of technical skill development, contextual understanding, critique, and instructional practice.**

However, nowhere in the CA Arts Standards are specific techniques or dance styles (i.e., jazz and contemporary) named. Limiting dance technique coursework to only jazz and contemporary risks excluding candidates with expertise in areas such as Mexican Folklorico, Indian Classical Dance Bharatanatyam, Hip-Hop, and others — fields that are increasingly central to dance education programs, and California's creative economy.

# Examples of Required Course Updates

## Dance Technique

may include a variety of dance styles and genres, including but not limited to jazz, tap, ballet, contemporary, modern, hip hop, Folklorico, West African, and ballroom.

## Dance History

includes but is not limited to an overview of dance history in cultural and historical context, from its earliest documentation to current practices, including the emergence of new dance forms through transmigration.

## Dance Theory

includes but is not limited to understanding the fundamental principles, historical context, and analytical tools used to create and write about dance, analyzing choreography and the dance's connection to society.

**Dance technique:** develops technical proficiency, movement vocabulary, alignment, strength, and expressive skills across various dance styles while fostering performance practices and artistic growth. These courses often take place in a studio environment. These skills may be covered in dance technique classes ranging in diverse styles, including jazz, ballet, tap, modern dance, contemporary dance, creative dance, hip hop and street dance, folklorico, improvisation, somatic dance practices, and other cultural dance forms.

Course title examples may include:

- Beginning West African Dance
- Performance Practicum
- Flamenco Dance
- Intermediate Composition and Choreography
- Contemporary Dance Technique
- Contemporary Folklorico
- Dance Kinesiology
- Movement Awareness
- Dance Cultures, Culture in Dance
- Latin American Social Dance
- Dance Technique(s) Praxis I & II

**Dance history:** surveys the evolution of dance across periods and cultures, highlighting major styles, figures, works, and socio-cultural contexts, and can include critical analysis of how historical, political, and cultural trends influence the development and meaning of dance.

Course title examples may include:

- World Dance Histories
- Dance History: Cultural and Social Heritage
- Dance History: Spectacle and Performance Art
- A History of Social Dance
- Concert Dance in the Global Age
- Cultures in Motion
- Hip Hop Dance History

**Dance theory:** involves critical and cultural analysis of dance as an art form, including investigation of historical contexts, aesthetic frameworks, movement and performance analysis, and socio-cultural influences on dance practices; the development of scholarly research skills, the critique of dance works and theories, and an understanding of interdisciplinary perspectives.

Course title examples may include:

- Theories of Dance 101
- Learning Through the Moving Arts
- Introduction to Dance through Film and Video
- Language of the Body
- Dance, Gender, Sexuality
- Dance Appreciation

# Recommended Action:

That the Commission approve the proposed modifications to the current Supplementary Authorization in Dance and direct staff to begin the regulatory process to enact these changes.

<b>CURRENT</b> Content Areas of Study	<b>PROPOSED</b> Content Areas of Study
<p>Requires at least one course in each of the specified areas listed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>jazz dance</b></li><li>● <b>contemporary dance</b></li><li>● dance theory</li></ul>	<p>Requires at least one course in each of the specified areas listed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>dance technique</b></li><li>● <b>dance history</b></li><li>● dance theory</li></ul>



# Thank you!

Contact us:

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