

HIP-HOP STUDIES - CERTIFICATE

The certificate in hip-hop studies is designed to emphasize both the theory and practice of Hip-hop. Classes immerse students in the culture of Hip-hop, as well as develop the critical thinking skills and theoretical context required for understanding Hip-hop's socio-historical development and political efficacy.

Hip-hop, which arose in youth communities of color in the 1970s amid political abandonment and economic devastation, has become the most important cultural movement of the last half-century. Practiced in nearly every corner of the globe, it is now one of the most important through-lines in human culture. To understand Hip-hop is to understand the world in which we live. Inclusive excellence is the bedrock of Hip-hop; membership in its community is not defined by subscription to a particular place or race but rather to its unique ethos, which privileges virtuosic innovation as much as historic and self knowledge.

Hip-hop is fundamentally an interdisciplinary form. It does not live in one field alone. Rather, it is a dialogue that occurs across dance, music, visual and verbal arts, as well as history and theory. While the Hip-hop Studies Undergraduate Certificate is housed in the Department of Theatre & Dance, courses are available in other departments, such as History, English, Sociology and Ethnic Studies. Organized in this way, with offerings from several campus departments, the consolidated certificate program is the best way to give students a sense of the richness, complexity, and vitality of Hip-hop.

The certificate in Hip-hop Studies is designed to be an enriching, interdisciplinary supplement to other areas of study. It provides a broad base, which can serve as an entry point to more focused study and practice. While offering rich and rewarding experiences, the undergraduate certificate is not a professional endorsement from Rennie Harris or Larry Southall of the student's skills. Rather, it develops students' appreciation and respect for one of the most important American cultural forms to have emerged in the last half-century.

Requirements

Prerequisites

All currently matriculated undergraduate students at CU Boulder are eligible for admission to the certificate program. Students must submit a one-page statement of intent to formally enroll.

Program Requirements

To earn this certificate, students must complete a total of 18 undergraduate credit hours comprised of both practice-based movement courses and writing/research-based theory courses.

Students must complete a total of 8 credit hours in both the required core theory courses as well as a movement course option as listed below. Students select the remaining 10 credits from an array of pre-approved courses offered on a regular basis in the departments of Theatre & Dance, History, Sociology, Ethnic Studies and English. Additionally, nine of the certificate's 18 credits must be awarded in upper-division courses and no more than nine can come from any one department. Students may petition to have special topics courses in these and other departments approved by their hip-hop studies advisor.

To earn the certificate, students must earn above a grade of C- in each course and meet the undergraduate school's overall GPA requirement.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Required Courses		
DNCE 4047	Hip-Hop Dance History	3
ETHN 3212	Introduction to Hip Hop Studies	3
<i>Movement Credits</i> ¹		2
Choose one:		
DNCE 1301	Hip-Hop Dance Technique 1	
DNCE 3301	Hip-Hop Dance Technique 2	
DNCE 3041	Major Technique (Hip-hop section)	
DNCE 4038	Dance Repertory (Hip-hop section)	
Elective Courses		10
DNCE 1027	Dance in Cultural Perception and Expression	
ENGL 1800	American Ethnic Literatures	
ENGL 2021	Introductory Poetry Workshop	
ENGL 2102	Literary Analysis	
ENGL 2112	Introduction to Literary Theory	
ENGL 4039	Capstone in Literary Studies (Certain sub-topics)	
ETHN 1022	Introduction to Africana Studies	
ETHN 2001	Foundations of Comparative Ethnic Studies: Race, Gender and Culture(s)	
ETHN 2232	Contemporary African American Social Movements	
ETHN 2304	Introduction to Social Justice	
ETHN 2432/ HIST 2437	African American History	
ETHN 3692	African Am Music: Fr Spirituals and the Blues to Rap/Hip Hop Soul	
ETHN 4102	Special Topics in Africana Studies (Certain sub-topics)	
ETHN 4552	The Harlem Renaissance: Fr Black Wmn's Club Mvmnt to Hip Hop	
HIST 4437	African American History, 1619--1865	
HIST 4546	Popular Culture in the Modern United States	
SOCY 3161	Global Perspectives on Race and Ethnicity	
SOCY 3171	Whiteness Studies	
SOCY 4071	Social Inequalities and Social Change	
THTR 4029	Performance and Community Engagement	
Total Credit Hours		18

¹ Any additional courses taken in this category can count toward the credits required to complete the certificate.