

### DESCRIPTION

DANC 490: Directed Research (1-16 units) is designed for undergraduate majors or minors at the USC Glorya Kaufman School of Dance who wish to carry out specialized research or performance-related work at an intensive level. The course must cover a topic not currently reflected in USC Kaufman's course offerings. It must also culminate in a substantial piece of writing, performance, or other project.

### POLICIES

- Preference for DANC 490 is given to juniors and seniors with a 3.0 or better grade point average.
- DANC 490 is only offered for a letter grade.
- DANC 490 is not available for graduate credit.
- DANC 490 credit is not available for paid research.
- DANC 490 is intended for elective credit. It can only be substituted for another course in rare circumstances and with departmental permission.
- A student will determine the number of units for the DANC 490 course in consultation with the course's supervising faculty. The class time and preparation time per week must be consistent with USC Contact Hour guidelines (e.g. a two-unit course should involve a minimum of six hours of work per week).
- Only full-time faculty members may oversee a Directed Research project. Part-time faculty members may only oversee a Directed Research project if there is no other faculty member with a specific area of expertise related to the project—and that faculty member has received approval from the Assistant Dean of Faculty.

### PROCEDURES

1. Meet with your DANC 490 project's supervising faculty member to discuss the feasibility of your project and the parameters including the number of units for the course. Please see above about policy regarding supervising faculty.
2. Meet with your academic advisor to get the DANC 490: Directed Research Student and Faculty Contract.
3. Create a one- to three-page proposal that includes the following:
  - **Research Statement:** Describe in one to three paragraphs the topic of your DANC 490.
  - **Reason:** Explain why you are pursuing a DANC 490 project.
  - **Preparation:** List experiences or courses that have prepared you for your DANC 490 project.
  - **Bibliography:** Provide a preliminary list of bibliographic sources for your DANC 490 project.
  - **Timeline:** Draft a timeline for completing your DANC 490 project. Include dates for deliverables and the number of projected meetings you plan to have with the supervising faculty member.
  - **Final Project:** Explain the format of your final DANC 490 project (i.e. paper, performance, etc.).
4. Present your proposal to your DANC 490 project's supervising faculty member and academic advisor.
5. Complete and sign the student portion of the Directed Research Student and Faculty Contract.
6. Email your proposal to your DANC 490 project's supervising faculty member, academic advisor, and the Assistant Dean of Academic & Faculty Affairs, Alison D'Amato ([adamato@usc.edu](mailto:adamato@usc.edu)) for final processing. These items must be received no later than the Friday of the second week of classes during the semester in which you wish to enroll.

Proposals will be reviewed and decided upon by USC Kaufman's Assistant Dean of Academic and Faculty Affairs, in consultation with faculty. The review process may take between five to eight business days. Students will be notified of approval via email. After approval, students will be given D-clearance to register for the course online.