

# **DANCE PROGRAM**

## **HANDBOOK**

### **Dance Program Mission Statement**

*We acknowledge that dance is more than an art form. Through practice and play, we discover the value of dance to foster empathy, creative freedom, and inclusion. We are a community of professional and emerging artists who understand the power of dance to transform the individual in the community.*

*We value open-access enrollment, nurturing the whole individual. The program's belief in the interconnectedness of diverse backgrounds, cultures, education, and teaching styles provides self-realized growth among students and faculty. We practice the integration of the art form in all of its diverse manifestations - societal reform, social justice, arts, education, research, and language.*

### **Amplified Objectives**

- *Shaping individual perspectives into realized performance experiences*
- *Offering programs connected with current career pathways and social issues*
- *Amplifying experimentation and innovation in and out of the studio classroom*
- *Promoting safe and supportive environments in which play and exploration of mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual connection is encouraged*

Welcome to the Dance Program in the School of Performing Arts! Whether you decided years ago to major in dance or are taking dance classes with an eye toward a dance minor degree, we look forward to working with you in classes and rehearsals and want to get to know you as an individual. The Dance Program provides study in dance technique, creative courses, and academic studies. We offer many opportunities for our students to perform on campus, for the community, and at festivals. Our graduates work in Northern Utah as dancers, choreographers, and dance educators. Many graduates go on to related areas such as physical therapy and arts administration.

Dance is a beautiful and ancient art form that continually evolves. Dance students challenge themselves to grow in many ways: they develop physical and mental discipline, self-expression, ability to work with others, self-confidence, poise, written and oral communication skills, leadership, creativity, and organizational skills.

Being in a School of Performing Arts – where Dance, Music, and Theatre occur side by side – there are opportunities to collaborate with other performing artists.

This handbook can help you navigate your time at Weber State University.

The more you know about the possibilities and requirements regarding your dance education, the more you can get out of it.

Feel free to speak to our faculty when you need help. We are here for you!

WSU Dance Faculty are dedicated to:

*Helping* students grow intellectually, creatively, technically, socially, and personally.

*Giving* WSU Dance students opportunities to perform, choreograph, write, collaborate, teach and create.

*Mentoring* students as individuals and taking an interest in their abilities, needs, and particular areas of focus.

*Using* students' time efficiently. Faculty try to use student time effectively and keep course workload consistent with credit hours wherever possible. Of course, technique classes and rehearsals are more time-intensive than other disciplines, and students should understand this about the performing arts.

*Serving* as a student resource through advising, mentoring, and helping students achieve their goals.

### Dance Program Overview

The primary goals of the Dance Program are:

- To develop aesthetically aware and artistically discriminating citizens;
- To promote cultural understanding of ourselves and others through the study of dance;
- To encourage appreciation of dance through critical thinking;
- To engage the community in a range of dance experiences;
- To foster an understanding of, and engagement in, the creative process through dance performance, improvisation, choreography, pedagogical studies, technology, and collaborative endeavors;
- To provide the guidance, class work, and experience necessary to prepare teachers, performing artists, and scholars.
- To prepare students for careers or advanced study that require creativity, collaboration, and an understanding of the human experience as explored in the study of dance.
- Provide dance technical training.

**Bachelor's Degrees:**

[Bachelor of Arts in Dance](#)

[Bachelor of Arts](#) and [Bachelor of Science](#) in K-12 Dance Education

**Minors:**

[Dance Minor/BIS](#)

[Dance Teaching Minor](#)

[Associate of Arts \(AA\) in Dance](#)

[Certificate of Proficiency in Therapeutic Dance](#)

Dance Program Faculty Offices

3950 West Campus Drive Dept. 1905

Val A. Browning Center for the Arts, Room 213 A-C

Ogden Utah 84408-1905

School of Performing Arts Location and Office

3950 West Campus Drive Dept. 1905

Val A. Browning Center for the Arts, Room 331

Ogden Utah 84408-1905

Phone: (801) 626-6437

Fax: (801) 626-6811

Hours Monday -Friday: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Val A. Browning Center for the Arts Building Hours

(801) 626-7000

**Dance Faculty and Staff**

Assistant Professor Joseph Blake, Dance Program Director and Dance Advisor

Val A. Browning Center for the Arts, Room 213B (801) 626-6479

[josephblake@weber.edu](mailto:josephblake@weber.edu)

Dance Instructor, Juan Carlos Claudio

Val A. Browning Center for the Arts, Room 213

[juanclaudio@weber.edu](mailto:juanclaudio@weber.edu)

Professor Amanda Sowerby, Dance Education Advisor

Val A. Browning Center for the Arts, Room 213A (801) 626-7674

[asowerby@weber.edu](mailto:asowerby@weber.edu)

Professor Erik Stern

Val A. Browning Center for the Arts, Room 213C (801) 626-6615

[estern@weber.edu](mailto:estern@weber.edu)

Christopher Phillion, Dance Technical Director

[christopherphillion@weber.edu](mailto:christopherphillion@weber.edu)

Teauhna Chavez, School of Performing Arts, Admin

[teuhnachavez@weber.edu](mailto:teuhnachavez@weber.edu)

Arin Tooker, conditions Performing, Arts Admin

[arintooker@weber.edu](mailto:arintooker@weber.edu)

(801) 626-6437

Facilities for Dance

[Val A. Browning Center for the Arts](#)

[Stromberg Complex](#)

The Val A. Browning Center houses the Austad Auditorium, the Allred and Eccles Theaters, movement rooms, costume and scenic construction spaces, theatre and musical rehearsal rooms, and classrooms in over 150,000 square feet.

Mark Evans Austad Auditorium: Proscenium w/balcony – 1580 seats

M. Thatcher Allred Theater: Proscenium – 290 seats

George S. and Dolores Dore Eccles Theater: Black Box -175 seats

Browning Center Quick Stats:

17 dressing room 1-25 stations – 125 performers 16 classrooms, 17 music rehearsal rooms

Costume Complex, Scene Shop

More than 120 separate educational, community and professional events annually

The SPA Media Lab is a full-service computer lab consisting of Apple computers. It is a closed lab available only to students and faculty of the School of Performing Arts students and faculty. Fees paid by students of the performing arts maintain the lab. These computers have music and

video editing capabilities. The software available accommodates all areas of the Performing Arts Lab peripherals and is state-of-the-art.

A dedicated dance studio is located in the Swenson/Stromberg Gym (SW233). The gym facility has the equipment you need to maintain peak condition. You can stop by the gym and lift weights, run the track, play racquetball, swim, or engage in many other physical activities.

### **Admissions and Auditions**

A step-by-step guide to the Weber State University admissions process can be found at: <https://www.weber.edu/Admissions/apply.html>

Tips for Success in the School of Performing Art's Dance Program

[Declare your Major.](#)

Keep track of deadlines!

Consult frequently with your Dance and General Education advisors.

Debbie Murphy- College of Arts and Humanities Academic Advisor EH 437,  
ddmurphy@weber.edu (801) 626-6631

Student Code of Rights and Responsibilities

Students are encouraged to read and know their rights and responsibilities while enrolled at Weber State University. [https://www.weber.edu/ppm/Policies/6-22\\_StudentCode.html](https://www.weber.edu/ppm/Policies/6-22_StudentCode.html)

Graduation requirements for all students:

- A minimum of 120 credit hours earned for a Bachelor's degree.
- A minimum of 40 upper-division credit hours (courses numbered 3000 and above).
- A minimum of 30 hours in residency (courses taken at WSU).
- Minimum GPA of 2.0 (C average). No more than 20 credit hours of "D" grade can be applied toward graduation.
- Completing WSU core and breadth general education, diversity, major and minor requirements.
- Students must clear all financial obligations to the university before registering for each term.
- Students must submit a Graduation Application to the WSU Graduation office before the application deadline in the semester they want to graduate. Consult the graduation office website at <https://www.weber.edu/graduation>.

### **Grading and Evaluations**

All Dance majors must maintain the following:

- Dance Program Grade Requirements: A grade of “C” or better in courses required for this major (a grade of “C-” is not acceptable) and an overall GPA of 2.50 or “C+.” In addition, a “B” or higher grade is required in at least one 3000-level major course in ballet and modern dance.
- University Grade Requirements: Students must earn a cumulative GPA of at least 2.00 for all WSU work. No more than 20 credit hours of “D” grade may be applied toward graduation. A college or department may reject any or all “D” grade work toward major or minor requirements.

### **Dance Courses**

DANC CA/DV1010. Introduction to Dance (3)

An introduction to dance provides a knowledge base from which to experience dance from various viewpoints: historically, culturally, aesthetically, critically, and creatively. This course takes a close-up look at the rules, messages, and meanings embodied in dance around the world. This is a writing-intensive course. Students are expected to attend dance concerts and cultural dance experiences outside regularly scheduled class time. Open to all students.

DANC 1100. Ballet I (2)

Introduction to the techniques of classical ballet, including alignment, positions, port de bras, and allegro combinations. May be repeated for a maximum of 4 credit hours.

Open to all students.

DANC 1200. Contemporary Modern I (2)

Introduction to the movement techniques of modern dance. May be repeated for a maximum of 4 credit hours. Open to all students.

DANC 1310. Music for Dance (2)

Study the relationship between sound and movement, accompaniment, and dance. Focus extends to the creative and working relationship(s) between accompaniment/composer and teacher/choreographer with emphasis on practical applications of methods and understandings.

DANC 1450. Special Topic Dance Forms: World dance Experiences (2) variable topic. This course is designed to provide enrichment opportunities for those who undertake dance as a field of study or recreational activity. It allows for studying a changing series of dance forms, including, but not limited to, African, Flamenco, Middle Eastern, Clogging, Ballroom, Renaissance, etc.

DANC 1500. Jazz I (2)

Introduction to the style, technique, and rhythmic structures of jazz dance with emphasis on increasing movement capabilities and personal expression. May be repeated for a maximum of 4 credit hours. Open to all students.

DANC 1520. Dance in World Cultures (2)

Folk and ethnic dances of Europe, Near and Far East, Africa, and the Americas as they relate to concert dance. Open to all students.

DANC 1580. Tap Dance (2)

Special training in tap dance skills and techniques.

DANC 2250. Alignment and Conditioning for Dance (1)

Strength and alignment for dancers, using Pilates mat exercises. The class addresses areas of strength essential for dancers, focuses on breathing techniques integral to the exercises, and uses the exercises as a means to better understand and improve alignment. The course also addresses how strength and alignment facilitate more ease and efficiency in movement. To repeat the class, a student must have the permission of the instructor.

DANC 2300. Dance Kinesiology (3)

This course provides a study of anatomy and dance kinesiology with a specific focus on anatomical analysis, conditioning principles, and injury prevention, with special attention given to the application of information to technique class, rehearsal, choreography, and individual anomalies. The course prepares the student to understand basic kinesiological analysis and fundamental concepts of somatic inquiry. Pre/Co-requisite: NUTR LS1020 Foundations in Nutrition.

DANC 2410. Improvisation (2)

Guided exploration of the elements of dance for the creative development of personal movement repertoire, spontaneous group interaction, and choreographic skills.

DANC 2470. Ballet II (2)

Technique course designed to increase skill in classical ballet. May be repeated for a maximum of 4 credit hours. Prerequisite: DANC 1100 (2 credit hours minimum), or DANC 2470 (1 credit hour minimum), or by audition.

DANC 2480. Jazz II (2)

Refinement of beginning skills, emphasis on the development of technical abilities and performance qualities. May be repeated for a maximum of 4 credit hours. Prerequisite: DANC 1500 (2 credit hours minimum), or DANC 2480 (1 credit hour minimum), or by audition.

**DANC 2490. Contemporary Modern II (2)**

Refinement of beginning skills, emphasis on the development of technical abilities and performance qualities. May be repeated for a maximum of 4 credit hours. Prerequisite: DANC 1200 (2 credit hours minimum), or DANC 2490 (1 credit hour minimum), or by audition.

**DANC 2610. Dance and Digital Technology (2)**

This course will allow students to explore the integration of dance and technology, specifically the use of the digital video medium.

**DANC 2890. Cooperative Work Experience (1-6)**

Open to all students in the Dance Program who meet the department's minimum cooperative work experience requirements. Provides academic credit for on-the-job experience. The grade and amount of credit will be determined by the department. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 credits. In individual cases, this course might be considered as an elective in the Dance Major.

**DANC 2920. Short Courses, Workshops, Institutes, and Special Programs (1-4)** Consult the semester class schedule for the current offering under this number. The specific title and credit authorized will appear on the student transcript. In individual cases, this course might be considered as an elective in the Dance Major.

**DANC 2950. Dance Festival Participation (1)**

Students attend the American College Dance Festival Association's regional gathering to study various dance forms with professionals from across the country. Students see in the choreographies of peers and professionals. Students may be responsible for their registration fees, transportation, lodging, and meal costs. Prerequisite: Audition and permission.

**DANC 3015. Dance History (3)**

Study of the history and philosophy of dance in art and education from the Age of Innovation in Ballet through the Contemporary Period of history. Areas of study will include ballet and modern dance today, black dance in America, vernacular forms, and dance as public art. Prerequisite: DANC CA/DV1010.

**DANC 3320. Secondary Teaching Methods (2)**

Teaching techniques, accompaniment, and practical experience in teaching modern dance. This is the secondary teaching methods class.

Prerequisite: DANC 2490.



DANC 3450. Special Topic Dance Form; World Dance Experiences (2) Variable topic. This course is designed to provide enrichment opportunities for those who undertake dance as a field of study or recreational activity. It allows for the study of a changing series of dance forms, including, but not limited to, African, Flamenco, Middle Eastern, Clogging, Ballroom, Renaissance, etc.

DANC 3470. Ballet III (2)

Coordinating course designed to increase skill in classical ballet technique. May be repeated for a maximum of 4 credit hours. Prerequisite: DANC 2470 (2 credit hours minimum), or DANC 3470 (1 credit hour minimum), or by audition.

DANC 3490. Contemporary Modern III (2)

Exercises and activities to develop strength, flexibility, endurance, and technical dance skills. May be repeated for a maximum of 4 credit hours. Prerequisite: DANC 2490 (2 credit hours minimum), or DANC 3490 (1 credit hour minimum), or by audition.

DANC 3500. Choreography Process (3)

Studies the elements of time, space, and energy as they are artistically significant in the meaning of dance. Exploration of the time, space, and energetic design in related fields of music and art included as relevant to choreographic design and communication in dance. Prerequisite: DANC 2410.

DANC 3520. Choreography Practicum (3)

Supervised experience choreographing a dance for public performance. Arranged through cooperative effort of student and supervisor. Prerequisite: DANC 3510 and approval of instructor. May be repeated for credit.

DANC 3580. Intermediate/Advanced Tap Dance (2)

Intermediate/Advanced training in tap dance skills and techniques. Prerequisite: Lower Division Tap Dance (DANC 1580) and/or instructor approval.

DANC 3640. Elementary Dance Pedagogy (3) Techniques for teaching creative dance and basic dance forms. Suggested for Elementary Education majors.

DANC 3860. Field Experience (1)

A course designed to provide opportunities for students to gain practical experience in the field by assisting in the activities of community agencies, schools, and Weber State.

Prerequisite: DANC 3320 for those who plan to teach in a middle or secondary school or DANC 3640 for those who plan to teach in an elementary school.

DANC 3910. Moving Company: Rehearsal & Development (3)

The Moving Company is designed to give students the opportunity to learn about the various aspects of creating, rehearsing, and implementing performances off-campus and to reach the community with our dance program. The commitment is for fall (rehearsal - 3910) and spring (performance - 3911) semesters. This segment deals with preparation and rehearsal.

DANC 3911. Moving Company: Performance (3)

The Moving Company is designed to give students the opportunity to learn about the various aspects of creating, rehearsing, and implementing performances off-campus and to reach the community with our dance program. The commitment is for both fall (rehearsal - 3910) and spring (performance - 3911) semesters. This segment deals with implementation and performance.

Prerequisite: DANC 3910.

DANC 4250. Alignment and Conditioning for Dance/Pilates (1) Strength and alignment for dancers, using Pilates mat exercises. Pilates addresses areas of strength essential for dancers, focuses on breathing techniques integral to the exercises, and uses the exercises as a means to better understand and improve alignment. The course also addresses how strength and alignment facilitate more ease and efficiency in movement. To repeat the class, a student must have the permission of the instructor. Prerequisite: DANC 2250.

DANC 4610. Dance and Digital Technology (2)

This course will allow students to explore the integration of dance and technology, specifically the use of the digital video medium.

Prerequisite: DANC 2610.

DANC 4620. Dance for the Camera Seminar (1)

This seminar will provide students with individual and collaborative study and research in the field of dance and the digital video medium. The course will cover artistic and technical forms, including, but not limited to, capturing dance on the digital/video medium, choreographic processes through non-linear digital editing, audio/visual editing for dance, lighting, dance theory, and criticism in the context of dance in the digital age. Prerequisite: DANC 2610.

DANC 4700. Creative Synthesis in Dance (3)

Project-oriented experience to coordinate student work. It will serve as a guide in the synthesis of philosophy, experience, and understanding of dance as an art form and/or dance as education. This course will have an artistic or scholarly outcome. Prerequisite: DANC 3510, 3520, and senior dance major standing or DANC 3860 and senior dance major standing.

**DANC 4800. Individual Study (1-4)**

Individual work or work in small groups by arranging special topics not included in the announced course offerings. Prerequisite: Approval of instructor. In individual cases, this course might be considered an elective in the Dance Major.

**DANC 4890. Cooperative Work Experience (1-6)**

Individual work or work in small groups by arrangement; in special topics not included in the announced course offerings. Prerequisite: Approval of instructor. In individual cases, this course might be considered an elective in the Dance Major.

**DANC 4910. Rehearsal and Performance (1)**

Preparation and rehearsal of dance composition to be presented in concert. Prerequisite: consent of instructor. May be repeated for an unlimited number of credit hours.

**DANC 4920. Short Courses, Workshops, Institutes, and Special Programs (1-4) (Offered as needed.)** Consult the semester class schedule for the current offering under this number. The specific title and credit authorized will appear on the student transcript. In individual cases, this course might be considered an elective in the Dance Major.

**DANC \*4950. Dance Festival Participation (1)** Students attend the American College Dance Festival Association's regional gathering to study various dance forms with professionals nationwide. Students see the choreographies of peers and professionals. Students may be responsible for their registration fees, transportation, lodging, and meal costs. Prerequisite: Audition and permission. May be repeated for credit, but use toward Major/ Minor must be approved by the program advisor.

**Performing Opportunities**

Orchesis Dance Theater auditions and performs during the Fall and Spring semesters. Performances are held in Allred and Eccles Theaters, depending on the semester/year. Auditions for Orchesis Dance Theater are held on the first Friday of the Fall and Spring semesters in the Browning Center for the Arts, Studio #38, at 3 p.m. Time and location are subject to change. Auditions are open to all, and there is nothing to prepare.

Moving Company (MC) is the Dance Program's outreach company; involvement is only by audition. MC auditions are held in conjunction with Orchestis Dance Theatre auditions (see above). Moving Company is a yearlong commitment and may find dancers working with guest artists and performing in off-campus locations. Moving Company holds a Community Engaged Learning (CEL) designation from WSU's Center for Community Engaged Learning (CCEL). To take advantage of the CEL designation, students should register at the CCEL to log hours.

#### Choreography Showcase

Student choreographers have opportunities to choreograph and produce their own concerts. When this occurs, their auditions for dancers will be held in conjunction with Orchestis Dance Theatre auditions (see above).

American College Dance Association: Each spring, the WSU Dance Program participates in the American College Dance Association. Students have opportunities to take classes and/or perform with this nationally recognized organization.

National Dance Education Organization & Utah Dance Education Organization: Students have opportunities to present research and/or participate in the national and state affiliate organizations' annual conferences.

#### **Scholarships**

\*Students must complete the Specialized Scholarship Application to apply for eligibility.

#### **School of Performing Arts Scholarships**

##### D. Fern Berglund Scholarship

May be awarded to any worthy student in the School of Performing Arts.

##### Sophie Wetherell Reed Memorial Scholarship

Full-time student with a GPA of at least 3.0. Outstanding performer in one or more of the areas of Performing Arts.

##### Joseph and Ellen Eccles Scholarship

Declared major in Visual Arts, Performing Arts, or Literature and have a Minimum GPA of 2.5.

##### Anya Kenley Scholarship for the Arts

Declared major in the School of Performing Arts. GPA requirement of 3.0.

John and Telitha, Lindquist Scholarship for Creative/Artistic Endeavors Scholarship, is available to students who demonstrate talent in arts or humanities at the high school or university levels and exhibit academic ability.

Lujean Thompson Scholarship

Declared major in the performing arts. GPA requirement of 3.0.

#### Dance Scholarships

Patti O'Neal Scholarship

Declared major in Dance or Dance Education and a minimum overall GPA of 2.75. May be enrolled full or part-time. However, preference may be given to full-time students.

John & Vera Eccles Scholarship

Dance student (ballet) with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Dance Alumni and Friends Scholarship

Declared major or minor in the Dance Program. GPA requirement of 2.5. May be enrolled full or part-time.

#### Dance Activity Waiver

The Dance Program will award this Scholarship Activity Waiver annually. It will waive a portion of the in-state tuition, and a combination of scholarships may not exceed the semester/annual tuition. It is for the resident in-state portion of tuition only & will not cover independent study, distance learning/contract courses, credit/ noncredit, or audit coursework. Students must be enrolled full-time at WSU (12-18 credit hours) each semester. Students must apply each year by the applicable deadline. GPA requirement of 2.5. Full and half tuition waivers are awarded to dance majors showing outstanding potential and commitment to the dance program. You are not required to be a declared dance major or minor to qualify for these waivers. Dance skills, academic performance, and participation are carefully considered in determining recipients and types of tuition waivers. All tuition waiver recipients must complete 10-20 practicum hours per semester, depending on the award amount.

Continuing Student Scholarship Students currently enrolled at Weber State University or previously enrolled with no interim transfer credit may qualify for a scholarship. Students must have completed 12 semester credit hours at WSU. To be eligible for scholarships, please complete the following:

- Update your personal information through the student portal by the start of the spring semester.

- Be re-admitted or reactivated through Admissions if you have been out of school for more than one semester.
- Juniors and Seniors (those with over 60 hours) must have a declared major with their department and with Admissions.

Scholarships are available in the following categories:

Academic

High Honors/Honors Continuing Scholarship

Wildcat Activity Scholarships (to qualify, you must maintain a GPA of 2.5 or better) Financial

Need-Based Scholarships

Private Donor-Sponsored Departmental Scholarships, Private Donor-Sponsored Special-Condition Scholarships

Note: Some scholarships may need additional application or faculty nomination.

### Safety Issues

Illness and Injury

Students are encouraged to attend and watch class in the event of an illness or injury that allows them to do so.

Please do not come to school with a fever or nausea so as not to spread illness.

If an illness or injury prevents a student from participating for an extended period of time, an Incomplete may be considered in consultation with the course instructor and Dance faculty.

[Student Healthcare Services](#)

[Student Resources on Campus](#)

Code Purple Emergency Notification System <https://www.weber.edu/codepurple/> Code Purple is an emergency notification system that gives Weber State University the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly--by text, voice, and e-mail message. By enrolling in Code Purple, you may receive safety-related information, regardless of your location.

Weber State University is dedicated to the safety and well-being of all individuals on its campus. The university prohibits all forms of violence, discrimination, and harassment in accordance with university policy. Such behavior may take many forms and include sexual harassment, sexual violence, rape, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking and sexual exploitation.

<https://www.weber.edu/safeatweber>

## Dance Studio Safety

Dancers should remember a few key things to prevent injury:

Wear properly fitting clothing and shoes

Drink plenty of fluids

Resist the temptation to dance through pain

Pay close attention to correct technique

Be mindful of the limits of your body and do not push too fast too soon

Perform proper warm-up and cool-down

In the event of a dance-related injury in class or rehearsal please notify a faculty member as soon as possible. Cold packs and first aid kits are readily available in the dance spaces.

- **Cuts and scrapes.** The first step is to stop the bleeding by applying pressure with some clean gauze. When the bleeding has stopped, gently remove excess blood and apply some antibiotic ointment. Gently wrap the wound with some sterile gauze and tape or a bandage. Be on the lookout for signs of infection, including pain, swelling, and redness.

- **Bruises.** While most bruises will heal themselves after a week or two, try to protect the area from further impact. If a bruise is swollen or severe, make sure to see your doctor.

- **Sprains.** If you can bear some weight on the injury without much pain, chances are it's a sprain and not a break. Remember the acronym RICE: rest, ice, compress and elevate.

- **Bumps.** Most minor head bumps can be relieved with a cold compress or ice pack wrapped in a towel. If the bump is accompanied by bleeding, headache, vomiting, difficulty speaking, breathing trouble, or changes in vision, see your doctor. If the bump is associated with a loss of consciousness, seek emergency care immediately.

In the event of an emergency, please dial 911.

To contact Weber State University Campus Police, dial 1-801-626-6460.

## University Land Use Acknowledgment

Weber State University was built on land that has been cared for by the Fremont, Goshute, Paiute, Ute, and Shoshone peoples. As guests on their land, we would like to acknowledge them and their livelihoods for their past and current contributions in caring for the Earth. The land we are meeting on today has long served as a site of gathering and exchange for Native and Indigenous Peoples, which, in the state of Utah, includes eight federally recognized, sovereign tribes. It is they who have provided the landscapes and spaces for us to continue communing. It is important to recognize tribal sovereignty when we acknowledge the land. Tribal sovereignty is the right for American Indians and Alaska Natives to govern themselves, a right the United States Constitution recognizes. American Indian and Alaska Native tribal nations have distinct governments that hold the same authority as federal and state governments, thus allowing them to govern their communities, preserve their culture, control their economy,

define citizenship, enforce laws, and regulate property and land use, all of which further protect Indigenous land and people.

We would also like to acknowledge and honor the enslaved and colonized laborers who built and maintain the brick-and-mortar foundation of our country. They, too, sustained the land only to be mistreated continuously on an individual, institutional, and societal level.

Weber State University recognizes, validates, respects, and honors these sovereign nations and their traditions, cultures, and histories. In our work, we will continue to pay our respects to the elders who lived here before us and to the generations to come.

For more information, visit Weber State University's official [Land Acknowledgement website](#).

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