

# CURRICULUM

for the  
Doctoral programme

Name des Studiums	Künstlerisches Doktoratsstudium
Name of the programme	Doctor Artium Programme
Abkürzung	Dr.art.
Abbreviation	Dr.art.
Umfang/Dauer	180 ECTS Credits/ 3 Jahre
Credits/Duration	180 ECTS Credits/ 3 years
Unterrichtssprache	Englisch
Language of tuition	English

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## 1. Subject of the programme/preamble

Innovative artistic work is at the heart of the Doctor Artium programme of the mdw - University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna. It leads to the production of new knowledge and serves as an independent contribution towards the development and opening up of the arts. It assumes a diversity of forms of knowledge and understanding.

## 2. Qualifications profile

The programme enables its graduates to generate independent artistic research work which corresponds to international standards.

It is expected that within the programme, new knowledge about specific issues in the arts is generated, the relevant artistic research is contextualised, and the resulting knowledge production is documented and communicated in a suitable way. The following play an essential role here (with differing project-specific weightings): the development of and critical-systematic reflection on artistic practices, transdisciplinarity, collaboration<sup>1</sup>, plurimediality, the diversity of forms of knowledge, and an awareness for issues of social relevance. Graduates are familiar with the discourses on gender, diversity and intersectionality which are relevant to artistic research, and can apply them in their practice.

All of this puts graduates in a position where they can take on coordinating, executive and teaching functions, and can successfully assert themselves in national and international artistic environments.

## 3. Admission to the programme

The conditions are:

- a corresponding educational background; artistic excellence;
- the ability to think and reflect analytically and independently, and
- the quality and feasibility of the research plans.

### (1) Corresponding educational background

Admission to the Doctor Artium programme requires a Diploma or Master's degree in a relevant subject, or a Diploma or Master's degree from a university of applied sciences in a relevant subject (in accordance with Section 6 para. 4 of the Universities for Applied Sciences Degrees Act), or an equivalent degree from a recognised Austrian or foreign institution of tertiary education.

The language competence regulation of the Rectorate of the mdw applies.

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<sup>1</sup> Collaborative dissertation projects by several students are principally possible if the contributions and performance of the individual students can be assessed separately (Section 81 para.3 Universities Act)

## (2) Admission examination

The examination, which is held by an examination board, consists of two parts, whereby the documents for the first part have to be submitted in electronic form.

### **Part 1)**

- a) Evidence of a recognised artistic career.
- b) The presentation of examples of artistic work and, if necessary, additional material from which ability in analytical and independent thinking and reflection are recognisable.
- c) A written description of the dissertation project.

On the basis of part 1, the examination board decides whether to invite the candidate to part 2.

### **Part 2)**

This part consists of an interview with the board on the research project, and where appropriate an artistic presentation by the candidate which is related to the research project. This interview will be held (at least in part) in English.

The board subsequently decides on the suitability of the candidate for the programme.

## (3) Stipulation of individual supplements

On the basis of a recommendation by the admissions examination board – particularly in the case of interdisciplinary topics – the Rectorate can recommend supplementary courses of up to a maximum of 10 ECTS credits if the equivalence of the undergraduate degree is principally given and only individual supplements are lacking for full equivalence.

## (4) Dissertation agreement for the initial phase

After successful completion of the admission examination, an individually adapted dissertation agreement is concluded for the **initial phase**.

## 4. Structure of the programme

(1) The duration of the Doctor Artium programme is at least three years.

(2) The programme consists of attending lectures and courses and writing an artistic dissertation.

(3) The programme is divided into an **initial phase** and a **focus phase**. The initial phase is concluded with a **specialist examination** held by an examination board within the framework of the second or fourth *artistic research laboratory (public)* (see point 5) with the participation of the support team. At the specialist examination, the intermediate result of the dissertation project is presented.

(4) As part of the specialist examination, an adjustment / further specification of the dissertation for the focus phase is carried out.

(5) The language of tuition of the programme is English. In the research work and its documentation, other languages can be used as long as the support team agrees to this. This has to be laid down in the dissertation agreement.

## 5. Requirements of the programme

(1) In order to successfully complete the programme, doctoral students have to pass examinations with a total of 30 ECTS credits and to compile an artistic dissertation (150 ECTS credits).

The prescribed courses include the following:

a) **Theory and practice of artistic research (overview course), VS<sup>2</sup>**, amounting to a total of 4 ECTS credits in the initial phase. In this course, the approaches, issues, objectives and methods in artistic research are developed, particularly taking into account the current discourses on gender, diversity and intersectionality.

b) **Artistic research laboratory (internal) 1, 3 und 5, SP** in which all doctoral students provide updates to each other on their research work, discuss it and cooperate - a total of 9 ECTS credits.

c) **Artistic research laboratory (public) 2, 4 und 6, PR** as part of which the progress of the research projects is presented and to which at least one external expert is invited - a total of 9 ECTS credits.

d) **Optional subjects**, which are decided on in consultation between the doctoral student and the support team, and which are in relation to the chosen research topic - amounting to 5 ECTS credits.

e) **Private consultation 1-6, PV** - amounting to 3 ECTS credits.

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<sup>2</sup> Abbreviations: VS: lecture and seminar, SP: seminar and systematic reflection of arts practices, PR: systematic reflection of arts practices, PV: private consultation.

Doctor Artium programme – overview of courses													
Course title:	Art	Gr- oup size	Weekly hours per sem- ester	SWS total	ECTS	ECTS total	ECTS obligatory	Semester recommendation in ECTS credits					
								I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Theory and practice of artistic research (overview course) 1,2	VS	15	2	4	2	4	4	2	2				
Artistic research laboratory (internal) 1, 3 and 5	SP	15	3	9	3	9	9	3		3		3	
Artistic research laboratory (public) 2, 4 and 6	PR	15	3	9	3	9	9		3		3		3
Optional subjects				5	1	5	5		1	1	1	1	1
Private consultation	PV			3	0.5	3	3	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Artistic dissertation					150	150	150	24	24	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.5
<b>Total</b>				<b>30</b>		<b>180</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>30.5</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>

### (3) Linked prerequisites

The following conditions apply to attendance of the courses listed below:

1. Courses which are offered over several semesters have to be completed in ascending order.
2. Registration for the following courses is conditional on having successfully concluded the adjacent courses, which convey the necessary previous knowledge:

Courses following on from another course	Conditions fulfilled by
Course title, course type	Course title, course type
Artistic research laboratory (public) 2	Artistic research laboratory (internal) 1
Artistic research laboratory (internal) 3	Artistic research laboratory (public) 2
Artistic research laboratory (public) 4	Artistic research laboratory (internal) 3
Artistic research laboratory (internal) 5	Artistic research laboratory (public) 4
Artistic research laboratory (public) 6	Artistic research laboratory (internal) 5

## 6. Artistic dissertation

The artistic dissertation consists of a work of art as well as a written and/or media-based portrayal of the knowledge gained, in the sense of a reflective documentation which can be published and archived. The details have to be laid down in the dissertation agreement.

## 7 Examination regulations

### (1) Course examinations

The grades for passing course examinations are: very good (1), good (2), satisfactory (3) or sufficient (4). The fail grad is (5) Intermediate grades (e.g. 1.5) are not permitted. If this form of grading is impossible or does not fulfil the purpose, passing a course is indicated by the

statement 'participated successfully', and failure by 'participated unsuccessfully' (Section 72 Universities Act).

Artistic research laboratories 1-6 (internal and public)

Grading of the artistic research laboratories (internal and public) is either 'participated successfully' or 'participated unsuccessfully'.

(3) Final examination by an examination board

**Being permitted to sit** the final examination (examination board) **is conditional** on having passed the courses laid down in the curriculum and in the dissertation agreement, and having submitted the completed reflective documentation to the dean.

The final examination is structured as follows:

- **Public presentation of the artistic work** (6.) to the assessors in the form of a lecture performance or performance lecture (maximum duration 40 minutes).
- **Expertises** on the entire artistic dissertation will be obtained, and any points of criticism should be taken into consideration in a reworking of the reflective documentation.
- In the **viva voce** (defence of the dissertation), questions are posed to the candidate on the entire artistic dissertation, and they are given the opportunity to respond to the expertises and to discuss any points of criticism. If it was necessary to rework the reflective documentation, the reworked version must also be made available to the assessors.

After the viva voce, a final evaluation of the artistic dissertation is made by the reviewer.

## 8. Degree

After completion of the artistic doctorate, the degree of Doctor Artium, abbreviated to Dr.art., is awarded. If it is used, the title should be put before the person's name.

## 9. Coming into effect

This curriculum will come into effect on 1 October 2020 after its announcement in the mdw newsletter.

## Enclosure

Note: the enclosure does not form part of the curriculum and is only attached for information reasons.)

### **1) Documents for the first part of the admission examination, which have to be submitted in English in electronic form.**

a) Evidence of a recognised artistic career:

- Curriculum vitae
- Documentation of previous artistic accomplishments

b) The presentation of samples of artistic work and, if necessary, additional material from which an ability in analytical and independent thinking and reflection are recognisable:

- audio/video material in the form of online links
- links to websites, online documentation
- texts/publications

c) A written description of the dissertation project:

- general description of the dissertation project / overview
- project goal(s), artistic research issues, their context and (international) relevance
- intended methods the weighting in percentages of the artistic and/or academic sub-disciplines which are relevant for the project
- forms of documentation and dissemination which might be suitable
- the position of your own project
  - in relation to society and social relevance
  - the potential effect of the project
  - possibly: national and international networking
- other content-related aspects, ethical questions, added value (optional)

### **(2 Contents of the dissertation agreement for the initial phase**

After successful completion of the admission examination, an individually adapted dissertation agreement is concluded for the **initial phase**.

This establishes the following:

- Nomination of a supporting primary contact person
- Stipulation of a support team on the basis of the planned research contents. The team should include at least one professor. If necessary: attendance of additional courses in accordance with point 3 can be prescribed.
- If the research work and/or your documentation will contain the use of other languages apart from English, it must be clarified in advance whether the support



team agrees to their use. If so, a relevant clause should be included in the dissertation agreement. See point 4.

### **3) Description of courses**

#### **Theory and practice of artistic research (overview course) VS**

This course provides orientation regarding approaches, issues, objectives and methods in artistic research. Subsequently, students will be able to situate their own project in relation to ongoing discourses, and to question their own goals and methods in the context of artistic research in a critical and well-informed way. They will have an overview of current discourses on gender, diversity and intersectionality and apply them to generate relevant and critical artistic research. In order for the qualifications profile of the graduates (point 2) to be able to attain the necessary competence in relation to gender and diversity, this course will include team teaching with gender studies experts.

#### **Artistic research laboratory (internal) 1, 3 and 5, SP**

The internal laboratories are intended to give all doctoral candidates the opportunity to exchange information about the current status of their research work, to discuss it and cooperate with each other. The content-related analysis in a dialogue between lecturers and students contributes towards an objectivisation of reflection, and contextualises the participants' own research work.

#### **Artistic research laboratories (public) 2, 4 and 6, PR**

The public laboratories transfer the internal laboratories into a context in which the progress and partial results of the students' research projects are presented to an interested public. At least one external expert is invited to these laboratories. In this way, feedback on the artistic research process is taken to a broader level.

#### **Private consultation 1-6, PV**

Private consultations deal with the individual problems of research projects in the form of meetings and consultation between those producing a dissertation and the support team.