



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Reg. no U 2021/156

Faculty of Fine and Performing Arts, Malmö

## **General Syllabus for Third Cycle Studies in Visual Arts leading to a Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Fine Arts**

### **1. Programme details**

Programme and specialisation: Third cycle studies in Visual Arts

Code: KOKOFK01

Credits: 240

Cycle: Third

Degree title in English: Doctor of Philosophy in Fine Arts in Visual Arts Degree

Title in Swedish: Konstnärlig doktorexamen i fri konst

Syllabus approved by the Board of the Faculty of Fine and Performing Arts 24 March 2021.

### **2. Subject description**

The doctoral programme in Visual Arts or a degree of Doctor in Fine Arts is based on artistic knowledge and artistic work. This knowledge and work serve as the tools and perspectives for exploring the research issue selected by the student.

The focus of the programme is on independent artistic work, accompanied by a reflective text also addressing the theoretical context.

### **3. Objectives and outcomes of the programme**

The focus of the third cycle programme is on an artistic project to be developed through reflection, documentation and specialisation in both the individual student's field of enquiry and other relevant fields of knowledge. The choice of techniques, theories and methods is to be based on their relevance to the project and is to be made by the student and supervisor in consultation. The aim of the programme is to train students to be able to independently and reflectively plan, execute and document an enquiry in which a clearly defined research issue and relevant methods are used to provide a significant contribution to the field of visual arts.

The activities are to be conducted in forms that enable each and every student to develop in accordance with their personal circumstances and unaffected by irrelevant considerations of gender, ethnic or social background, religion or other belief, sexual orientation or disability. The Faculty of Fine and Performing Arts has a zero tolerance policy towards all forms of discrimination.

Third cycle studies in fine arts lead to a degree of *Doctor of Philosophy in Fine Arts*.

Pursuant to the Higher Education Ordinance, Annex 2, Qualifications Ordinance, for a degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Fine Arts in Visual Arts the third-cycle student shall

#### **Knowledge and understanding**

- demonstrate broad knowledge and systematic understanding of the research field as well as advanced and up-to-date specialised knowledge and creative ability within their artistic field, and
- demonstrate familiarity with artistic research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.

### **Competence and skills**

- demonstrate creative capacity within their artistic field
- demonstrate the capacity for artistic analysis and synthesis as well as the ability to review and assess new and complex phenomena, issues and situations autonomously and critically
- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate artistic issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake research and other qualified artistic tasks within predetermined time frames and to review and evaluate such work
- demonstrate through a documented artistic research project the ability to make a significant contribution to the formation of knowledge through his or her own research
- demonstrate the ability in both national and international contexts to present and discuss research and research findings with artistic authority and well-supported arguments in speech and writing and in dialogue with the academic community in general
- demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge, and
- demonstrate the capacity to contribute to social development and support the learning of others both through research and education and in some other qualified professional capacity.

### **Judgement and approach**

- demonstrate intellectual autonomy, artistic integrity and disciplinary rectitude as well as the ability to make assessments of research ethics, and
- demonstrate specialised insight into the possibilities and limitations of art, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used.

## **4. Programme design**

Third-cycle studies comprise 240 credits or four years of full-time study. The programme can also be pursued as part-time studies (at least 50 per cent). The language of instruction is English.

### **4.1 Programme structure**

The programme comprises 240 credits divided into courses and other components of 60 credits and a documented research project of 180 credits.

Each doctoral student is to present work in progress when 25, 50 and 75 per cent of the project has been completed and at a final seminar when approximately 90 per cent of the work has been completed. For the three latter of these presentations, an external reviewer is to be present. The reviewer is to be appointed by the supervisor and programme director in consultation.

For a degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Fine Arts, the students must have passed all assessed components of the programme and the artistic project.

### **4.2 Supervision**

At least two supervisors shall be appointed for each doctoral student, both of whom are to be responsible for the programme of study and artistic project in accordance with an allocation of duties decided by the Faculty Board. The principal supervisor should have theoretical, methodological and/or artistic expertise of relevance to the student's research area. The student is entitled to have an assistant supervisor appointed who has an expertise that complements that of the principal supervisor. The principal supervisor, in consultation with the doctoral student, is responsible for specifying the role and duties of the supervisor, and for maintaining a dialogue about the studies and artistic project between the doctoral student, principal supervisor and assistant supervisor. The doctoral student is entitled to supervision within the programme. The maximum allocation of hours for four years of supervision is 340 for principal supervisors (5 per cent of total working hours for four years) and 204 for assistant supervisors (3 per cent). The hours allocated cover all activities associated with supervision, including for example correspondence and reading. The supervision can take place individually or in groups and is provided to assist the student in defining a field of study and to support the progress of the artistic work. The doctoral student is entitled to change supervisor. A change of supervisor has to be approved by the Faculty Board.

#### ***4.3 Individual study plan***

The department is responsible for making sure that, at the start of the programme, the doctoral student and principal supervisor together draw up an individual study plan for the duration of the programme. It is to be designed in accordance with a template approved by the Faculty Board. The individual study plan is to include a time plan for the entire period of study, including both the course component and the artistic research project, a plan for the documentation of the artistic research project and a plan for the funding of both the artistic research project and the documentation. The individual study plan is also to state the degree of activity of the student and to be revised annually or when specific changes call for revisions.

The individual study plan is also to specify the duties and responsibilities of the different supervisors.

The research student must register for study at the start of each semester and indicate his or her planned degree of activity during the semester in consultation with the principal supervisor.

#### ***4.4 Courses/other assessed components, 60 credits***

##### **a) Compulsory components**

Course: Doctoral student seminars in fine art. Doctoral student seminars, 27 credits, addressing issues of relevance to the individual student's specialisation and issues of artistic processes. The aim of the seminars is to enable students to develop their ability to reflect on and communicate the artistic process.  
Course: Research ethics. Introductory course in research ethics, 3 credits.

##### **b) Elective components**

Course: The artistic research field of fine art. Individual components totalling 30 credits. The aim is to provide students with opportunities for specialised and in depth reflection on and communication of the artistic process.

#### ***4.5 Documented artistic research project of 180 credits***

The documented artistic research project is to provide an independent contribution to artistic research and knowledge development through a study of a specific field and is the main basis for assessing the student's attainment of the learning outcomes. The visual part (exhibition, performance etc.) is to form a conceptually coherent whole together with the written part. The documented artistic research project is to be presented in a form suitable to the art form and made available in a library/archive.

#### ***4.6 Departmental duties***

The doctoral student may engage in departmental duties amounting to a maximum of 20 per cent of the total time for studies. The programme of study will be extended by the number of hours devoted to departmental duties by the individual student.

### **5. Admission requirements**

Pursuant to Chapter 7 Section 35 of the Higher Education Ordinance, the requirements for admission to third-cycle courses and study programmes are that the applicant

1. meets the general and specific entry requirements that the higher education institution may have laid down, and
2. is considered in other respects to have the ability required to benefit from the course or study programme.

See points 5.2 and 6.2 for how these requirements are specified for the research subject of fine art.

#### ***5.1 General admission requirements***

Pursuant to Chapter 7 Section 39 of the Higher Education Ordinance, a person meets the general entry requirements for third-cycle courses and study programmes if he or she

- has been awarded a second-cycle qualification,
- has satisfied the requirements for courses comprising at least 240 credits of which at least 60 credits were awarded in the second-cycle, or
- has acquired substantially equivalent knowledge in some other way in Sweden or abroad.

The Faculty Board may permit an exemption from the general admission requirements for an individual applicant, if there are special grounds.

### ***5.2 Specific admission requirements***

Pursuant to Chapter 7 Section 40 of the Higher Education Ordinance, the specific entry requirements laid down shall be essential for students to be able to benefit from the course or study programme.

A person meets the specific admission requirements for third-cycle studies in fine arts if he or she

- has been awarded a degree of at least 240 credits in visual arts or has equivalent experience of artistic work, and
- has produced artistic or curatorial work of an independent nature sufficient for assessment of the candidate's suitability for the programme, and
- has a good ability to both understand and write texts in English

### ***5.3 Credit transfer***

A student who has completed some second cycle education or equivalent and obtained pass grades can transfer these credits to their third cycle programme, provided that the examiner assesses the previous studies as acceptable for credit transfer.

A doctoral student who has successfully completed parts of a third-cycle programme in fine arts at another higher education institution in Sweden is entitled to transfer the credits awarded to the third-cycle programme at Lund University. Studies at a higher education institution abroad may also be available for credit transfer. The extent to which credits for previous education may be transferred is determined by the examiner. Credit transfer is assessed individually and subject to an application from the student.

However, it is important that the documented artistic research project is and can be assessed as an identifiable whole.

## **6. Admission and selection**

Students are admitted to four years of full-time study leading to a degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Fine Arts. The admission to third-cycle studies is conducted in accordance with the Lund University regulations for admission to third-cycle studies.

### ***6.1 Admission***

An admissions board is to be appointed by the faculty board. All decisions on admission to third-cycle studies in fine arts are taken by the faculty board. Only applicants simultaneously appointed to a doctoral studentship may be admitted to a third-cycle programme leading to a degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Fine Arts. However, provided that the applicant meets the other admission requirements, the faculty board may admit an applicant who has some other form of funding for his or her studies if it considers that the funding can be guaranteed during the entire period of study and that the applicant can devote enough time to his or her studies to enable their completion within four years in the case of full-time studies. In such cases, a financing plan is to be in place at the time of admission. The plan is to specify the financial conditions for the doctoral student during the entire period of study.

The assessment of forms of funding other than a doctoral studentship is made by the faculty board in consultation with the departmental management concerned. A doctoral student with a doctoral studentship

is entitled to a workspace and equipment at the department.

## **6.2 Selection**

The applicant is to attach a research project plan to the application. The plan is to include a description of the project and a rough outline of its execution.

The basic criterion for selection among applicants is their qualifications at the time of application. A shortlisted number of applicants will be called to interviews. When necessary, the admissions board may request additional documentation.

The admissions board assesses the applicant's ability to profit from research studies on the basis of the following criteria

- the applicant's plan and aim for an artistic project and the admissions board's assessment of these,
- the applicant's suitability for artistic research,
- the artistic quality of the project and its feasibility in relation to the timeframe (i.e. a period of four years of full-time study),
- the quality of the project plan in terms of relevance, originality, research issues, links and relevance to the general area of knowledge and proposed methods, and
- the department's desired specialisation and access to supervisors.

The fact that an applicant is considered able to transfer credits from prior courses and study programmes or for professional or vocational experience may not give the applicant priority over other applicants.

## **7. Public defence**

The documented artistic research project is to be reviewed and defended publicly. Before the project can be presented at a public defence, it must be approved by the programme director/director of studies. This final presentation shall include a public discussion reporting and highlighting the artistic and reflective components of the project. Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, the student must have passed all the other components prior to the final presentation.

The defence is to take place within the academic year and at a place and time determined by the Faculty Board in consultation with the programme management and supervisor. The public defence is to be led by a chair and include an external reviewer and an examining committee. The documented components of the artistic research project are to be made available to the public in a library/archive at the latest four weeks in advance of the public defence.

A documentation produced jointly by two or more persons can be accepted as long as the individual contribution of the doctoral student can be distinguished.

The grades awarded for the artistic research project are Pass or Fail. For a degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Fine Arts, the student must have passed all the assessed components of the programme and the documented artistic research project.

The grade for the artistic research project is determined by an examining committee, which is appointed by the Faculty Board for the final presentation and is to have 3 or 5 members. One member is to be from Lund University and one an artist of relevance to the project. A supervisor of the doctoral student may not be a member of the examining committee. The external reviewer has the right to be present at the meeting of the examining committee and participate in the discussion but not in the decision. This also applies to the supervisors.

## **8. Further information**

Information on admission is available from the Faculty Office.