

Fine Arts

Curriculum

Diploma Degree Programme

Duration: 8 Semesters

Programme Number: 605

Central Artistic Subjects:

- Photography
- Graphics
- Painting
- Painting and Animated Film
- Site-Specific Art
- Sculpture and Space

This is the English translation of the original German version. Only the latter is legally binding.

Approved by the Senate of the University of Applied Arts Vienna on
15 May 2014.

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§ 1. Profile

The programme revolves around contemporary fine arts in its variety of forms.

Based on historical and current trends at the Angewandte, the central artistic subjects currently on offer and shaping the programme contents are *Photography, Graphics, Painting, Painting and Animated Film, Site-Specific Art* plus *Sculpture and Space*. On top of that, students may select from a broad spectrum of courses – as per the continuously updated schedule of availability – to individually add to their central artistic subject.

The dynamic area of development and production which exists between all artistic and scientific departments and workshops at the Angewandte opens up a multitude of work opportunities of high quality for all students of the Fine Arts programme. The format of the diploma degree programme provides the framework required to encourage students' independent artistic growth.

According to the Angewandte's development plan¹, graduates of the Fine Arts programme are to be „successful in their career, innovative, able to take criticism, responsible characters who will think outside the box in the world of art, creative businesses and far beyond“.

The continuous critical analysis and systematic development of the curriculum reflects the constant change of the vocational field of fine arts.

§ 2. Programme Objective and Qualification Profile

Contemporary artists are active in a variety of contexts; they use highly diverse media and materials. Their works may cover artistic-practical, theoretical, conceptual and scientific aspects in all areas of society. Therefore, the objective of the Fine Arts programme is to create the conditions for artistic and financially autonomous actions, thus enabling individually defined, artistic careers.

Graduates are to be able to independently handle materials, tools and the “language” of fine arts. Based on extensive knowledge and understanding of contemporary and historical practices and theories in the context of fine arts, as well as in the broader cultural and social context, graduates will have developed an awareness, which enables them to contribute the following skills and abilities to their own artistic practice, plus any other vocational and social areas:

- The ability to develop an artistic practice which will include production, presentation, administration, self-management and marketing
- The ability to refine manual skills according to the requirements of the own, artistic work
- Profound knowledge and understanding of current trends evolving in the practices, dialogues and contexts of contemporary fine arts
- Knowledge of technical skills and theories, as well as organizational skills and communication competences relevant to artistic work
- The skill set for inter- and transdisciplinary work and research
- Conceptual and aesthetic awareness and understanding
- Forming and communicating ideas and thoughts visually, orally and in writing
- Strategies for creating ideas and developing experimental approaches on use of appropriate media
- Recognising contexts in which the own work may flourish
- Understanding and awareness of gender and diversity issues
- Clear understanding of the system „Art“ and its mechanics
- The ability to act in economic independence
- The ability to contribute to current discussions regarding art, culture and society issues

¹ University of Applied Art Vienna: Development Plan 2013-2015, p.12.

The wide range of courses available to students will enable them during their studies to specialize according to individual orientation. In this context of artistic and scientific disciplines, they can also acquire skills:

- to work academically,
- to lead and carry out a research project,
- to work effectively as part of a team.

§ 3. Duration and Academic Degree

(1) In accordance with § 54, para. 1 of the University Act 2002, the diploma degree programme of Fine Arts belongs to the group of Artistic Studies. It covers 240 ECTS credits, which represents a minimum duration of studies of eight semesters.

(2) On graduating successfully, the academic degree of Magister/Magistra artium is awarded (Magister/Magistra of Arts, abbreviated to „Mag.art.“).

§ 4. Structure

(1) The programme is split into two study segments, the first of which covers 60, the second 180 ECTS. Central artistic subjects are Photography, Graphics, Site-Specific Art, Painting, Painting and Animated Film, as well as Sculpture and Space.

(2) The first study segment is designed to support students in finding their way through the programme of Fine Arts. Starting from the selected central artistic subject, students should explore their individual potential with regard to their study goals and further development of their personal set of competences.

(3) The second study segment enables students to advance and deepen the own, independent approach of contents, materials, tools and „language“ of fine arts. A wide range of artistic and scientific courses provides students with the impulses which will enable them to gain sound understanding of contemporary and historical practices and theories in the context of fine arts, as well as in the broader contexts of culture and society. With their diploma thesis, students can demonstrate on use of an appropriate artistic topic that they possess the skills for consistent development of an independent practice of the arts.

§ 5. Entrance Examination

(1) Passing the exam of an examination board is a prerequisite for admission to the diploma degree programme. This examination is used to determine whether applicants' artistic skills are suitable for progression from the competence profile of the first study segment to an artistic advancement in the second study segment.

(2) The entrance examination consists of two parts:

1. presenting a portfolio of specimen of artistic works and
2. a written artistic examination.

(3) The entrance examination boards for each central artistic subject are set up by the vice-rector for academic affairs; each board consists of at least three members of the teaching staff, each holding one vote. In their review of applicants, the examination board may involve students and the working group on equal treatment issues.

(4) On handing in their portfolios, applicants are to name the requested central artistic subject.

(5) The entrance examination has been completed successfully, when the examination board has passed both parts. As per § 8, para. 3, the pass mark will entitle students to attend the appropriate central artistic subject.

§ 6. First Study Segment: Introduction

(1) The contents of the first study segment (60 ECTS) are:

- Central artistic subject (30 ECTS)
- Introduction and tutorial (1 ECTS): Introduction into the programme of Fine Arts, offers and opportunities available in the Angewandte's artistic and scientific courses, in the workshops, the library, the archive etc. Assisted by graduates and students of higher semesters: Discussion about potential vocational prospects.
- Introductory lecture (2 ECTS) in one of the Angewandte's workshops, based on the schedule of available courses
- Art History Cycle II-IV (6 ECTS)
- Life Drawing and Study of Nature (4 ECTS)
- Introduction into Working Academically (3 ECTS)
- Courses of own choice (14 ECTS)

§ 7. Second Study Segment: Advancement

(1) The second study segment (180 ECTS) consists of courses to the extent of 150 ECTS, which are to be completed in accordance with the terms listed in appendix 1, plus the diploma thesis extending to 30 ECTS.

(2) As defined in appendix 2, further minimum requirements are to be fulfilled depending on the selected central artistic subject.

(3) The final course from the central artistic subject will support students to prepare for self-reliant work on the artistic diploma thesis. This thesis covers 30 ECTS credits and serves as evidence of the ability to independently handle, with regard to content and methods, a topic from one of the central artistic subjects.

(4) Should students decide to prepare a scientific diploma thesis in accordance with § 83, para. 1 of the University Act 2002, they have to complete, prior to selecting a supervising tutor and as part of their free electives, courses of at least 14 ECTS from the group „scientific and research practice“. These courses must contain at least two seminars and two further courses from the selected study subject of the diploma thesis.

§ 8. Central Artistic Subject

(1) The central artistic subject (ZKF) is at the center of art education. Here, students will develop their individual artistic identity and investigate their potential and mindset as an artist. They will report on it and discuss it, both within the group and in individual mentoring sessions with the head of the appropriate artistic department and/or department staff. The ZKF may also contain seminars, group work and separate projects.

(2) Courses of the ZKF encompass 15 ECTS each and are offered in the form of individual artistic tutoring (KE).

(3) Students of Fine Arts earn the right to attend ZKF-courses based on the entrance examination's positive appraisal by the examination board responsible for this particular ZKF or – as an alternative for students from another ZKF – based on the positive assessment of a portfolio presented for this purpose to the head of the appropriate artistic department.

(4) It is possible to attend a course from another ZKF (guest semester), provided the evaluator of the most recent, completed ZKF-course and the teaching staff member in charge of the other ZKF-course both agree.

(5) In addition to the study programme's name of "Fine Arts", the final examination certificate, the notice of the degree award and the graduation certificate are all to display the subject to which the diploma thesis referred as the core subject.

§ 9. Diploma Thesis

(1) The topic of an artistic diploma thesis must originate from an area of a central artistic subject. The topic of a scientific diploma thesis must originate from the group of courses „scientific and research practice“ (cf. list in appendix 1).

(2) After completing all mandatory courses of the study programme, students may propose their topic to a supervising tutor possessing the subject-relevant background and an appropriate authorization to teach in accordance with the University Statute's section regarding study matters, or students may select a topic from a range of suggestions. In order to ensure that students may fully concentrate on the diploma thesis, a supervising tutor cannot be allocated as long as courses coming up to more than 8 ECTS are still to be completed.

§ 10. Exam Regulations

(1) Course examinations

Course examinations will be carried out as written or oral exams by the lecturers in charge of the courses. Examination contents, methods and assessment criteria are to be announced in a suitable manner prior to the start of each semester.

(2) Central artistic subject

Courses from the central artistic subject are courses of continuous assessment, i.e. students' work will be continuously assessed during the whole semester with a conclusion at the end of the semester.

(3) Introduction and tutorial

The assessment of the „Introduction and Tutorial“ will be worded as "mit Erfolg teilgenommen" (successfully completed /pass) or "ohne Erfolg teilgenommen" (unsuccessfully completed /fail).

(4) Diploma examinations

The diploma examinations conclude the appropriate study segment:

1. The first diploma examination consists of the successful completion of all courses allocated to the first study segment.
2. The second diploma examination consists of the successful completion of all courses allocated to the second study segment, whereas the minimum requirements, as listed in appendix 1 and 2 for each central artistic subject, are to be met. In addition, the examination board's positive assessment of the artistic diploma thesis, respectively the supervising tutor's assessment of the scientific diploma thesis, is necessary.

§ 11. Effective Date

The curriculum comes into effect on 1 October 2014.

§ 12. Transitory Regulations (Statutory Regulation)

Students who gained admittance to one of the majors of the previous programme of Fine Arts are entitled to complete their studies within the standard minimum period, plus an allowance of two additional semesters per study segment. Alternatively, they may apply – within the admission period – to transfer to the programme of Fine Arts which is not structured into majors, as outlined in this present curriculum.

**Appendix 1 (to § 7, para. 1 and § 10, para. 4):
 Study Subjects and Study Subject Groups of the Second Study Segment**

The ECTS allocated to individual study subjects are minimum requirements applicable to all students of Fine Arts. They are supplemented by additional requirements for each central artistic subject, as listed in appendix 2. All other courses may be freely selected within the individual study subject groups.

Study Subject Group of Artistic and Research Practice	ECTS 87
Central artistic subjects (ZKF): Photography, Graphics, Site-Specific Art, Painting, Painting and Animated Film, plus Sculpture and Space	75
Offers beyond the ZKF: Sculpting, Digital Work, Printmaking, Photography, Ceramics, Video, Drawing, and others	2
Fine Arts Basics	2
Writing and Talking about Art, Contextualising Own Artistic Work	2
Exhibition Practice and Curating	
Free Electives (or as regulated by appendix 2) from the whole of the study subject group	6
Study Subject Group of Scientific and Research Practice	ECTS 15
Art Theory, Cultural Studies, Art History, Philosophy	8
Media Theory, Art and Knowledge Transfer, Theory of Architecture, Theory and History of Design	
Free Electives (or as regulated by appendix 2) from the whole of the study subject group. At least 2 ECTS to originate from Gender Studies	7
Study Subject Group of Artistic Practice in Technical Context	ECTS 15
Subject-specific Techniques	
Workshops: Computer Studio, Wood Technology, Ceramics, Printmaking, Metal Technology, Textile Technology, and others	
Free Electives (or as regulated by appendix 2) from the whole of the study subject group	15
Study Subject Group of Economic and Organizational Practice	ECTS 3
Self-management and Project Management	
Copyright and Legal Right of Use	
Business Administration for Artists	
Free Electives (or as regulated by appendix 2) from the whole of the study subject group	3
Free Electives	ECTS 30
<i>In addition to courses offered at the Angewandte, students may also make use of scientific and artistic courses available at any Austrian university or the Angewandte's partner universities abroad (as part of exchange programmes) – provided students meet those universities' terms of admission.</i>	

**Appendix 2 (to § 7, para. 2 and § 10, para. 4):
 Further Requirements Depending on the Selected Central Artistic Subject**

Depending on the selected central artistic subject, students must attend courses from the following study subject groups to the minimum extent listed:

Photography	ECTS 0
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Graphics	
from: Technical Context of Artistic Practice	
Techniques of Printmaking	8
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Site-Specific Art	ECTS 0
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Painting	ECTS 0
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Painting and Animated Film	ECTS 4
from: Artistic and Research Practice	
Art History	2
from: Technical Context of Artistic Practice	
Painting Techniques	2
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Sculpture and Space	ECTS 0