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Master curriculum

Sculptural Conceptions / Ceramics

Decision of the Study Commission for Art and Design of 2 April 2003, in accordance with §15. Abs. 3 UniStG of BMBWK GZ 52.352/6-VII/6/2003 (Act Governing University Studies) of 27 June 2003, amended by decision of the Curricula Committee of 10 May 2006, amended by decision of the Curricula Committee of 13 June 2007, amended by decision of the Curricula Committee of 7 May 2008, amended by decision of the Curricula Committee of 2 June 2010, amended by decision of the Curricula Committee of 6 June 2012, amended by decision of the Curricula Committee of 6 June 2018.

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1. Study objectives and qualification profile

1.1 Curriculum

The four-semester master programme Sculptural Conceptions / Ceramics at the University of Art and Design Linz is aimed at graduates of the bachelor programme Sculptural Conceptions / Ceramics or other programmes in the field of visual arts. It encourages students to develop and reflect on an individual artistic position in the context of the contemporary art scene.

1.2 Prioritisation

Based on the entire art field, Sculptural Conceptions / Ceramics develops a special approach through the exploration of materials. This focus promotes the reflection of the changing importance of materiality in society. The digitisation of our everyday world increasingly shifts the production of knowledge and goods into globalised, dematerialised and virtual spaces. Because of these developments, chances for a haptic experience of the environment decrease. Profound changes have triggered a discourse regarding the importance of materiality which reflects in art focusing on materials. The programme Sculptural Conceptions / Ceramics aims at the creation of new artistic concepts contributing to the discourse on materiality. In this context, ceramic materials have exemplary significance.

1.3. Study objectives

The programme trains students to realise art projects independently and to position themselves in the current art discourse. It builds on and improves the competencies regarding conception, realisation and reflection of artistic projects which have been acquired in a previous programme. Students demonstrate self-initiative in pursuing and exploring individual contents and themes and developing an individual artistic stance. The positioning of art projects in different contexts has a special significance. In order to prepare students for professional practice, the programme promotes the publication of their works within different contexts.

1.4 Qualification profile

The master programme Sculptural Conceptions / Ceramics imparts the ability to conceptualise, realise and reflect on artworks and prepares students for the professional profile of an artist. The skills acquired in the course of the programme enable graduates to work in various cultural fields, e.g. art communication, curatorial work, teaching or cultural journalism. Instead of providing a clearly defined occupational profile, it imparts the flexibility needed to manage the constantly changing requirements of wider fields of work.

2. Academic Degree

Graduates of the master programme Sculptural Conceptions / Ceramics receive the degree Master of Arts (abbr. MA).

3. Programme structure and schedule

3.1 Basic structure

The master programme Sculptural Conceptions / Ceramics comprises four semesters (120 ECTS). Average workload is 30 ECTS per semester.

120 ECTS are divided into the following study areas:

Professionalisation	4
Cultural Studies	6
Labs	20
Central Art Subjectc	45
Master Project	30
Free Electives	15
total	120 ECTS

These study areas are distributed over four semesters:

	1st year		2nd year		total
Professionalisation	2	2			4
Cultural Studies	3	3			6
Labs	8	8	4		20
Central Art Subjectc	12	12	21		45
Master Project				30	30
Free Electives	5	5	5		15
total	30	30	30	30	120 ECTS

Some courses maybe be deferred to another semester.

3.2 Study areas

For **Cultural Studies**, students can select courses in disciplines such as art theory, art history, cultural studies, media theory or gender studies at the University of Art and Design Linz. They are advised to select different subjects in the course of the programme.

Labs offer students the chance to improve their technical skills, if possible in the course of realising artistic ideas. They can be selected according to clearly defined learning objectives.

The labs of the programme Sculptural Conceptions / Ceramics focus on ceramics, but also on other materials and media. Furthermore, students can select labs from the entire range of courses offered by the university, e.g. photography/video, digital media or other sculptural media.

The project-oriented **Central Art Subject** imparts artistic skills and functions as an interface to different courses. It combines the conception, realisation and analysis of artistic projects. Projects grow in scale in the course of the programme. Students should experience artistic work as a form of acting in different contexts. The Central Art Subject creates a connection to courses on art and cultural studies, media theory and gender studies.

As a preparation for professional work, students practice methods of oral and written presentation of concepts and projects. The training of research methods and excursions complement Central Art Subject classes.

Professionalisation focuses on communication and networking in the cultural sector and promotes artistic independence.

The **Free Electives** can be selected from the courses offered by the University of Art and Design Linz or by other domestic or foreign universities.

3.3. Modularisation

The programme is structured in Master Modules. They allow students to develop art projects independently and to gain the competences need for their realisation.

3.4 Suggested schedule

	Theory, Professionalisation	Master Modules	Free Electives
1st sem.	Cultural Studies 3 ECTS Professionalisation 2 ECTS	Master Module I 20 ECTS (12 ECTS Central Art Subject 8 ECTS Labs)	5 ECTS
2nd sem.	Cultural Studies 3 ECTS Professionalisation 2 ECTS	Master Module II 20 ECTS (12 ECTS Central Art Subject 8 ECTS Labs)	5 ECTS
3rd sem.		Master Module III 25 ECTS (21 ECTS Central Art Subject 4 ECTS Labs)	5 ECTS
4th sem.		Master Project 30 ECTS	

3.5 Programme overview

1st and 2nd semester:

Master Modules I and II facilitate the development of art projects and prepare students for their professional careers by letting them select labs corresponding to the projects of the Central Art Subject and their individual interests. Labs impart the skills which are required for the realisation of the respective project.

Assessment takes place in the form of a board examination including the presentation of project documentation.

3rd semester:

Master Module III prepares students for the master examination. The individual selection of a project allows students to clarify their artistic stance.

Assessment takes place in the form of a board examination including the presentation of project documentation.

Master project:

In the fourth semester, students develop their master project. It comprehends an artistic project chosen in consultation with a supervisor. Completion of the project must be possible within a timeframe of six months. Additionally, students must produce a paper which documents and reflects on the project.

3. Examination regulations

3.1 Admission to the programme

Applicants must hold an academic bachelor's degree. Admission requires a board examination which consists of the following parts:

1. submission of a portfolio including work samples
2. an interview with the admission board

ad 1) The portfolio gives the admission committee an overview of the applicant's previous work. It must be submitted together with a curriculum vitae and academic records within a specified deadline. If the committee accepts the portfolio, the applicant receives an invitation to the interview.

Ad 2) The members of the admission committee conduct an interview with the applicant based on the submitted portfolio.

Graduates of the bachelor programme *Sculptural Conceptions / Ceramics* at the University of Art and Design Linz do not require an admission examination but they are recommended to seek a counselling session regarding individual study objectives.

3.2 German language proficiency

Students whose native language is not German must provide evidence of their knowledge of the German language before the start of the third semester at the latest.

3.3 Examinations

Courses are completed with an assessment corresponding to the course type (oral, written and/or practical exam).

Examiners must inform the students on teaching contents at the beginning of the semester, allowing them to prepare according to the examination requirements. Modules are completed by a board examination.

3.4 Master examination

The master programme *Sculptural Conceptions / Ceramics* is completed by a master examination.

Admission to this examination requires successful completion of all parts of the programme (except for the master project).

Students must present their master project to the examination board and submit a portfolio illustrating the projects completed during the programme.

The grade of the master examination is the final grade of the programme.

Final examination: The grade 'sehr gut' (very good) is replaced with 'passed with distinction'.