

Faculty of Fine Art, Music, and Design, University of Bergen

Programme Description for the PhD Programme in Artistic Research

(This is an unofficial translation of the Norwegian version of “Programbeskrivelse for ph.d.-program i kunstnerisk utviklingsarbeid” and is provided for information purposes only. In the event of any inconsistency, the Norwegian version shall prevail.)

Approved by the Faculty Board 15.06.2023. Editorial changes 27.06.2023.

The programme description is regulated by *the Regulations for the Degree of Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) in Artistic Research at the University of Bergen* (referred to as UiB's Regulations for PhD in Artistic Research in this programme description).

As a supplement to the programme description, the faculty's specific guidelines and other documents are available at [The PhD education at KMD | Faculty of Fine Art, Music and Design | UiB](#)

Contents:

1 Objectives, Scope, and Qualification

- 1.1 General
- 1.2 Learning Outcomes

2 Admission

- 2.1 Admission Requirements
- 2.2 Agreement Period

3 Structure and Content of the Programme

- 3.1 Mandatory Activities and Work Methods
- 3.2 Supervision
- 3.3 Progress Reporting
- 3.4 Midway Evaluation
- 3.5 Final Seminar
- 3.6 Training Component
 - 3.6.1 Interdisciplinary Training Component
 - 3.6.2 Individual Project-specific Training Component

4 Completion

- 4.1 PhD result
- 4.2 Application for Assessment
- 4.3 Submission of the result
- 4.4 Assessment Committee's Work
- 4.5 Errata
- 4.6 Publication and Archiving

5 Quality Assurance

1 Objectives, Scope, and Qualification

1.1 General

The name of the programme is the *PhD Programme in Artistic Research at the Faculty of Fine Art, Music, and Design*. Completion of the programme grants the following qualification: Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) in Artistic Research.

This PhD education aims to qualify students for artistic research of international standard and for other positions in society that require a high level of artistic insight and competence, in accordance with good academic practice and ethical standards.

The PhD education will provide candidates with knowledge, skills, and competencies in line with the requirements of the Norwegian Qualification Framework for PhD (3rd cycle).

The PhD education is built upon a master's degree in performing or creative arts, equivalent to the 2nd cycle in the Norwegian Qualification Framework, or equivalent level of competence.

The PhD education is normed to three (3) years of full-time study and includes an independent project and a training component of a minimum of 30 credits.

1.2 Description of Learning Outcomes

The requirements for learning outcomes for the entire programme follow the requirements in the Regulations on the Norwegian Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning and the reference to the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning of 2017, level 8. These requirements constitute a coherent whole and must be considered in relation to each other.

<i>Knowledge</i>	<i>Skills</i>	<i>General Competance</i>
The candidate: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• is at the forefront of knowledge in their field and possesses artistic understanding and methods.• can assess the appropriateness and application of different methods and processes in artistic research.• can contribute to the development of new knowledge, theories, methods, interpretations, and forms of documentation within the field.	The candidate: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• can formulate research questions, plan, and carry out artistic research.• can engage in artistic research at a high international level.• can handle complex academic questions and challenge established knowledge and practices in the field.	The candidate: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• can identify new relevant ethical issues and conduct research with academic integrity.• can manage complex interdisciplinary tasks and projects.• can communicate research and development work through recognized national and international channels.• can participate in debates within the field in international forums.• can assess the need for, initiate, and drive innovation.

2 Admission

2.1 Admission requirements

Requirements for education or equivalent qualifications are described in UiB's Regulations for the Degree of Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) in Artistic Research § 5-1.

The application should normally include:

- Documentation of the education and qualifications that form the basis for admission
- Project description, including:
 - Academic description of the project
 - Progress plan
 - Financing plan*
 - Description of specific needs for academic and material resources
 - Any plans for stays at other institutions
 - Plan for dissemination of results
 - Information on any intellectual property restrictions to protect the rights of others, as outlined in UiB's Regulations for the Degree of Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) in Artistic Research § 5-2
- Indication of affiliation with an active artistic research environment at the institution
- Explanation of any legal and ethical issues raised by the project and how they can be clarified. The application should state whether the project requires permission from research ethics committees or other authorities, or from individuals (informants, patients, parents, etc.). Such permissions should, if possible, be included with the application

Residency at the faculty is normally required for candidates employed by the faculty.

*Applicants without a doctoral position at the Faculty of Fine Art, Music, and Design must provide a plan for satisfactory financing for the entire research education period, including living expenses and research-related operational costs. It is not possible to apply for admission based on self-financing.

2.2 Agreement Period

- The PhD education is normed to three (3) years of full-time study
- For research fellows employed at UiB, the three years will normally be part of a four-year employment contract, with one year of work duty distributed over the years according to further agreement
- The maximum planned study period is six (6) years. The study period is considered completed upon the public presentation of the artistic result
- After the agreement period expires, the parties' rights and obligations under the PhD agreement cease, which means that the stipend holder may lose their right to supervision, course participation, and access to the faculty's infrastructure. However, the candidate can still apply to present the PhD result for assessment
- The faculty can extend the agreement period upon reasoned application. In case of granted extension, the faculty may impose additional conditions

3 Structure and Content of the Program

3.1 Mandatory Activities and Work Methods

Programme Description for the PhD Programme in Artistic Research

- The candidate, under active supervision, must carry out independent artistic research work.
- The candidate must attend supervision meetings with the appointed supervisor(s).
- The candidate must undergo a midway evaluation according to the applicable guidelines.
- The candidate must participate in a final seminar according to the applicable guidelines.
- The candidate must complete a mandatory interdisciplinary training component equivalent to 20 ECTS in the Norwegian Artistic Research School.
- The candidate must complete an individual training component equivalent to 10 ECTS.
- The candidate must publicly present the artistic result of the artistic research in accordance with UiB's Regulations for the Degree of Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) in Artistic Research § 10-1 and § 12-6.
- The candidate must provide the artistic reflection in accordance with UiB's Regulations for the Degree of Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) in Artistic Research § 10-1 and § 12-6 and § 12-7.
- The candidate must publish the PhD result in accordance with UiB's Regulations for the Degree of Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) in Artistic Research § 10-1, § 12-6, and § 12-7.
- The candidate must publicly defend the PhD result through a public defence in accordance with UiB's Regulations for the Degree of Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) in Artistic Research § 13.

The candidate must be present at the institution and be affiliated with a research group, a research project, or an identifiable academic community with regular activities.

Engaging in dialogue with peers locally, nationally, and internationally is an important part of project development.

3.2 Supervision

Requirements for the supervisors' competence are described in UiB's Regulations for PhD in Artistic Research § 6-2. The content of the supervision is described in § 6-3.

- As a general rule, the candidate should have two supervisors. Typically, a main supervisor and one or more co-supervisors are appointed.
- Co-supervisors are experts who share the academic responsibility for the candidate with the main supervisor.
- The main supervisor should normally be employed by the Faculty of Fine Art, Music, and Design.
- The faculty itself can appoint a main supervisor who is not employed by the faculty. In such cases, the co-supervisor should be employed by the faculty.
- The main supervisor is obliged to maintain regular contact with the co-supervisor(s) regarding the candidate's academic progress.
- *UiB's Ethical Guidelines for the Relationship between Supervisor and Student or Candidate at the University of Bergen*¹ should form the basis for the supervision relationship.
- The candidate and supervisor(s) should have regular contact. The frequency of contact should be stated in the annual progress report.
- Supervision is normally conducted individually. It can also include joint supervision with both/all supervisors or group supervision with multiple candidates and supervisors together.

¹<https://regler.app.uib.no/regler/Del-2-Forskning-utdanning-og-formidling/2.2-Utdanning/2.2.5.-Kvalitetssikring-akkreditering-grader-med-videre/Etiske-retningslinjer-for-relasjonen-mellom-veileder-og-student-eller-kandidat-ved-Universitetet-i-Bergen>

Programme Description for the PhD Programme in Artistic Research

- The candidate and main supervisor should review the project description, budget, and training component plan together as soon as possible and no later than three (3) months after admission. They should assess any need for adjustments.
- Significant changes in the project description must be approved by the faculty itself. The revised and dated project description, budget, and training component plan should be submitted to the faculty.
- The supervisors should provide guidance on the scope of the topic and research questions, evaluate methods and results, including documentation and presentation formats, and contribute to an understanding of the current academic discourse.
- The supervisors should provide guidance to the candidate on ethical issues related to the PhD project.
- The supervisors should stay informed about the progress of the candidate's work and assess it in relation to the project description's schedule.
- Supervisors should follow up on academic matters that may cause delays in the completion of the PhD education, ensuring that it is completed within the prescribed time frame.
- For the main supervisor, the supervision agreement typically includes a total of 180 working hours for the entire study period, estimated at 60 working hours per academic year, of which at least 20 hours per academic year should be direct contact time between the candidate and the supervisor.
- For co-supervisors, the agreement typically includes a total of 120 working hours for the entire study period, estimated at 40 working hours per academic year, of which at least 15 hours per academic year should be direct contact time between the candidate and the co-supervisor.
- If multiple co-supervisors are appointed, their working hours should normally be covered within the total supervision resources of 300 hours for the entire study period.
- 10% of the supervisors' working hours should be allocated for participation in mandatory supervisor training and academic gatherings organized by the Faculty of Fine Art, Music, and Design or the Programme for Artistic Research/Norwegian Artistic Research School.

3.3 Progress Reporting

- The candidate and the main supervisor should submit separate progress reports each year according to UiB's guidelines for progress reporting.
- The candidate and the main supervisor submit a simplified report if the progress report coincides with the semester for the midway evaluation.
- The Division of Research and Innovation (FIA) facilitates the assessment. The responses of the candidates and supervisors will be made available to the management of the faculties and institutes.
- Insufficient or unsatisfactory progress reporting from the candidate may result in forced termination of the PhD education before the expiration of the agreement period.
- Supervisors who fail to follow the reporting obligations may be relieved of their supervisory responsibilities.
- In connection with reporting, the candidate and main supervisor should review the project description and budget and assess the need for adjustments. Significant changes should be approved by the faculty itself.

Programme Description for the PhD Programme in Artistic Research

3.4 Midway Evaluation

- Each candidate should conduct a midway evaluation of their PhD work in accordance with the guidelines of the faculty.
- The midway evaluation should typically take place in the third or fourth semester of a three-year study program or the fourth or fifth semester of a four-year study programme.
- The main purpose of the midway evaluation is to help the candidate identify factors that may pose a risk of project stagnation or delays and provide input to enhance the quality of the work.
- The candidate will present their work and be evaluated by a group of at least two individuals appointed by the faculty. The evaluation group will assess the academic status and progress and provide feedback to the candidate, supervisor, and faculty.
- If the evaluation group reports significant weaknesses in the PhD work, measures will be taken to address the situation.

3.5 Final Seminar

- Each candidate should conduct a final seminar in accordance with the guidelines of the faculty.
- The final seminar typically takes place three (3) months before the application for assessment.
- The candidate will present a plan for the public disclosure of the artistic result and a draft of the artistic reflection.
- The main purpose of the final seminar is to assess whether the preliminary results, plan for public presentation of the artistic result, and draft of the reflection material are at a level where the department can recommend an application for assessment, and to provide input to enhance the quality of the work.
- The committee typically consists of three members: the department head/research leader, the main supervisor, and another academic staff member from the research group, project, or environment to which the candidate is affiliated. The committee is chaired by the department head or research leader.
- If the committee identifies significant weaknesses in the project, the committee chair will call for a follow-up meeting with the main supervisor and candidate within two months and before the candidate applies for final assessment.

3.6 Training Component

- The training component in the PhD programme in artistic research consists of two components:
 - Interdisciplinary training component (20 credits)
 - Individual project-specific training courses (10 credits)
- Both components are typically taken after admission to the programme and must be completed and approved before the artistic reflection is submitted.

Course	Credits per academic year		
	First year	Second year	Third year
Interdisciplinary training component	20		
Individual project-specific training component	10		-

3.6.1 Interdisciplinary training component

- The interdisciplinary training component (20 ECTS) is organized through the Norwegian Artistic Research School as an offering to all candidates in Norwegian PhD programmes in artistic research.
- The interdisciplinary training component is compulsory for all candidates in this PhD programme.
- The purpose, learning outcomes, and activities are described in the Research School's Description of Training Offer and in annually revised course plans.
- The faculty assesses the course as pass/fail based on reported participation from the Norwegian Artistic Research School.

3.6.2 Individual project-specific training component

- The individual training component is project-specific and aims to enhance the PhD candidate's competence to carry out their own project.
- The training component will typically consist of several components, such as subject-specific courses, necessary technical training, study trips, participation with presentations at relevant conferences, courses or modules at the faculty or other faculties at UiB, courses from the Grieg Research School, or other institutions.
- A plan for the individual training component should be developed in consultation with the supervisor, as soon as possible and no later than three (3) months after admission to the PhD programme. The plan must be approved by the faculty. The plan should specify when each component should be completed and the volume it represents. Any changes to the plan must be approved by the faculty.
- The faculty approves the course as completed when the PhD candidate has completed and documented participation in the planned activities. Participation must be confirmed in writing by course leaders or other responsible individuals.

4 Completion

4.1 PhD Result

- The PhD result consists of an artistic result and materials documenting artistic reflection.
- Requirements for the PhD result are stipulated in UiB's regulations for PhD in Artistic Research § 10-1.
- The artistic result should be publicly presented in accordance with UiB's regulations for PhD in Artistic Research § 12-6.
- The artistic reflection should be publicly accessible at least two weeks before the date of the public defence, in the form in which it was submitted for assessment.
- The entire PhD result should be archived and made available in a permanent format.

4.2 Application for Assessment

- Application for assessment of the artistic PhD result is done by submitting an application.
- The faculty's application form should be used.
- The application should be submitted to the faculty no later than five (5) months before the planned date for the presentation of the artistic result.

Programme Description for the PhD Programme in Artistic Research

- It is the responsibility of the main supervisor to inform the faculty that the application for assessment is imminent, so that necessary preparations can be made. The main supervisor should normally recommend the application.
- The following should be included as attachments to the application:
 - a) A description of what will form the basis for the assessment, including a concise written summary of the PhD result in the language that will be used in the assessment, and a plan for where, when, and how the artistic result will be publicly presented.
 - b) An explanation of the choice of medium, language, and form for the reflection component, and the deadline for submission, in accordance with the options in 4.3.
 - c) A description of how the training component has been or will be fulfilled, or alternatively, a description of other academic training or qualifications.
 - d) Documentation of necessary permissions, according to UiB's regulations for PhD in Artistic Research § 5-2.
 - e) Declaration from collaborating partner(s) where required, according to UiB's regulations for PhD in Artistic Research § 10-2.
 - f) Plan for documentation and archiving in a permanent format of the entire PhD result, in accordance with UiB's regulations for PhD in Artistic Research § 12-6.
 - g) Declaration stating whether the work is being submitted for assessment for the first or second time.
 - h) Declaration stating that the work has not been submitted for assessment at another institution.

Attachments a) and b) are forwarded to the assessment committee.

4.3 Submission of Result

The artistic result should be publicly presented. If the public presentation of the artistic result takes the form of a concert, exhibition, performance, or other time- and place-specific display, the assessment committee should normally be present.

There are two options for the submission of materials documenting artistic reflection:

- If the candidate wishes for the committee to have access to the reflection component before the presentation of the artistic result, the candidate should submit the reflection component to the faculty at least four (4) weeks before the public presentation of the artistic result.
- If the candidate wishes for the committee to have access to the reflection component simultaneously with the public presentation of the artistic result, the candidate should submit the reflection component to the faculty at least one day before the public presentation of the artistic result.

4.4 Work of the Assessment Committee

The appointment of the committee and the framework for the assessment are described in UiB's regulations for PhD in Artistic Research § 11-3 and § 12.

The committee chair should normally be employed at the faculty and have experience with the PhD programme in Artistic Research as a fellow, supervisor, committee member, program board member, or equivalent experience from comparable PhD programmes.

Programme Description for the PhD Programme in Artistic Research

The assessment committee should be provided with:

- *UiB's regulations for PhD in Artistic Research*
- Programme description for the PhD programme in Artistic Research (this document)
- Faculty's template for the assessment committee's report
- Faculty's guidelines for the assessment of the PhD degree
- Candidate's description of what will form the basis for the assessment, including a concise written summary of the PhD result in the language that will be used in the assessment, and a plan for where, when, and how the artistic outcome will be publicly presented
- Candidate's description of the choice of medium, language, and form for the reflection component, and the deadline for submission, in accordance with the options in 4.3

Before the assessment committee begins its work, the faculty should ensure that the committee is familiar with the objectives and profile of the PhD programme, as well as the responsibilities and tasks of the assessment committee.

The assessment committee evaluates the artistic PhD result as worthy or not worthy of defence for the PhD degree. All parts of the submitted or presented material should be discussed based on the requirements for the PhD result in UiB's regulations for PhD in Artistic Research § 10-1 and § 10-2. The recommendation should be in a discursive form and conclude with a clear statement of whether the result is worthy of defence for the PhD degree. It is not permissible to recommend minor changes to the PhD result. Any dissenting opinions or individual statements should be included in the recommendation, and they should be justified. The assessment committee's recommendation is addressed to the faculty.

The committee's recommendation should be submitted no later than three (3) months after the committee has received all parts of the PhD result for assessment.

The faculty's handling of the recommendation is described in UiB's regulations for PhD in Artistic Research § 12-3.

The assessment committee shall later provide a recommendation on the approval of the candidate's public defence of the project.

An artistic PhD result that has not been found worthy of defence can be assessed in a revised version. A new assessment can only take place once. The deadline for submitting an application for a new assessment is two (2) years after the faculty has made a decision of non-approval for the first time.

4.5 Errata

After submission or presentation, the candidate may apply for permission to correct formal errors, but only in the reflection component, in accordance with UiB's regulations for PhD in Artistic Research § 12-5.

By formal errors, we mean punctuation, spelling, or grammatical errors, errors in references, formatting errors, or minor changes in layout. The content of the text cannot be altered or clarified. The application should include a complete list of the formal errors that need to be corrected. The corrections will not be forwarded to the assessment committee, which will evaluate the artistic reflection as it was submitted.

Programme Description for the PhD Programme in Artistic Research

The deadline for applying for the correction of formal errors is five (5) working days after the candidate has received the recommendation. The faculty's template for errata application should be used. The list of errata should be attached to the reflection component, which will be available during the defence. Only one application can be submitted. The application will be processed by the faculty within two weeks. Formal errors must be corrected by the public release of the reflection material, at the latest two weeks before the defence.

4.6 Publication and Archiving

The reflection component and any other material involved in the assessment should be publicly accessible at least two (2) weeks before the date of the public defence, in accordance with UiB's regulations for PhD in Artistic Research § 12-6. The material should be made available in the form it was submitted for assessment, possibly with corrections made in accordance with UiB's regulations for PhD in Artistic Research § 12-5 and 4.5 of the programme description.

The entire PhD result, consisting of documentation of the artistic result and the material that documents the artistic reflection, should be archived and made publicly accessible in a durable format.

The PhD result should generally be published and archived collectively through the faculty's research portal on researchcatalogue.net no later than two weeks after the defence. The candidate may apply to the faculty to use other systems for publication and long-term archiving if it serves the dissemination of the PhD result. It is a prerequisite that such systems can be managed by the University of Bergen. Such applications should typically be submitted together with the application for final assessment.

5 Quality Assurance

The organization and quality assurance of the programme at the faculty are in accordance with UiB's [Structure, Authority, and Quality Assurance Tasks for PhD Education](#) (Document in Norwegian), following the [System for Quality Assurance of the PhD Education at UiB](#), adopted on November 30, 2017.

The faculty's Committee for Research and Doctoral Education (UFF) is the programme board for the PhD programme in Artistic Research. The Vice Dean for Research serves as the programme board chair.