



General Syllabus for Doctoral (Third-Cycle) Education Leading to a Doctor of Philosophy in Performance Practices at the University of Gothenburg

1. Decision

Regulations regarding doctoral (third-cycle) education and admission to doctoral (third-cycle) education, respectively, are to be found in the Higher Education Ordinance, chapters 6 and 7 (SFS 1993:100).

Local regulations for doctoral (third-cycle) education are to be found in the University of Gothenburg's governing documents and in the Faculty of Fine, Applied and Performing Arts' governing documents.

This General Syllabus was approved and established by the Faculty Board at the Faculty of Fine, Applied and Performing Arts, at the University of Gothenburg, on 18-10-2017 (replaces former document from 27-01-2010). The syllabus is valid from 01-11-2017.

2. Content and Structure of Programme

2.1 General information about the content of the programme

The doctoral subject Performance Practices explores issues with relevance to the field of performing art, artistic research, and society as a whole. Reflection on one's own practice is an important tool for knowledge development and renewal within the field. Doctoral (third-cycle) education within this subject comprises dramatic performance practices within a variety of disciplines and genres.

The aim of doctoral (third-cycle) education in Performance Practices is to educate and train performing art researchers in relevant practical and theoretical methods for the subject field and provide them with the ability to autonomously and critically expand the base of knowledge in the subject, both in terms of breadth and depth.

With regard to the doctoral (third-cycle) programme leading to a Doctor of Philosophy in Performance Practices, great emphasis is placed on a student's ability to firmly anchor his or her performance work into the artistically-based practice, theory and method of the field of artistic research, as well as in dialogue with other research disciplines.

2.2 Programme structure

The doctoral (third-cycle) programme leading to a Doctor of Philosophy in

Performance Practices consists of:

- a course section comprising 30–60 higher education credits and a thesis comprising 60–90 higher education credits, i.e. a total of 120 higher education credits – for a *licentiate degree*.
- a course section comprising 60–90 higher education credits and a doctoral dissertation comprising 150–180 higher education credits, i.e. a total of 240 higher education credits – for a *doctoral degree*.

Besides work on a licentiate thesis or a doctoral dissertation, the doctoral (third-cycle) programme leading to a Doctor of Philosophy in Performance Practices takes the form, among other things, of taking part in organised doctoral courses, carrying out individually designed courses that can be literature- or media-based; this programme also takes the form of active participation in seminars, conferences, festivals, carrying out study trips, one’s own seminars and lectures, as well as work on articles and artistic productions.

Certain parts of the programme can take place at a foreign higher arts institution provided there is an agreement between these institutions that guarantees the level of education and the integration of these studies into one’s doctoral studies as a whole.

2.3 Course section

The main aim of the course section is to introduce and develop the research praxis of the artistic field.

The courses include organised subject-specific courses, Faculty and University courses and also external doctoral courses at other faculties and higher education institutions. Courses can also include individual subject-specific courses.

Participation in subject-specific courses should comprise at least 15 higher education credits for the licentiate degree and at least 30 higher education credits for the doctoral degree.

Participation in the Research School that is jointly run by the departments at the Faculty of Fine, Applied and Performing Arts is compulsory, where, among other activities, four cross-disciplinary basic courses are included – for the licentiate degree at least 15 higher education credits are required, and for the doctoral degree at least 30 higher education credits are required, in accordance with the following table:

Faculty-Wide Courses (compulsory)		
Basic Course 1	Writing Course	7.5 HECs
Basic Course 2	Method Course	7.5 HECs
Basic Course 3	The Field of Artistic Research – an Orientation	7.5 HECs
Basic Course 4	Operating and Communicating in a Cross-Disciplinary Research Milieu	7.5 HECs

There is also an introductory course (7.5–15 HECs) intended to provide a theoretical in-depth study of the student’s own research field as well as basic

insights into one or several other research fields.

In addition to this, the research student must follow the Department's Doctoral Student Seminar Series during the entire period of study, where points of view regarding parts of dissertations are expressed, and subjects and research projects of general interest discussed.

2.4 Licentiate thesis

The Licentiate thesis shall demonstrate the doctoral student's ability to identify, to clearly define, and, using relevant methods, to discuss a research task. The licentiate thesis shall also comprise artistic expression in dialogue with the written presentation as a whole.

The thesis can either take the form of a unified, coherent piece of work (a monograph thesis) or of a compilation of articles that the doctoral student has published or had accepted for publication in scientific/scholarly journals or anthologies, or the equivalent within the artistic field, with a short summary of these (compilation thesis).

The thesis shall, within a limited area, constitute an independent contribution to research, and document satisfactory insights into the relevant requirements and criteria of good research. The thesis shall be of such quality that it can be accepted for publication in a scientific/scholarly series or research journal, or the equivalent within the artistic field.

The parts of the thesis that are made up of artistic production shall meet the national requirements for artistic excellence and have relevance to the development of research within the artistic field.

In certain cases, thesis work can be pursued as team work. This shall then be organised in such a way that the individual contributions can be distinctly separated and assessed on the same grounds as for individual pieces of work.

2.5 Doctoral dissertation

The doctoral dissertation shall demonstrate the doctoral student's ability to identify, to clearly define, and, using relevant methods, to address and discuss a research task. The doctoral dissertation shall also place the artistic practice in dialogue with the written presentation as a whole.

The doctoral dissertation can either take the form of a unified, coherent piece of work (a monograph dissertation) or of a compilation of articles that the doctoral student has published or had accepted for publication in scientific/scholarly journals or anthologies, or the equivalent within the artistic field, together with a summary of these (compilation dissertation). Licentiate work can be included as a part of the doctoral dissertation, either in revised or unrevised form.

The doctoral dissertation shall constitute an independent contribution to research and document good insights into the relevant requirements and criteria of good research. The doctoral dissertation shall be of such quality that it can be accepted for publication in a scientific/scholarly series or research journal, or the equivalent within the artistic field. The parts of the dissertation that consist of artistic production shall meet the international requirements for artistic excellence and have relevance to the development of research within the artistic field.

In certain cases, dissertation work can be pursued as team work. This shall then be organised in such a way that the individual contributions can be distinctly separated and assessed on the same grounds as for individual pieces of work.

3. Programme outcomes

3.1 General national outcomes for a licentiate degree

The general national outcomes for doctoral (third-cycle) education leading to a Licentiate of Philosophy are specified in the Higher Education Ordinance, Annex 2, Qualifications Ordinance (reference document attached to this general syllabus).

3.2 Subject-specific outcomes for a licentiate degree

The aim of the programme is to develop the knowledge and skills required to autonomously be able to pursue artistic research, as well as to contribute to knowledge development within the subject through the production of a scientific/scholarly licentiate thesis.

This includes demonstrating overall knowledge of the research field of Performance Practices, relevant knowledge within one's own research field, as well as the ability to identify, formulate and explore artistic and/or scientific/scholarly problems and issues within the field of performing art.

Doctoral (third-cycle) education in Performance Practices shall develop the doctoral student's ability to express, explore, analyse and discuss performing art in a cultural and societal context, as well as demonstrate critical and reflective ability in relation to the research field.

Doctoral (third-cycle) education in Performance Practices shall also develop the doctoral student's communicative and pedagogical skills with regard to expressing her or himself well in speech and in writing both within and outside of academic contexts.

This programme shall also provide the opportunity for gaining international contacts, e.g. in the form of participation at research conferences abroad or attendance at a foreign higher education institution.

3.3 Faculty-specific outcomes for a licentiate degree

After completion of the programme doctoral students at the Faculty of Fine, Applied and Performing Arts shall be able to critically assess, evaluate and reflect on their own as well as on the work of others within the context of artistic research, and also be able to adopt an autonomously critical and productive approach to artistic and scientific/scholarly processes within the field of artistic research.

Doctoral students should also be able to demonstrate a knowledge of methodology, in general, and a knowledge of the discourse on method relevant to their specific research field, in particular, as well as demonstrating the ability to discuss critical questions within the framework of their research practice, that is, with regard to method, research subject, institutional framework and the current debate within the research subject in question.

3.4 General national outcomes for a doctoral degree

The general national outcomes for doctoral (third-cycle) education are specified in the Higher Education Ordinance, Annex 2, Qualifications Ordinance (see reference document attached to this general syllabus).

3.5 Subject-specific outcomes for a doctoral degree

The aim of the programme is to develop the knowledge and skills required to autonomously be able to pursue artistic research, as well as to contribute to knowledge development within the subject through the production of a doctoral dissertation.

This includes demonstrating broad and deep knowledge of the research field of Performance Practices, relevant specialist knowledge within one's own research field, as well as the ability to identify, formulate and explore artistic and/or scientific/scholarly problems and issues within the field of performing art.

Doctoral (third-cycle) education in Performance Practices shall develop the doctoral student's ability to express, examine, analyse and discuss performing art in a cultural and societal context as well as demonstrate critical and reflective ability in relation to the research field.

Doctoral (third-cycle) education in Performance Practices shall develop the doctoral student's communicative and pedagogical skills with regard to expressing her or himself well in speech and in writing both within and outside of academic contexts.

The doctoral programme in Performance Practices shall also provide the opportunity for gaining international contacts, e.g. in the form of participation at research conferences abroad or attendance at a foreign higher education institution.

Doctoral students shall also acquire the knowledge to plan, lead and complete research projects.

3.6 Faculty-wide outcomes for a doctoral degree

After completion of the programme doctoral students at the Faculty of Fine, Applied and Performing Arts shall be able to critically assess, evaluate and reflect on their own as well as on the work of others within the context of artistic research, and also be able to adopt an autonomously critical and productive approach to artistic and scientific/scholarly processes within the field of artistic research.

Doctoral students shall also be able to give a general account of the field of artistic research and its history and of the integrational interaction between artistically-expressed artefacts and other written production, as well as to give a general account of the different formats for sharing and disseminating research results and material.

Doctoral students shall also be able to demonstrate a knowledge of methodology, in general, and a knowledge of the discourse on method that is relevant to their specific research field, in particular, as well as to be able to demonstrate the ability to discuss critical questions within the framework of their research practice, that is, with regard to method, research subject, institutional framework and the current debate within the research subject in question.

4 Qualifications and entry requirements

In order to be admitted to the programme, the applicant is required to fulfil the criteria for the general and the specific entry requirements in accordance with what is specified in chapter 7 of the Higher Education Ordinance.

4.1 General entry requirements

According to chapter 7, section 39, of the Higher Education Ordinance, a person meets the general entry requirements if she or he:

1. has been awarded a master's (second-cycle) qualification, or
2. has fulfilled course requirements comprising 240 higher education credits, of which at least 60 higher education credits were awarded at master's (second-cycle) level, or
3. has, on the whole, acquired the equivalent knowledge in some other way in Sweden or abroad.

The Dean at the Faculty of Fine, Applied and Performing Arts may grant an exemption from the general entry requirements. However, to meet entry requirements, the applicant must be assessed to have the overall ability required to complete the doctoral (third-cycle) programme.

4.2 Specific entry requirements

Specific entry requirements for the subject Performance Practices are:

- at least 120 higher education credits (or the equivalent) in subjects that are assessed as having relevance to doctoral (third-cycle) studies in the subject, (or equivalent knowledge),
- a documented study specialisation including subjects oriented towards relevant issues in the subject,
- a Pass grade in an independent project comprising at least 30 higher education credits (or, alternatively, several projects, which, together, are the equivalent of, or are assessed as being the equivalent of 30 higher education credits) in a subject that is assessed as having relevance to the artistic doctoral programme in the subject,
- documented artistic experience and ability to work with artistic performance on a high professional level.

An applicant also meets the specific entry requirements if he or she has acquired equivalent knowledge in some other way in Sweden or abroad.

The Dean at the Faculty of Fine, Applied and Performing Arts may grant an exemption from the specific entry requirements for admission to doctoral (third-cycle) studies.

4.3 Admission, selection

The decision to admit a student to doctoral (third-cycle) education leading to a Doctor of Philosophy is made by the Head of the Department after the matter has been drafted in the Department Research Council or a similar body at the Department. The number of doctoral students admitted to doctoral (third-cycle) education will be restricted to those who can be offered acceptable terms concerning supervision and study conditions as a whole.

Furthermore, only students who are assessed as having guaranteed funding for the entire period of study, according to the Higher Education Ordinance, chapter 7, section 36, will be admitted to doctoral (third-cycle) studies.

Selection among applicants that meet the requirements stated in paragraph 4.1 and 4.2 above will be based on the application documents received and on interviews with the applicants who are assessed in first place as being possible candidates for admission. Work samples may be requested as a complement to other application documents. Selection among qualified applicants is carried out in consideration of their ability to assimilate and complete the programme. The following assessment criteria are applied to test this ability:

- the achievability of the research project described in the application as well as its relevance and degree of significance in relation to the subject description for Performance Practices,
- artistic quality with extensive experience on a professional level in the subject,
- ability of autonomous work and critical thinking in the subject field,
- demonstration of capacity to work with independently conducted artistic projects
- familiarity with research-related issues and processes,
- demonstrated interest in being a part of and contributing to the educational and to the research environment at the Department.

5. Examination

Doctoral (third-cycle) education leads to a Doctor of Philosophy by submitting a doctoral dissertation, or, alternatively, to a Licentiate of Philosophy, by submitting a licentiate thesis.

The dissertation (thesis) can combine artistic and scientific/scholarly elements in several different ways. Regarding artistic expression, the doctoral student is to document his or her artistic practical work, that is, both processes and artistic works.

Each course included in the doctoral programme shall have an examiner at the department providing the course. When exams are assessed, consideration shall be taken of how in depth the doctoral student's knowledge is, as well as what ability of autonomous judgement and critical analysis the doctoral student has demonstrated.

5.1 Licentiate degree

For a Licentiate of Philosophy in Performance Practices, the doctoral student is required to have completed at least 120 higher education credits in the doctoral (third-cycle) programme, of which at least 30 higher education credits are in the form of courses that have been awarded a Pass grade and at least 60 higher education credits in the form of a licentiate thesis, which shall contain artistic expression as well as written production. The licentiate thesis is presented and discussed at a public seminar, where it is examined by an external examiner appointed by the department at which the subject has been studied. When assessing the thesis, consideration shall be taken of its content as well as of the seminar discussion.

5.2 Doctoral degree

For a Doctor of Philosophy, the doctoral student is required to have completed at least 240 higher education credits in the doctoral (third-cycle) programme, of which at least 60 higher education credits are in the form of courses that have been awarded Pass grades and at least 150 higher education credits in the form of the successful completion of a doctoral dissertation comprising artistic expression as well as written production. The doctoral dissertation shall have been presented and defended orally at a public defence. When assessing the dissertation, consideration shall be taken of its content as well as of the public defence.

5.3 Grade

A doctoral dissertation, a licentiate thesis, as well as the courses, are awarded the grades Pass or Fail.

5.4 Title

A degree within the framework of doctoral (third-cycle) education leading to a Doctor of Philosophy shall be given the title: Degree of Licentiate of Philosophy in Performance Practices or Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Performance Practices at the Faculty of Fine, Applied and Performing Arts. This degree may be given a different title if there are special reasons for doing so.

6. Transitional regulations

Doctoral students who have been admitted before November 1st 2017, can, after consulting their supervisor, submit a request to the Head of Department to go over to this syllabus. The individual study plan should then be updated.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

General national outcomes for the licentiate degree

These general national outcomes for doctoral (third-cycle) education are taken from the Higher Education Ordinance, Annex 2, Qualifications Ordinance:

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Licentiate the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the field of research including current specialist knowledge in a limited area of this field as well as specialised knowledge of research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.

Competence and skills

For a Degree of Licentiate the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake a limited piece of research and other qualified tasks within predetermined time frames in order to contribute to the formation of knowledge as well as to evaluate this work,
- demonstrate the ability in both national and international contexts to present and discuss research and research findings, in speech and in writing, and in dialogue with the academic community and society as a whole, and
- demonstrate the skills required to participate autonomously in research and development work and to work autonomously in some other qualified capacity.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Licentiate the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments of ethical aspects of his or her own research,
- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

Thesis

For a Degree of Licentiate the third-cycle student shall have been awarded a pass grade for a research thesis of at least 60 credits.

General national outcomes for the doctoral degree

These general national outcomes for doctoral (third-cycle) education are taken from the Higher Education Ordinance, Annex 2, Qualifications Ordinance:

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Doctor the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate broad knowledge and systematic understanding of the research field as well as advanced and up-to-date specialised knowledge in a limited area of this field, and
- demonstrate familiarity with research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.

Competence and skills

For a Degree of Doctor the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate the capacity for scholarly analysis and synthesis as well as to review and assess new and complex phenomena, issues and situations autonomously and critically,
- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake research and other qualified tasks within predetermined time frames and to review and evaluate such work
- demonstrate through a dissertation 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 authoritatively in speech and writing and in dialogue with the academic community and society 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

For a Degree of Doctor the third-cycle student shall:

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

Research thesis (doctoral thesis)

For a Degree of Doctor the third-cycle student shall have been awarded a pass grade for a research thesis (doctoral thesis) of at least 120 credits.