



GÖTEBORGS UNIVERSITET

Reg. no. GU 2019/3265

General Syllabus for Doctoral (third-cycle) Education in Music Education 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 *Rules and Regulations for doctoral (Third Cycle) Education* 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, the University of Gothenburg on 11-12-2019 and replaces previous document from 30-04-2014 (Reg. no U 2014/280).
- The syllabus is valid from 11-12-2019.

2. Content and Structure of Programme

2.1 General information about the content of the programme

Music Education as a research field studies *all forms of musical learning*, including the frames, requirements, traditions and conditions that govern those situations where music makes up the content of the different learning processes. Accordingly, problems in contexts where music is or has been an integral part of upbringing, education, teaching and other sources of impact exerted in a certain cultural situation, are addressed and discussed. Music Education as a research field is cross-disciplinary in nature and uses theories and methods from education, psychology, sociology, philosophy, anthropology, musicology as well as artistic research, in order to understand and explain phenomena related to music education.

2.2 Programme structure

Doctoral (third cycle) education in Music Education consists of:

- For a *licentiate degree*, a course section comprising 45 higher education credits (hp), and a thesis comprising 75 hp, i.e. a total of 120 hp.
- For a *doctoral degree*, a course section comprising 90 hp, and a dissertation comprising 150 hp, i.e. a total of 240 hp.

This programme is planned in such a way that full-time studies leading to a doctoral degree normally require four years, and full-time studies leading to a licentiate degree require two years.

In accordance with the ambition of the department concerned, doctoral students may be offered departmental duties up to 20% of a full-time equivalent. For students studying part-time their period of study will be extended in proportion to what percentage their studies have been decreased by.

2.3 Course section

The course section of 90 hp (for a licentiate degree 45 hp) consists of compulsory courses as well as elective courses, related to the research praxis of the field of Music Education.

The compulsory part of the courses consists of:

- an *introduction course* in the subject Music Education of 15 hp,
- *method courses* of 15 hp including at least 7,5 hp of qualitative research methods, and 7,5 hp of quantitative research methods (7,5 qualitative research methods for the licentiate degree),
- *science-theoretical / subject-theoretical courses* related to music education of 15 hp

The compulsory course part includes training in research ethics and good research practice. Each course plan must specify how ethics is dealt with in the course.

The elective course component of 45 hp (7,5 hp for the *licentiate degree*), is chosen in consultation with the supervisor and doctoral examiner and consists of courses within the doctoral education at the faculty, University of Gothenburg or at other universities or learning seats, or by individual reading courses and / or credit transfer according to applicable rules.

2.4 Licentiate thesis

The Licentiate thesis shall demonstrate the licentiate student's ability to identify, clearly define, and, using relevant methods, his or her ability to perform and discuss a research task. The thesis can either take the form of a unified, coherent piece of work (a monograph thesis) or of a compilation of scientific/scholarly articles including a short summary of these (an article thesis/compilation thesis).

The thesis shall, within a limited area of the field in question, 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 field of the music education.

2.5 Doctoral dissertation

The doctoral dissertation shall demonstrate the doctoral student's ability to identify, clearly define and, using relevant methods, his or her ability to perform and discuss a research task. The doctoral dissertation can either take the form of a unified, coherent piece of work (a monograph dissertation) or of a compilation of scientific/scholarly articles together with a short summary of these (an article dissertation/ 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 satisfactory 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 field of music education.

2.6 Seminars

Each individual student admitted to a programme leading to a licentiate degree shall, when approximately 50% of his or her thesis work is complete, give an account of his or her ongoing thesis project at specially organised Faculty-wide seminars. When the thesis exists in a completed, preliminary version, a final seminar shall be arranged.

Each individual student admitted to a programme leading to a doctoral degree shall, when approximately 25% of his or her dissertation work is complete, and, in cases where a licentiate degree is not to be awarded, when approximately 50% of his or her dissertation work is complete, give an account of his or her ongoing thesis project at specially organised Faculty-wide seminars.

After 80% of the time is fulfilled a final seminar shall be arranged, where the dissertation exists in a completed, preliminary version.

In the framework of the doctoral education, the doctoral student is also expected to participate in the research seminars arranged by the institution and contribute to the research environment of the department throughout his / her studies. The doctoral student is also given the opportunity to present the research work for discussion and to take part in other seminar participants' research in its various stages.

3. Programme Goals

3.1 General national goals for licentiate degree

The general national goals for doctoral education are given in 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 music education 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 research field of music education 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 writing and in dialogue with the academic community and society in general, 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 75 credits.

3.2 General national goals for doctoral degree

The general national goals for doctoral (third-cycle) education are given in the Higher Education Ordinance, Annex 2, Qualifications Ordinance:

Knowledge and understanding

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

- demonstrate broad knowledge and systematic understanding of the research field of music education 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 field of music education research in particular.

Competence and skills

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

- of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used.

Research thesis (doctoral thesis)

For the Degree of Doctor the third-cycle student shall have been awarded a pass grade for a research thesis (doctoral thesis) of at least 150 credits.

4. Qualifications and entry requirements

In order to be admitted to doctoral (third-cycle) education, the applicant is required to fulfil the criteria for the general and the specific entry requirements in accordance with what is stated 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 he or she

- a) has been awarded a master's (second-cycle) qualification, or
- b) has satisfied the requirements for courses comprising 240 hp, of which at least 60 hp were awarded at master's (second-cycle) level, or
- c) has acquired substantially 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 considered in other respects to have the ability required to complete the doctoral programme.

4.2 Specific requirements

Specific entry requirements are:

- a) Teacher education program in Music, comprising at least 90 hp in Music Education, of which at least 30 hp awarded in the second-cycle, and an independent project (degree project) comprising at least 15 hp awarded in the second-cycle.
- b) Degree of Master of Arts (60 higher education credits) with a major in Music Education

An applicant also meets the specific requirements if he or she has acquired substantially equivalent knowledge in some other way in Sweden or abroad. Consideration may also be taken to equivalent professional experience.

Music Education is an international field. In order to be able to pursue this programme, it is necessary that applicants, besides having good results in the Swedish language, should also have the ability to understand as well as write English texts in a satisfactory way.

In order to open up for students who completed a master's program in Music, with at least 30 hp in music education awarded in the second-cycle, an individual examination can be conducted.

4.3 Admission, selection

The decision to admit a student to doctoral education is made by the Head of the Department at the department concerned.

The number of doctoral students admitted to doctoral education will be restricted to those who can be offered acceptable terms concerning supervision and study conditions in general.

Furthermore, only students who are considered to have guaranteed funding for the entire period of study, according to the Higher Education Ordinance, chapter 7, section 36, will be admitted to doctoral studies.

Selection among applicants that meet the requirements stated in paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2 above will be based on the application documents received and on interviews with the applicants who, in the first place, are considered to be possible candidates for admission. Work samples may be requested as a complement to other application documents. Selection among qualified applicants is made in consideration of their ability to benefit from doctoral education. The following assessment criteria are applied to test this ability:

- quality of submitted independent work
- quality of submitted research plan, where relevant, related to the research environments of the institution

5. Examination Doctoral education leads to a doctoral degree by submitting a doctoral dissertation, or, for a licentiate degree, by submitting a licentiate thesis.

5.1 Licentiate degree For a licentiate degree in Music Education, a doctoral student is required to have completed at least 120 hp in the doctoral education, of which at least 45 hp are in the form of courses that have been awarded a pass mark, and at least 75 hp in the form of a licentiate thesis. The licentiate thesis is submitted and discussed at a public seminar, where it is reviewed by an opponent (discussant). The Head of Department appoints the opponent and decides on the time and place for the seminar. On assessing the thesis, consideration shall be taken of its content as well as of the seminar discussion.

5.2 Doctoral degree For a doctoral degree, the doctoral student is required to have completed at least 240 hp in the doctoral education, of which at least 90 hp are in the form of courses that have been awarded pass marks and at least 150 hp in the form of the successful completion of a doctoral dissertation. The doctoral dissertation shall have been submitted and defended orally at a public defence. On assessing the dissertation, consideration shall be taken of its content as well as of its defence.

5.3 Grade A doctoral dissertation, a licentiate thesis and courses are awarded the grades Pass or Fail.

5.4 Title A degree within this framework of doctoral (third-cycle) education shall be given the title: degree of Licentiate of Philosophy in Music Education or degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Music Education 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 11 December 2019 can, after consulting their principal supervisor, submit a request to the Head of Department at the department concerned to go over to this syllabus. The individual study plan should then be updated.