



## THE ARTISTIC FACULTY

### **MFA Programme in Child Culture Design, 120 credits**

Konstnärligt masterprogram i Child Culture Design, 120 högskolepoäng

Programme code: K2CCD

*Second cycle / Avancerad nivå*

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#### **1. Confirmation**

This programme syllabus was confirmed by the Dean of the Faculty on 26-10-2017 (G 2017/602) and was last revised on 19-12-2023 (GU 2023/3167) to be valid from 19-12-2023, Autumn semester 2024.

*Responsible Department/Equivalent:* HDK-Valand - Academy of Art and Design

#### **2. Purpose**

The purpose of the programme is to provide an advanced artistic education in design with a focus on the field of Child Culture Design. The programme highlights fields of engagement for design work linked to child culture. Issues of democracy, equality and inclusion in relation to children's perspectives in a societal context permeate the programme. The programme prepares students for work in organisations and companies as well as individual project work. Special emphasis is placed on developing practical and theoretical design knowledge and a professional holistic perspective. The programme combines artistic and humanistic knowledge with current research and development work, thereby introducing students to design as an area of research.

#### **3. Entry requirements**

Bachelor's degree in design of at least 180 credits or equivalent. Applicants must prove their knowledge of English: English 6/English B from Swedish Upper Secondary School or the equivalent level of an internationally recognized test, for example TOEFL, IELTS. In addition, approved work samples are required. Other requirements are documented in each course syllabus.

#### **4. Higher education qualification and main field of study**

This programme leads to a Degree of Master of Fine Arts (120 credits) in Design with Specialisation in Child Culture Design (Konstnärlig masterexamen i design med inriktning mot

Child Culture Design).

## 5. Outcomes

General outcomes for Degree of Master in Fine Arts (120 credits)

According to Higher Education Ordinance (see SFS 1993:100, System of Qualifications, Annex 2):

### Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Master in Fine Arts (120 hec) the student shall

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including both broad knowledge of the field and a considerable degree of specialised knowledge in areas of the field as well as specialised insight into current research and development work, and
- demonstrate familiarity with methods and processes for dealing with complex phenomena, issues and situations in the field.

### Competence and skills

For a Degree of Master in Fine Arts (120 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to formulate new issues autonomously and creatively and contribute to the formation of knowledge, solve more advanced problems, develop new forms of personal expression as well as to reflect critically on his or her artistic approach and that of others in the main field of study
- demonstrate the ability to create and execute his or her own ideas with his or her own personal expression, to identify, formulate and solve artistic and creative problems autonomously and also to plan and undertake advanced artistic tasks using appropriate methods within predetermined time frames
- demonstrate the ability both nationally and internationally to clearly present and discuss his or her works and artistic issues in speech, writing or in other ways and in dialogue with different audiences, and
- demonstrate the competence and knowledge required to work autonomously in a professional capacity.

### Judgement and approach

For a Degree in Master of Fine Arts (120 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the main field of study informed by relevant artistic, social and ethical issues
- demonstrate insight into the role of art in society, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

### Local outcomes

To meet the requirements for the Master of Fine Arts in Design with specialization in Child Culture Design, students must:

- use their artistic practice to empower children as citizens.
- integrate research and knowledge about children and child culture from various scientific and artistic fields in design projects
- develop and apply co-design methods compatible with Child Culture Design.

## 6. Content and structure

The programme consists of six courses covering different aspects of Child Culture Design. The last course is an independent degree project of 30 credits, where students carry out their own design project in a chosen context or in collaboration with an external partner. The third semester includes a programme course (Children and Society) consisting of several sub-courses with different themes. In this course, students practise formulating and investigating relevant design questions using artistic methods. During three semesters, students also participate in a series of seminars and lectures that are integrated into the programme courses. The seminar and lecture series contains knowledge drawn from different scientific and artistic fields with a specific focus on children and children's culture.

The programme begins with a practical and theoretical introduction to Child Culture Design, where the student gains basic knowledge and understanding of the field. Students also begin to build a theoretical platform and frame of reference for their work. Students then learn methods for involving and collaborating with users and develop their knowledge of play and child development. Students also encounter other disciplines and professional competences that help to broaden their perspective and critical thinking. Students practise using multidisciplinary knowledge in their design projects. In addition, the student gains insight into the various actors and institutions in society that have a child perspective or that target children, through lectures, study visits and collaborative projects.

The Master's programme in Child Culture Design gives students the opportunity to relate to multidisciplinary knowledge and practice academic writing. The programme is linked to current research and development work in the field.

### Design Studies

Within the programme, *Design Studies* is presented as an inter- and multidisciplinary field of knowledge which examines both internal design processes and the influence of design on various aspects of life. The field is connected to the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences, and aims to bring together a wide range of methods and discourses.

### Elective Programme Courses

Several of the educational programmes offered at the department include compulsory elective programme courses. These courses aim to offer complementary education in artistic practices in addition to the programmes' subject specialisations. The range of elective courses provides opportunities for the student to broaden their knowledge and develop their skills and abilities.

Within the elective courses, students meet across department subjects. Students apply for the elective courses based on an annual course offering.

The studies are divided into the following required courses:

**Year 1****Semester 1**

The Construction of Childhood, 22,5 credits

Design Studies, 7,5 credits

**Semester 2**

Play and Participation, 22,5 credits

Elective course, 7.5 credits

**Year 2****Semester 3**

Children and Society, 30 credits

**Semester 4**

Master's Degree Project in Child Culture Design, 30 credits

**7. Guaranteed admission**

A student who follows the programme at the normal pace is guaranteed admission. Guaranteed admission at University of Gothenburg consists of two kinds, it can be general or limited.

The programme applies a limited guaranteed admission to the elective programme courses, which means that it is not possible to guarantee admission according to the student's ranking order of selected elective courses. However, the student is always guaranteed admission to one of the elective courses given at the department the current semester.

**8. Transitional regulations**

This programme syllabus (GU 2023/3167) applies to students admitted to the programme from the autumn semester 2024.

Students who have begun the programme before the autumn semester 2024 and have unfinished courses according to the older version of the programme syllabus have the right to complete these through additional examinations, at most two years after the courses have been changed or discontinued.

Students who thereafter still have unfinished older courses may complete the programme according to the current programme syllabus and course structure. An individual study plan for the remaining parts of the programme may be required.

**9. Other information**

- The language of instruction is English.
- All materials are paid for by the student.
- The study programme will be followed up and evaluated in accordance with the applicable

*Policy för kvalitetssäkring och kvalitetsutveckling av utbildning vid Göteborgs universitet*  
(Policy for the Quality assurance and Quality Development of Education at the University of Gothenburg).