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## **Subject-specific Study and Examination Regulations for the Master Degree Program in Art**

The departmental council of the Department of Art adopted the following Study and Examination Regulations for the Master Degree Program in Art on July 12, 2022, last changed on March 6, 2023.

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## **§ 1 Scope of Application**

These Study and Examination Regulations govern the content and qualification objectives as well as the structure and examinations of the Master Degree Program in Art. They apply in conjunction with the General Regulations for Bachelor and Master Degree Programs at Hochschule für Gestaltung Offenbach am Main (HfG), as amended last on March 06<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

## **§ 2 Academic Degree**

Upon successful completion of the Master Degree Program in Art, HfG awards the academic degree “Master of Fine Arts” (M.F.A.) in Art or Art with larger theoretical component.

## **§ 3 Standard period of study**

- (1) The standard period of study for the Master Degree Program in Art is four semesters.
- (2) The degree program amounts to 120 credit points (CP).
- (3) The Master Degree Program in Art can be studied on an informal, part-time basis upon application in accordance with the requirements of state law. Additional regulations are set in the Enrollment Statutes of HfG.

## **§ 4 Program’s Start**

The Master Degree Program in Art starts only in the winter semester.

## **§ 5 Aims of the Master Degree Program in Art**

Master Degree Program in Art qualifies students as professional artists and designers in corresponding professions. Against the backdrop of an art and cultural landscape which is both historically rooted and increasingly intermedial and transcultural, the Master students are enabled to distinguish themselves in dynamic professional profiles.

In the Master Degree Program in Art, students acquire the ability to work in an artistic/creative, technical, organized, and conceptual manner. They explore and try out artistic/design formats and content in all artistic teaching areas. The program can be studied in two options, as an M.F.A. in Art or as an M.F.A. in Art with larger theoretical

component. Students deepen their knowledge and skills in the art and design-related theory subjects at the Department of Art, with varying degrees of intensity depending on the program variant. In both variants, emphasis is placed on the processual, the interdisciplinary, and the interaction between theoretical/academic reflection and artistic practice. Likewise, social skills among students are basic elements of the intended personality development.

The course qualifies students to further develop and focus on their own positions and to implement artistic projects in a professional manner.

Students who are interested in obtaining a Ph.D. are advised to study the program variant with I. The requirements for a Ph.D. at HfG are governed by the corresponding doctoral regulations.

## **§ 6 Larger theoretical component**

- (1) The prerequisite for the Master Degree Program in Art with a larger theoretical component is completion of the elective module THEORY<sup>+</sup> as well as the required elective module MASTER'S THESIS WITH A LARGER THEORETICAL COMPONENT. For the theoretical Master's thesis, section 9, paragraph 3 applies.
- (2) If the study variant with a larger theoretical component is chosen, the topic, grade, and supervision of the theoretical final thesis are shown on the final certificate.

## **§ 7 Program Structure and Language**

- (1) The teaching sessions in the Master Degree Program in Art are offered within the framework of modules. The study plan provides an overview (Annex 1). The module descriptions (Annex 2) provide further details on the course content and examinations. The program takes place primarily in projects.
- (2) The degree program, including the examinations, is conducted in German. In agreement with all parties involved, individual courses and examinations may be conducted in English.

## **§ 8 Elective Section**

- (1) In the "elective section" students can choose courses from various elective modules, up to 51 CP depending on the program variant. Any remaining CP will be earned in the

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elective module “free study”. Alternatively, students can gain all their credit points through their free study.

- (2) In the free study section, students are free to choose courses from within the framework of the specifications outlined in the module description. The aim here is the students advancement in their own artistic profile and the broadening of areas of competence according to personal interests.
- (3) Information about the courses to be taken and the CP to be acquired will be displayed in good time before the start of the semester at an appropriate place.
- (4) In the free study section, courses of the design department at HfG and courses offered at other German universities and abroad can also be attended (“free study”) to achieve the competence goals; in addition, interdisciplinary, extracurricular, and external events can be included in the elective section. In such cases, students must coordinate their list of planned events with the Examination Committee before starting the corresponding module. The CP allocation for the free study in the elective section is based on a CP catalog published on the department’s website.
- (5) Students may attend and combine the elective modules THEORY<sup>+</sup>, PRACTICE, and INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATION AND MEDIATION multiple times as part of the appropriate course offerings. Students who wish to study the Master’s program with a larger theoretical component must complete the elective module THEORY<sup>+</sup> (at least once).
- (6) The elective module INTERNSHIP can be taken once only in the elective segment.

## **§ 9 Final Module**

- (1) The final module involves the conception, execution, and presentation of a superior, complex, independent, and professional artistic project within a specified framework. The Art seminar chosen for this purpose needs to be led by a professor with whom the students have already attended at least one Art seminar in the course of their studies and who has been teaching at HfG for at least two semesters. The Examination Committee may allow exceptions to this supervision requirement. The professor is the supervisor of the thesis and does the first grading. In the Master’s thesis, a second supervision by lecturers from practice is possible, which is carried out through individual qualified consultation and advice hours, as well as with advice during independent work in the workshop. Furthermore, additional supervision by teachers in

theory and/or from the Department of Design is possible. In the case of co-supervision, the first grade is decided in consultation with the co-supervising lecturers.

- (2) The final project can be prepared in a team or as group project in accordance with the General Regulations, section 21, paragraph 3. If a final project is created as a collaboration within the HfG and/or outside the HfG, its framework conditions must be agreed upon with the examiners and the Examination Committee before registration.
- (3) The second evaluation of the Master Project is carried out by an exam board consisting of all lecturers who supervise final theses in the respective semester pursuant to paragraph 1, sentences 4 and 5 (collegial examination).
- (4) In the study program with a larger theoretical component, a theoretical Master Thesis is written before the artistic Master's project. It is supervised and graded by a professor whose seminars the students have attended, at least one in the compulsory module THEORY and one in the elective module THEORY<sup>+</sup>. A second supervisor may be involved. The second grading is done by a theory lecturer (professor or assistant professor) chosen by the students.
- (5) For admission to the final module, proof of at least 90 CP is required, including any PRACTICE modules chosen as part of the elective section. If a second supervisor for the Master Thesis in practice is desired, a consultation session is held with the supervisor from practice to examine the corresponding knowledge, skills, and abilities that must have been acquired before registration for the Master Thesis and, if necessary, made up for in the elective section.
- (6) The final certificate bears the date of the presentation and is signed by the chairperson of the Examination Committee. It states the topic of the final thesis as well as the names of the first and, if applicable, a second supervisor with their respective teaching area. For the Master's degree with a larger theoretical component, the information on the theoretical Master Thesis is added analogously.

## **§ 10 Module Examinations and Coursework**

- (1) Registration for module examinations in theory (required elective module THEORY<sup>+</sup> in the program variant of Art with a larger theoretic) takes place with the lecturer and usually upon the issuing of a topic for the written thesis.

- (2) Registration for the Master Project and, if applicable (in the program variant with a larger theoretical component), for the theoretical part of the Master Thesis takes place with the specification of the project or topic to the Examination Committee and is usually possible twice a year (beginning in the summer semester of 2024). The exact dates are announced on the department's website. At the time of registration for the Master's examination, students must be matriculated.
- (3) For repetitions of module examinations and coursework, section 19 of the General Regulations shall apply.

## **§ 11 Examination Results, Formation of the Overall Grade**

- (1) The following grades are to be used for the examination results:

1 = very good	an excellent performance
2 = good	a performance that is significantly above the average requirements
3 = satisfactory	a performance that meets average requirements
4 = sufficient	a performance that still meets the requirements despite its deficiencies
5 = insufficient	a performance that does not meet the requirements due to significant deficiencies

- (2) For differentiated assessment of the examination , individual grades may be increased or decreased by 0.3 to intermediary grades; the grades 0.7, 4.3, 4.7, and 5.3 are excluded here.
- (3) The overall grade for the Master's degree program in Art is calculated as follows for the program variant M.F.A. Art:

Module FINAL THESIS	100 %
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for the program variant M.F.A. in Art with a larger theoretical component:

Elective module THEORY+	30%
Module FINAL THESIS WITH A LARGER THEORETICAL COMPONENT	70%

## **§ 12 Study Advice and Requirements for the Course of Studies**

- (1) An orientation event is held at the beginning of the degree program.

The professors also provide ongoing advice on the structure and implementation of the study program during their office hours. In addition, all lecturers provide advice on the content of their teaching. The management of the Examination Committee also provides advice on administrative matters of the degree program.

- (2) Pursuant to section 7 of the General Regulations, the study program is planned in such a way that 30 CP per semester are awarded for full-time study within a standard period of study.
- (3) Students must attend at least one course per semester.
- (4) Students who have not attended any courses for two semesters in a row must attend a course advisory session held by the Examination Committee or a person designated by the Examination Committee in the next semester.
- (5) Students who have again failed to attend courses in the two following semesters without giving reasons may be exmatriculated.
- (6) For determination of the delay in study pursuant to (4) and (5), section 18 of the General Regulations on compensation for disadvantages must be taken into account.
- (7) If students give reasons for the delay pursuant to (4) or (5) in the course advisory session that are not covered by the compensation for disadvantages, the Examination Committee may grant an extension of the deadline in cases of hardship.

### **§ 13 Additional Modules and Allocation of Places**

- (1) Students may attend additional courses/modules ("overflow account") subject to available places. These can be listed in a transcript of records. In the case of parallel attendance of alternative courses/modules, the students determine at the beginning of the semester, in connection with the registration for the two courses, what is to be recorded in the curriculum and what in the overflow account.
- (2) In the course catalog, regulations can be made for access to individual courses with limited (work)places. Students who want to specialize in the corresponding subject area through the course and possibly aim for a thesis in it can be admitted with priority.

### **§ 14 Compensation for Disadvantages**

For compensation for disadvantages, section 18 of the General Regulations shall apply.

## **§ 15 Publications by the Department**

The Department of Art has the right to inform the public in a suitable form (e.g., exhibitions, publications – including in electronic form) about research projects and theses by students. The exploitation rights of the students remain unaffected.

## **§ 16 Entry Into Force**

These Study and Examination Regulations come into force on the day after their publication on the website of HfG and apply to all students who start their Master's degree in the winter semester of 2022/23.

Offenbach am Main, 03.03.2025

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Sig. Prof. Adrian Nießler

Dean of the Department of Art at Hochschule für Gestaltung Offenbach am Main

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Sig. Prof. Dr- Brigitte Franzen

President of Hochschule für Gestaltung Offenbach am Main

Annex 1: Study plan

Annex 2: Module descriptions

## ***Disclaimer***

***The English translation of the „Admission statutes for the BA DESIGN and MA DESIGN study programs“ is an informal translation of the original German version and is not legally binding. In case of any inconsistency or conflict of interpretation in relation to or among original and the translation, the original shall always prevail***



	1. Semester 32 CP	2. Semester 30 CP	3. Semester 28 CP	4. Semester 30 CP	5. Semester 30 CP	6. Semester 30 CP	7. Semester 30 CP	8. Semester 30 CP
<b>BfA Kunst</b>								
Gestaltung/Kunst	Modul 1 3 x 5 CP	3 x 5 CP	Modul 2 3 x 5 CP	Orientierungsprojekt 15 CP	Modul 3 10 CP	10 CP	10 CP	Bachelorarbeit 20 CP Optionale Mitbetreuung aus Theorie und Praxis
Theorie	Modul 1 7 CP	Modul 2 5 CP	Modul 3 5 CP	Modul 4 3 CP	3 CP	3 CP	3 CP	
Praxis	Modul 1 10 CP	10 CP	Modul 2 5 CP		Modul 3 5 CP	5 CP	5 CP	
Wahlbereich			Modul 1 3 CP	12 CP	Modul 2 12 CP	Modul 3 12 CP	Modul 4 12 CP	10CP
<b>MfA Kunst</b>	1. Semester 30 CP	2. Semester 30 CP	3. Semester 30 CP	4. Semester 30 CP				
Gestaltung/Kunst	Modul 1 10 CP	10 CP	10 CP	Masterarbeit 30 CP Optionale Mitbetreuung aus Theorie und Praxis				
Theorie	Modul 1 3 CP	3 CP	3 CP					
Wahlbereich	Modul 1 17 CP	17 CP	17 CP					
<b>MfA Kunst mit Theorie-Vertiefung</b>								
Gestaltung/Kunst	Modul 1 10 CP	10 CP	10 CP	Masterarbeit mit Theorie-Vertiefung				
Theorie	Modul 1 3 CP	3 CP	3 CP	3 CP	30 CP			
	Wahlmodul Theorie-Vertiefung 5 CP	5 CP	5 CP	Optionale Mitbetreuung Praxis				
Wahlbereich	Modul 1 12 CP	12 CP	9 CP					

## **MODULE DESCRIPTION MFA ART,**

last adjusted on March 6, 2023.

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## COMPULSORY MODULES

<b>ART (FINE/APPLIED)</b>			
<b>Module Code</b> MFA-Kunst-K	<b>Workload</b> 900 h, made up of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 135 to 180 h attendance</li> <li>• 720 to 765 h individual work</li> </ul>	<b>CP</b> 30	<b>Duration</b> 3 semesters
<b>Learning Objectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mastery of individual representational methods, independent artistic work processes, techniques, and theories</li> <li>• Ability to think and work conceptually and to engage self-critically throughout the artistic process</li> <li>• Advanced understanding of art and cultural-historical contexts</li> </ul>			
<b>Content</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focused work on complex free or applied projects</li> <li>• Specialization of technical knowledge</li> <li>• Experimentation with complex creative strategies</li> <li>• Recognizing, formulating, and developing unique characteristic qualities in art</li> <li>• Extensive examination of historical and contemporary artistic positions and strategies</li> <li>• Acquisition of complex subject specifics in the art and cultural-historical context and an understanding of one's own critical positioning in that context</li> <li>• Exploration, development, and presentation of one's own complex formal as well as thematic concerns</li> <li>• Further development of one's own expression and style</li> <li>• Realization of a project (if necessary, with partners outside of the university) in process-based learning from conception to presentation in discourse with teachers and fellow students</li> <li>• Practicing interrelation in cooperative structures, acquisition of networking skills</li> <li>• Positioning of projects in public processes, presentations, and exhibitions</li> </ul>			
<b>Courses</b> 3 Art seminars with individual discussions, each 3-4 SHW/10 CP			
<b>Notes</b> The Art seminars are a mixture of joint work, group discourse (3-4 SHW) and independent studio work that accompanies the seminar. When the classroom time is longer, the proportion of private study is lower, since the corresponding amount of work is done within the framework of the seminar.			
<b>Expectations and Coursework</b> Regular participation, individual artistic work with presentation in the Art seminars			
<b>Assessment</b> None			
<b>Prerequisites</b> Generally none. In the course catalog, supplementary prerequisites may be defined in individual cases, specific to the teaching area.			
<b>Module Counts Toward</b> MFA ART			
<b>Offering Frequency</b> Biannually	<b>Start</b> Winter/ summer semester	<b>Semester</b> 1st – 3rd semester	

THEORY				
<b>Module Code</b> MFA-Kunst-Th	<b>Workload</b> 270 h, made up of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 90 h attendance</li> <li>• 180 h individual work</li> </ul>	<b>CP</b> 9	<b>Duration</b> 3 semesters	<b>CM/REM</b> Compulsory module
<b>Learning Objectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theoretical/academic handling of phenomena and concerns in art, design, philosophy, sociology, media, and culture</li> <li>• Ability to operate in an academic humanities context with regard to an artistic education and artistic profession</li> </ul>				
<b>Content</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special topics, e.g., from philosophy and aesthetics, art history, media theory and theory of perception. Students pursuing the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) with a larger theoretical component must attend seminars in at least two different areas. In this case, one of the seminars must be taken with the person who will be supervising the master's thesis.</li> </ul>				
<b>Courses</b> 3 seminars or lectures/seminars, each 2 SHW				
<b>Expectations and Coursework</b> Regular active participation, comprehensive reading of assigned texts				
<b>Assessment</b> None				
<b>Prerequisites</b> None				
<b>Module Counts Toward</b> MFA ART				
<b>Offering Frequency</b> Biannually	<b>Start</b> Winter/ summer semester	<b>Semester</b> 1st – 3rd semester		

## ELECTIVE SECTION

In the elective section of up to 51 CP, depending on the program variant, students can choose from various elective modules.

Students may attend and combine the elective modules THEORY<sup>+</sup>, PRACTICE, and INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATION AND MEDIATION multiple times as part of the appropriate course offerings.

Students who wish to study the master's program with a larger theoretical component must complete the elective module THEORY<sup>+</sup> (at least once).

The elective module for the internship can be taken once only.

Any remaining CP will be earned in the elective module "Free Study". Alternatively, students can gain all their credit points in the Free Study module.

ELECTIVE SECTION – THEORY+				
Module Code MFA-Kunst-WB- Th	Workload 450 h, made up of <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 90 h attendance</li><li>• 360 h individual work</li></ul>	CP 15	Duration 3 semesters	CM/REM Elective module in the elective section
<b>Learning Objectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Theoretical/academic handling of phenomena and concerns in art, design, philosophy, sociology, media, and culture</li><li>• Ability to operate in an academic humanities context with regard to an artistic education and artistic profession</li></ul>				
<b>Content</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Special topics, e.g., from philosophy and aesthetics, art history, theory of perception, sociology, and media theory. Students must attend seminars in at least two different areas. One of the seminars must be taken with the person who will be supervising the master’s thesis.</li></ul>				
<b>Courses</b> 3 seminars or lectures/seminars, each 2 SHW				
<b>Expectations and Coursework</b> Regular active participation, comprehensive reading of assigned texts				
<b>Assessment</b> Cumulative module examinations consisting of three written papers (written examinations or coursework assignments of at least 15 pages) in the three seminars. All partial examinations must be passed and count equally toward the module grade.				
<b>Prerequisites</b> None				
<b>Module Counts Toward MFA ART</b>				
<b>Offering Frequency</b> Biannually	<b>Start</b> Winter/ summer semester	<b>Semester</b> 1st – 3rd semester		
<b>Notes</b> Students who wish to study the master’s program with a larger theoretical component must complete the required elective module THEORY+ (at least once). In this case, the module exam counts for 15% of the overall grade of the program.				

<b>Module Code</b> MFA-Kunst-WB-Prax	<b>Workload</b> 300 h, made up of <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• up to 240 h attendance</li><li>• up to 150 h individual work</li></ul>	<b>CP</b> 10	<b>Duration</b> 1 semester	<b>CM/REM</b> Elective module in the elective section						
<b>Learning Objectives</b> Advanced artistic/design toolkit <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Knowledge of one’s own representational strategies by means of experimentation and research</li><li>• Confident handling of processes and tools for workflow, design, and conceptualization</li><li>• Argumentation skills and knowledge in dealing with partners both within and outside the university</li></ul>										
<b>Content</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Advancement of technical knowledge and skills</li><li>• Positioning of artistic concerns</li><li>• Development of autodidactic creative strategies and aesthetic skills</li><li>• Study of specific material properties and processes associated with these</li><li>• If applicable, cooperation with partners both in and outside the university</li></ul>										
<b>Courses</b> Teaching forms <table><tr><td>Practical course</td><td>3-7 SHW/5 CP</td></tr><tr><td>Independent work within/outside the HfG</td><td>up to 5 CP</td></tr><tr><td>Qualified speaking and consulting hours</td><td>1 CP to 3 CP</td></tr></table>					Practical course	3-7 SHW/5 CP	Independent work within/outside the HfG	up to 5 CP	Qualified speaking and consulting hours	1 CP to 3 CP
Practical course	3-7 SHW/5 CP									
Independent work within/outside the HfG	up to 5 CP									
Qualified speaking and consulting hours	1 CP to 3 CP									
<b>Expectations and Coursework</b> Regular participation, free individual and/or group artistic work, individual process or project documentation and presentation										
<b>Assessment</b> None										
<b>Prerequisites</b> Participation in certain advanced courses may be made dependent on basic knowledge or previous attendance of introductory courses in the course catalog.										
<b>Module Counts</b> Toward MFA ART										
<b>Offering Frequency</b> Biannually	<b>Start</b> Winter/summer semester	<b>Semester</b> 1st – 3rd semester								

**Notes**

If a second supervision in practice is desired for the master's thesis, proof of basic knowledge corresponding to the correlating content of the practical modules in the art bachelor's degree program at the Offenbach am Main, University of Art and Design is a prerequisite. If this knowledge cannot be demonstrated through a bachelor's degree or competency acquired outside of the university, completion of the required elective module PRACTICE in the elective section in the corresponding teaching area is a prerequisite for the second supervision in practice.

The practical courses in the workshops usually last 3 SHW; for courses in which the use of the university's own technical equipment (machines, devices, tools, etc.) is required, up to 7 SHW. Where the classroom time is longer, the proportion of private study is lower, since the corresponding amount of work is done within the framework of the practical course. A total of 5 CP is awarded in this module for the combination of independent work in the workshop and qualified exchange with the lecturers. As a rule, 0.5 CP are allocated for attending a discussion and advisory session and for preparation and follow-up work. Students decide for themselves how many discussions and advisory sessions they attend.

<b>ELECTIVE SECTION – INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATION AND MEDIATION</b>				
<b>Module Code</b> MFA-Kunst-WB-IKV	<b>Workload</b> 300-600h	<b>CP</b> 10-20	<b>Duration</b> 1 semester	<b>CM/REM</b> Elective module in the elective section
<b>Learning Objectives</b> Students delve deeper into their own expressive forms, and expand their areas of competence in accordance with their personal interests: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced skills and knowledge in artistic and practical fields related to theoretical/scientific areas</li> <li>• Conceptual content-related and organizational skills in the public presentation of one's own and other people's work</li> <li>• Ability to contribute to and position oneself in various forms of trans-disciplinary discourse</li> </ul>				
<b>Content</b> Depending on student selection, appropriate participation in/leadership of e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Convergence" projects at the university</li> <li>• Interdisciplinary conferences or symposia at the university</li> <li>• Festivals, exhibitions, etc. at the university or beyond</li> <li>• Interdisciplinary and collaborative projects</li> <li>• Curatorial projects</li> </ul>				
<b>Courses</b> Participation in/collaboration with exhibitions/events 10-20 CP  This module may include credit for preparation, as well as concept and organizational work on interdisciplinary collaborative events and exhibitions.				
<b>Expectations and Coursework</b> Before starting the module, students coordinate their planned participation with the instructor supervising the project. (S)he will determine suitable correlating coursework, e.g., artistic project, lecture, publication, or documentation.				
<b>Assessment</b> None				
<b>Prerequisites</b> None				
<b>Module Counts Toward</b> MFA ART and MA Design				
<b>Offering Frequency</b> Biannually	<b>Start</b> Summer/winter semester	<b>Semester</b> 1st – 3rd semester		



<b>ELECTIVE SECTION – INTERNSHIP</b>				
<b>Module Code</b> MFA-Kunst-WB-Prakt	<b>Workload</b> 240 h	<b>CP</b> 8	<b>Duration</b> 1 semester	<b>CM/REM</b> Elective module in the elective section
<b>Learning Objectives</b> Advancement of one's own artistic form and style while broadening areas of competence according to the student's personal interests: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced skills and knowledge in artistic, practical, and theoretical/academic areas and/or</li> <li>• Professional artistic practice</li> <li>• Knowledge of current and relevant professional conditions with the aim to later position oneself in the field of an ever evolving art scene and cultural market</li> </ul>				
<b>Content</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internship at an institution relevant to the study objective, e.g., in an art studio, project space, museum, art association, or gallery, or for a media event, festival, theatre, etc.</li> </ul>				
<b>Courses</b> Internship, 4-8 weeks <i>(As a rule, 30h/week, 1 CP is awarded per week. The internship can be performed part-time, in which case 1 CP is awarded for every 30 hours worked.)</i>				
<b>Expectations and Coursework</b> Confirmation of successful participation by the internship placement authority (or the immediate internship supervisor) as proof of participation and a one-page report form are proof of academic achievement				
<b>Assessment</b> None				
<b>Prerequisites</b> None				
<b>Module Counts Toward</b> MFA ART				
<b>Offering Frequency</b> Biannually	<b>Start</b> Summer/winter semester	<b>Semester</b> Depending on student's selection 1st – 3rd semester		

<b>ELECTIVE SECTION – FREE STUDY</b>				
<b>Module Code</b> MFA-Kunst-WB-FS	<b>Workload</b> 1,530 h	<b>CP</b> Up to 51 CP	<b>Duration</b> 3 semesters	<b>CM/REM</b> Elective module in the elective section
<b>Learning Objectives</b> Advancement of the student's own artistic form and style while broadening areas of competence according to personal interests: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced skills and knowledge in artistic, technical, and theoretical/academic areas and/or</li> <li>• Social and communicative skills and/or</li> <li>• Knowledge of current and relevant professional conditions with the aim to later position oneself in the field of an ever evolving art scene and cultural market</li> </ul>				
<b>Content</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Courses totaling up to 51 CP as chosen by the student</li> <li>• If applicable, various thematic areas for VOCATIONAL PREPARATION as chosen by the student: presentation and facilitation techniques, copyright and contract law, fees and costs, taxes and accounting, art and design management, etc.</li> </ul>				
<b>Notes</b> Within the framework of the module, students may attend courses offered by other departments as well as by other universities in Germany and abroad to achieve the competence goals, subject to availability if applicable. (Prerequisite for the attendance of the workshop classes, for both departments, is proof of safety competence as assessed by the the workshop heads.). In addition, extracurricular and external events can be included in the elective segment. In these cases, students are expected to approach the examination committee directly in order to coordinate their participation in each of these offerings. The CP allocation for the Free Study module in the elective section is based on a CP catalog published on the homepage of the department. Students of the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) with a larger theoretical component may attend additional master's colloquia as part of the Free Study module, depending on the recommendation of their master's thesis advisor.				
<b>Courses</b> Seminars, lectures, workshops, and projects, among others If applicable, workshops and/or lectures VOCATIONAL PREPARATION (2 CP)				
<b>Expectations and Coursework</b> Regular active participation (where relevant, other coursework must be completed for the selected courses)				
<b>Assessment</b> None				
<b>Prerequisites</b> None				
<b>Module Counts Toward MFA ART</b>				
<b>Offering Frequency</b> Biannually	<b>Start</b> Winter/summer semester	<b>Semester</b> Depending on student's selection 1st – 3rd semester		



## MASTER'S THESIS WITH A LARGER THEORETICAL COMPONENT

Module Code	Workload	CP	Duration	Compulsory/Required
MFA-Kunst-MA-Th	990 h, made up of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 75 to 90 h attendance</li> <li>• 540 to 555 h individual work</li> </ul>	33	1 semester	Required
<b>Learning Objectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design confidence and professional practice, individual presentation skills, at a high technical level</li> <li>• Ability to work independently in a creative capacity</li> <li>• Ability to think conceptually with confidence</li> <li>• The formation of one's own visual language and approach</li> <li>• Ability to critically engage throughout the creative process</li> <li>• Strong knowledge of artistic and cultural contexts, comprehensive subject-specific knowledge of artistic practice</li> <li>• Ability to argue with confidence and knowledge on theoretical-scientific aspects of art and design</li> <li>• Independent writing of a long theoretical paper related to a topic in art and design from a humanities or cultural studies perspective</li> </ul>				
<b>Content</b> <p>In the fourth semester, students complete their master's degree in the subject area of their choice.</p> <p>The master's thesis is composed cumulatively of a highly demanding and complex artistic master's project that meets professional standards and a written theoretical master's thesis on a topic of the student's own choosing which may or may not be related to the project. This work demonstrates the competencies developed by the student over their course of study.</p> <p>The project is presented, discussed, and evaluated in a professional manner to the university public.</p> <p>If the degree with a larger theoretical component is sought, this module must be taken for the master's thesis.</p>				
<b>Courses</b> <p>Master colloquium theory    3 CP</p> <p>Individual discussion (design/theory/workshop)</p> <p>Master's thesis, 20 CP, of which up to 10 CP supervision in practice/in workshops up to 2 CP supervision in theory</p> <p>Theoretical master's thesis    10 CP</p>				
<b>Expectations and Coursework</b> <p>Active and regular participation in the master's colloquium for theory; presentation of one's own work; resonance and co-moderation where appropriate</p>				

## Assessment

Cumulative module examinations will evaluate the conception, execution, and presentation of a demanding, complex, independent, artistic project within a specified framework as well as the theoretical master's thesis, of at least 80,000 characters. Both partial examinations must be passed. The artistic project counts for 2/3 of the module grade, the theoretical master's thesis for 1/3.

For the project, in addition to the individual thesis, a team or group project is possible in accordance with section 9 of the Study Regulations.

The master's project can only be started after the theoretical master's thesis has been passed.

## Prerequisites

The prerequisite for the master's thesis with larger theoretical component is the previous completion of the required elective module THEORY<sup>+</sup>. In this case, the theoretical master's thesis is supervised and graded by an instructor whose seminars the student has attended at least one in the compulsory module THEORY and one in the elective module THEORY<sup>+</sup>. This will be the person with whom the student attends the master's colloquium for theory.

Prerequisite for participation in the master's project is participation in at least one Art seminar of the main supervisor of the master's project in the module ART(FINE/APPLIED) as well as the passing of the theoretical master's thesis.

In the course catalog, supplementary prerequisites may be defined in individual cases, specific to the subject.

If second supervision in practice is desired, a further prerequisite is proof of basic knowledge that corresponds to the learning content of the practical modules of the bachelor's degree program in art at the Offenbach am Main University of Art and Design. If this knowledge cannot be demonstrated through a bachelor's degree or competency acquired outside of the university, completion of the elective module PRACTICE in the elective section in the corresponding teaching area is a prerequisite for the second supervision in practice.

## Module Counts Toward MFA ART

**Offering  
Frequency**  
Biannually

**Start**  
Winter/summer semester

**Semester**  
4th semester