

## Degree requirements 2015–2020

### Master's degree programme in sound (120 credits)

*The two-year master's degree in theatre and drama (120 credits) is based on a previously completed bachelor's degree in theatre and drama (180 credits) or corresponding studies, knowledge, skills and work experience.*

#### **Contents of the programme:**

*The main aim of the master's degree programme in sound is to produce professional, expressive and co-operative experts in sound for both the domestic and international art fields. The programme deepens and expands students' thinking in terms of the aesthetics of sound, offers tools for analysis and argumentation as well as supports students' growth into artists interacting with their environment.*

#### **Learning outcomes:**

Students graduating from the master's degree programme in sound at the Theatre Academy of the University of the Arts Helsinki are independent artists capable of functioning as creative and innovative members of an artistic working group. Graduates are also able to further develop their own field of art, within the framework of many other art forms (theatre, dance, opera, circus, music, performance art etc.) and also as independent sound artists.

Sound experts know the traditions of their field of art and are able to adapt and develop the necessary techniques and design process. They are able to utilize a complex set of tools for sonic expression in achieving their artistic goals. They have mastered the opportunities and new methods of operation afforded by technology, and are able to develop and apply these to an ever-changing artistic environment. Experts on sound and sonic expression have the necessary skills to work in performing arts production groups and institutions, as freelancers, as entrepreneurs, in independent theatre companies or as independent artists.

**MASTER'S DEGREE IN THEATRE AND DRAMA, 120 credits**  
**Structure of the master's degree programme in sound, 2015–2020**

		I	II
<b>T-VÄM100</b>	<b>COMPULSORY STUDIES</b>	<b>8–10</b>	
<a href="#">T-VÄM101</a>	Introduction to master's degree studies	2	
<a href="#">T-ÄM102-03</a>	Personal guidance	1	1
<a href="#">T-VÄM104-05</a>	Seminar	1	1
<a href="#">T-VÄM108-09</a>	Thesis project seminar	2	2
<b>T-VÄM200</b>	<b>INDIVIDUAL STUDIES, 80–82 credits</b>	<b>80–82</b>	
<a href="#">T-VÄM300</a>	Elective studies, at least 10 credits Productions, rehearsals and assisting Advanced studies in sound		
<b>T-VÄM400</b>	<b>THESIS PROJECT</b>		<b>30</b>
<a href="#">T-VÄM401</a>	Thesis project		
<a href="#">T-VÄM402</a>	Maturity examination		
	In total	60	60

## **T-VÄM100 MANDATORY STUDIES**

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are able to analyze performances, artworks, their own professional development and learning both orally and in writing, from an academic perspective.

### **T-VÄM101 Introduction to master's degree studies, 2 credits**

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students get to know other master's degree students and contemplate the nature and character of master's degree studies for themselves. They possess the necessary information about the content, realization and progression of studies as well as study goals and evaluations. They are able to formulate a personal study plan that sets them firmly on course to becoming art professionals. They are able to reflect on and evaluate their learning and the teaching.

*This study unit is mandatory to all master's degree students arriving from outside the Theatre Academy.*

## **T-ÄM102-03 Individual instruction, 2 credits**

*1 credit / year of study*

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are able to independently chart their study path and prepare a personal study plan PSP (HOPS in Finnish) that supports their development into experts in sound and sonic expression. Students discuss and agree on their plan together with the professor of the master's degree programme.

## **T-VÄM104-05 Seminar**

*1 credit / study year*

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are able to use appropriate tools to present their own learning and artistic work. Students are able to understand the artistic thinking of other artists, to focus on essential questions and develop their skills of discussion and argumentation.

## **T-VÄM108-09 Thesis seminar for master's degree in theatre and drama**

*2 credits / study year*

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are able to

- prepare a thesis project plan
- look for reference material and relate critically to different texts and other material
- master the formal principles of writing a thesis (e.g. providing references and sources)
- understand the ethical dimensions of the thesis project
- acknowledge the strengths and development areas of their own written expression.

## **T-VÄM200 INDIVIDUAL STUDIES**

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are able to select such study units from the master's degree programme in sound, as well as from the course selection offered by other academies or universities that support their own progress. Students are able to deepen their artistic and exploratory perspectives, expand their professional know-how and develop conceptual and theoretical thinking about their own work.

*Students will add a total of 80-82 study credits' worth of individual studies to their master's degree studies in sound. Students will themselves assemble their individual studies from the master's degree programme in sound, other degree programmes and study units of the Theatre Academy, study units from other domestic and international universities or from studies offered elsewhere within the University of the Arts Helsinki. The individual studies arranged within the master's degree programme in sound vary from one year to the next.*

*It is also possible to add the following to the individual studies: productions agreed beforehand in personal consultation with the professor (HOPS discussion), assignments of assisting domestic or international professionals in sound, as well as practice periods at home or abroad.*

*Study units may include e.g.:*

## **T-ÄM206 Sound design in a movement-based work of art, 10 credits**

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are familiar with the characteristic premises for choreography and contemporary performance, aims and methods, and know how to place these within the context of contemporary dance as an art form. They are familiar with ways of using sound and music in the context of dance, and are able to apply this competence to their own work. Students are familiar with the basics of group dynamics and understand the aims and possibilities of collegial work, both for encouraging equal participation in the processes of a working group as well as from the perspective of sound designer. Students are able to discern the different aspects of an artwork as well as its environment where content, production and structure are concerned. They are able to implement artistic projects in creative, interactive collaboration with students of other art forms.

## **T-XM203 Performing arts and media, 8 credits**

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are able to approach the concept of technology from different perspectives: as a possible starting point for an artwork, as an aesthetic component and as content. Students are able to utilize various technologies and their essential features, functional and aesthetic, as they create a small performance/demo as part of a group.

## **T-XM202 The big stage, 8 credits**

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students discover the demands and possibilities of the big stage through their own individual training. They are able to work creatively as part of a complex apparatus, utilizing and assessing the technical possibilities while also taking into consideration the limitations and restrictions inherent in a repertoire theatre. Students are able to communicate well with the artistic working group and the technical staff.

## **T-VÄM206 Interactive performance technology, 5 credits**

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students recognize the possibilities of light, sound, image and space to work as elements of an interactive performance. Students are able to use different kinds of interactive performance technology tools.

## **T-VÄM01 Dance, video, media, 6 credits**

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are familiar with the traditions of the dance movie and “dancing for the camera” type videos. They are also familiar with the structure, production and technical basics of making videos, and have acquainted themselves with the adaptation and application of video and virtual technologies in a movement-based artwork.

## **T-ÄM207 Art, sound, theory 5–10 credits**

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are able to differentiate between different directions in aesthetic and theoretical thinking within the field of sound. They are able to analyze their own thinking about sound and apply a greater range of creative methods in their own work.

Students are able to structure their thinking about sound and their creative working methods, as well as refine their skills in analytical writing.

### **T-ÄM208 Video art and sound, 8 credits**

#### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are able to adapt the preconditions and possibilities of an artwork that consists of moving image and sound. They are able to reflect on their design as an integral element of the artwork as a whole.

### **T-XM201 Radio play, 10 credits**

#### **Learning outcomes:**

Students master the form and expression of a radio play and are capable of designing and realizing one.

### **T-ÄM209 Radiophonic art, 10 credits**

#### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are able to identify the typical features of a broadcast & sound artwork and implement a radiophonic artwork.

### **T-ÄM210 Sound and space, 10 credits**

#### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are able to define acoustics as a phenomenon and to identify and utilize the various acoustic characteristics of different spaces as part of their sonic expression. They are familiar with the different conceptions of space and its usage in different art forms, and are able to adapt these creatively and open-mindedly in their own work.

### **T-ÄM211 Mastering sound, 3 credits**

#### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are able to utilize different methods of mastering disparate sonic materials and processes and adapting them to the needs and requirements of the performance and performance space. Students understand the possibilities and methods of mastering as a tool to achieve appropriate results for various purposes.

## **T-ÄM212 Sound synthesis, 5 credits**

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are familiar with the history of sound creation, the possibilities afforded by different technologies, and their limitations and characteristic traits. Students are able to adapt different techniques of sound synthesis in varying environments and understand the most important features and possibilities of each technique in the creation of sonic materials and their temporal arrangements.

## **T-ÄM213 Sound design for music theatre, 5-10 credits**

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students understand the significance of the different elements of music theatre production and their creation and composition to achieving a successful end result. Focal points are the technical and conceptual pre-planning based on the requirements of the piece and acoustic environment, the necessity of the working group communicating openly with each other, as well as the special demands of mixing and running a music theatre performance successfully. Students are capable of scaling the available resources in relation to production and the scope of production.

## **T-VÄM201 Practical training abroad, 4-30 credits**

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are able to analyse their own professional competence and identity against their experiences abroad, recognize differences in performing arts cultures, training, the roles and assignments of different professional groups, production planning and implementation. Students know how to recognize and adapt their own professional competence to international productions and to identify areas where they need to develop. They are able to network and create preconditions for working in a foreign culture. The practice period abroad may consist of studies at a foreign university or on-the-job training.

## **T-VÄM202 Practical training in Finland, 6-16 credits**

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are able to independently work in artistic professional working groups. They are familiar with practical working methods and the roles and assignments of different professional groups, and are able to design and realize a production. They are able to independently adapt their skills to different institutions of performing arts.

## **T-ÄM204 Assisting, 4–10 credits**

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students expand their experience of artistic work by working on productions as an assistant or trainee assistant of a sound designer. Students are capable of independently carrying out assignments they have been given.

*There is more information about assisting, related requirements and practices and reporting in a separate assistance guideline on the intranet of the University of the Arts Helsinki. If you have already completed this unit as part of your BA studies, it is not possible to include the same content in your MA studies.*

## **T-VÄM203 Elective production, 6–16 credits**

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are able to independently make an artistic contribution to a production, artwork, working group or working environment of which they have little or no previous experience.

## **T-ÄM205 Knowledge of performing arts, 1–10 credits**

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are capable of identifying and analytically interpreting different forms, elements, materials and techniques of performing arts. They are able to adapt the models of analysis they have learned earlier and to develop their methods of working and acquiring information, so that they are able to utilize these during their studies as well as later in their career.

## **T-VÄM300 Elective studies, at least 10 credits**

### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are capable of expanding their competence according to their personal interests. They identify areas significant to their own artistic qualities and thus deepen their knowledge and skills in sound design and related fields.

*In addition to joint studies offered by the University of the Arts Helsinki, students may also choose elective studies from among the university's mobility studies and from universities covered by the Flexible Study Rights agreement (JOO). Students are themselves responsible for arranging their elective studies following negotiations with the professor of the master's degree programme.*



## **T-VÄM400 THESIS PROJECT**

### **T-VÄM401 Thesis project, 30 credits**

*The thesis project of the master's degree is*

- *an artistic work that includes a written section, or*
- *a written thesis.*

#### **Learning outcomes:**

Students are able to summarize the essential aspects of their work and present these clearly.

#### **Artistic work including a written section:**

Students are capable of independent artistic work and also to function as part of an artistic working group. They are able to come up with professional solutions to various design challenges, as well as to document and analyze their own artistic work process. Students are able to situate their art within the field of performing arts, and to perceive the connections between their solutions and various artworks, makers or directions.

*Production classification A*

#### **Learning outcomes of the written thesis:**

Students are able to formulate a research question on which the thesis is built, as well as narrow down their subject. They are capable of academic thinking and argumentation, are well versed in the subject area of their chosen field and master the necessary research methods and principles of academic writing.

### **T-VÄM402 Maturity examination**

*Before the thesis can be approved, students need to complete a written maturity examination that shows in-depth knowledge of the field of the thesis, as well as proficiency in either Finnish or Swedish.*