

Degree requirements 2015–2020

The Degree Programme in Sound (180 credits)

Contents:

The primary purpose of the programme is to produce experts of sonic expression in performing arts for the fields of art and culture. The premise for bachelor's degree studies in sound is to master a personal toolkit of sonic expression and control of various sound media and materials. The programme expands students' thinking about the aesthetics of sound, offers tools for implementation, analysis and argumentation, as well as supports students' growth into artists working in dialogue with their environment. The programme develops students' capabilities of evaluating their own and others' work, as well as to give and receive feedback. The programme helps students develop their own work and function ethically within their own working environment.

Learning outcomes:

Graduates from the bachelor's degree programme in sound are familiar with the traditions, current practices and concepts of sonic expression. They master the expressivity and tools of sound, are familiar with the artistic planning and design process and are able to produce artistic content as active members of an artistic working group where many different professions are represented.

Graduates have the ability to adopt new technologies and methods for artistic expression, at the same time maintaining an analytical and critical attitude towards them. Experts of sonic expression possess the tools for working as employees of performing arts groups and institutions, as freelancers, entrepreneurs, in independent theatre companies or as independent artists regardless of the mode of expression. BA graduates possess the competence to engage in master's degree studies.

BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN THEATRE AND DRAMA, 180 credits

Structure of the degree programme in sound, 2015–2020

		I	II	III
T-XB100	GENERAL STUDIES, 22 credits	10	9	3
T-XB101-03	Study skills	2	1	1
T-XB104-05	Working life skills		1	2
X-TBK01-02	Second domestic language		3	
X-TBK21-22	Foreign language	5		
T-XB106-07	Communication skills	3	2	
T-XB108	Introduction to performance dramaturgy and composition		2	
T-VÄB200	KNOWLEDGE OF THE ARTS, 26 credits	12	6	8
T-XB201	History of performing arts 1	5		
T-XB202	History of performing arts 2		2	
T-XB203	History of performing arts 3			2
T-VÄB201	Music history	2		
T-ÄB201	Cultural history of sound			3
T-XB210	Art and philosophy		2	
T-VÄB202	History of dance	1		
T-ÄB202	Music dramaturgy and theatre music			3
T-XB204	Introduction to dramaturgy	2		
T-XB214	Dramaturgy 1	2		
T-XB215	Dramaturgy 2		2	
T-VÄB100	STUDIES AND WORKING LIFE, 12 credits	7	3	2
T-VÄB101	Electrical studies	2		
T-VÄB102	Rigging and occupational safety		1	
T-VÄB103	Performance analysis and professional competence	4		
T-VÄB104-06	Seminar	1	1	1
T-VÄB107-08	Thesis project portfolio seminar		1	1
T-ÄB500	SOUND IN PERFORMING ARTS, 47 credits	4	24	19
T-VÄB501	Space etude	4		
T-VÄB504	From idea to realization			2
T-XB206	Devising		7	
T-XB207	The performance as a process		12	
T-XB213	Dance and sound design		2	
T-XB211	Light and sound as co-actors			2
T-VÄB503	Third year production			15
T-ÄB504	Sound in performance		3	
T-ÄB300	SKILLS AND TOOLS, 33 credits	15	13	5
T-ÄB301	The basics of sound		3	
T-ÄB302	Working in a sound studio		3	
T-VÄB307	Graphic programming environments		5	
T-ÄB303	Sound as electronic signal	2		
T-ÄB304-05	The basics of electronic sound reproduction		1	1
T-VÄB310	Recording skills		1	
T-ÄB306	Acoustic sources of sound			3
T-ÄB307	Electronic sources of sound			3

T-VÄB301	Introduction to light	2		
T-VÄB302	Technical basics of lighting design I	2		
T-VÄB303	Colour perception and colour systems	2		
T-VÄB304	From text to image idea	2		
T-VÄB305	From image idea to space	3		
T-ÄB308	Sound expressions in a performance	2		
T-ÄB400	PREMISES OF SOUND EXPRESSION, 17 credits	10	1	6
T-VÄB316	Sound expression	3		
T-VÄB502	Sound etudes	4		
T-ÄB402	Working methods in sound design		1	
T-ÄB403	Performing with sound			3
T-VÄB315	Introduction to sound	3		
T-ÄB401	Recording music			3
T-ÄB600	ELECTIVE STUDIES, 15 credits	2	4	9
T-VÄB700	THESIS PROJECT, 6 credits			
T-VÄB701	Thesis project			
T-VÄB702	Maturity examination			0
	In total	60	60	60

T-XB100 GENERAL STUDIES, 22 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students possess the study, working life, language and communication skills required in the degree. Following general studies, students are also familiar with the dramaturgy of performance and the basics of composition.

General studies develop knowledge and skills that all BA students at the Theatre Academy have in common. Studies are arranged by the Centre for Joint Studies. Some of the studies form part of intermediate studies of other degree programmes.

T-XB101-3 Study skills, 4 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students perceive how their own field of study and curriculum fit in with the University of the Arts Helsinki. They are able to plan and schedule their own studies, independently search for information about studies offered by other degree programmes and universities, and construct a meaningful degree for themselves. They are able to annually prepare a personal study plan (HOPS) together with the teacher responsible for the course. By keeping a study journal, students are able to actively construct their own understanding of their subjects and work, evaluate their own learning as well as the teaching, and provide constructive feedback to the degree programme as well as the University of the Arts Helsinki as a whole.

T-XB104-5 Working life skills, 3 credits

Learning outcomes:

Having studied the basics of production, students

- have an understanding of the different parties contributing to the arts in their varied forms and the institutional structures of performing arts, as well as of their own areas of interest as artists within these fields
- understand the stages of the artistic production process from idea to premiere/publication.

Having acquired working life skills, students

- are able to consider their own place in working life and the role of their profession in society, as well as master working life skills in relation to the current work situation and future outlook
- understand entrepreneurship as one path to employment
- identify their own competence and are able to present it to others.

Students present their work in digital format in the portfolio. Through working with the portfolio, students gain the ability to

- document their own artistic work
- create, edit and publish digital material
- present their work online.

X-TBK21-22 Foreign language, 5 credits

X-TBK21 English: writing proficiency, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to

- understand both general and academic spoken language, pick up information from speech and identify different perspectives
- discuss academic subjects, present ideas and opinions
- read and understand academic texts and collect information
- write clear, well-structured texts using the vocabulary of the field

- communicate more fluently, clearly, spontaneously and accurately
- actively take responsibility for their learning by committing to and evaluating their own achievements.

X-TBK22 English: oral proficiency, 3 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to

- extensively discuss different academic and professional subjects
- communicate more fluently, clearly and spontaneously
- give professional presentations
- use different discussion and presentation skills.

X-TBK01-02 / X-TBK11-12 Second domestic language, 3 credits

X-TBK01 / X-TBK11 Second domestic language (Swedish/Finnish): writing proficiency, 2 credits

X-TBK02 / X-TBK12 Second domestic language (Swedish/Finnish): oral proficiency, 1 credit

Learning outcomes:

- students are able to write various texts relating to their own field, studies and current themes
- students are able to read texts in their own field and discuss and write about these
- students are able to argue their own opinions and respond to others' comments
- students know the basic structure of Swedish/Finnish
- Passing the course indicates that the student has achieved a skill level in Swedish/Finnish that, according to Act 424/2003 and its Regulation 481/2003, is required of personnel in general government working for a bilingual authority, and necessary in this field.

T-XB106-7 Communication skills, 5 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to structure, communicate and argue their own artistic activity in speaking and writing. They perceive how their own field of art fits within the field of performing arts, and engage in discussions within this context. They are familiar with the basics of academic writing and are capable of searching for information within their own discipline, know how to use the information ethically and legally, and are able to critically evaluate different

information sources and their quality. Students are in command of the basics of spoken communication and are capable of communicating their own field of art and artistic activity.

T-XB108 Introduction to performance dramaturgy and composition, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to understand and perceive the structure, layers and meanings entailed in a performance. They are familiar with the core concepts and issues of dramaturgy and composition through literature, lectures and practical exercises.

T-VÄB200 KNOWLEDGE OF THE ARTS, 27 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to depict different aspects of theatre and dance art as well as outline the development of different types of performance in Western art from prehistoric times until the 2000s. Students are familiar with the core premises for the aesthetics, theory and practices of contemporary performance and other art forms. Students recognize the impact that society and culture have had on the various styles of music and sonic expression in the 20th and 21st centuries.

T-XB201 History of performing arts 1: The performing arts in a cultural history context, 5 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students have a grasp on the following phenomena: Western art, specifically the development arc of different types of performance from prehistoric times to the 1980s; the distinctive features of different style periods and their most important artists and works of art. Students understand the religious and political ideologies underpinning each cultural period, how these have affected the performing arts as well as the dynamics between art forms.

T-XB202 History of performing arts 2: The Finnish theatre, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are familiar with the concepts, performance aesthetics and ideologies that have impacted the Finnish theatre in different time periods, in relation to the history of society. They are familiar with the history of theatre performances and the core works of playwrights, as well as the most important artists and the significance of their artistic work. Students also understand the unique features of the Finnish theatre in relation to phenomena in art for the stage from a European and global perspective.

T-XB203 History of performing arts 3: In-depth themes, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students understand rituals and forms of performance from outside Europe, as well as the ideologies and phenomena currently impacting the theatre. Students are able to perceive the historical context of these, are familiar with their theoretical background and identify artistic expressions in various forms of performance.

T-VÄB201 Music history, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to identify aspects of society and culture that underpin the different musical styles and time periods of 20th and 21st century music. They are familiar with composition methods, thinking in terms of form, and the development of instrumentation.

T-ÄB201 The cultural history of sound, 3 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students recognize the most important cultural processes and connections to science, art and philosophy in how sound has been used and perceived over time. Students are able to grasp the historical context and theoretical background as well as connections between the sonic arts and other art forms.

T-XB210 Art and philosophy, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students gain an understanding of the most central philosophical approaches behind the unique character of an artwork, performance and artistic expression as well as the most important concepts through which artmaking, experiences and the communication they facilitate can be expressed in language. They are able to reflect on art and their own artistic work through conceptual reflection on these aspects.

T-VÄB202 History of dance, 1 credit

Learning outcomes:

Students have knowledge of the history of dance and understand the most important traditions, movements and influential artists that have affected dance as an art form.

T-ÄB202 Music dramaturgy and theatre music, 3 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to utilize their knowledge of different strategies of utilizing music as well as adapt these to a performing arts context.

T-XB204 Introduction to dramaturgy, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students understand the significance of dramaturgical thinking in perceiving phenomena in their entirety. They are familiar with the basic concepts of dramaturgy and have formed an outline of the historical background and changing nature of dramaturgy, as well as of the basics of dramaturgy in drama. Students have practiced reading texts, watching performances and discussing them.

T-XB214 Dramaturgy 1, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students have become acquainted with the dramaturgy of drama in theory and practice, and have gained an understanding of the significance of dramatic thinking in the history of theatre, Western culture and current reality. Students are familiar with the central concepts of dramaturgy such as character, action, plot, situation, twist.

T-XB215 Dramaturgy 2, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are familiar with the relationship between dramaturgical thinking and dramaturgical methods. They ponder dramaturgy especially from the viewpoint of connections between a dramatic work or event, the spectator and reality. They have become acquainted with certain significant paradigm shifts in dramaturgy during the 1900s, such as the theories of Bertolt Brecht. Students have in-depth knowledge of certain dramaturgical concepts and questions, such as e.g. context.

T-VÄB100 STUDIES AND WORKING LIFE, 12 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to analyse performances and their own professional development, both orally and in writing, and understand their own professional identity. Students are able to plan and implement the practical measures and documents required in production. They are also familiar with safe working methods and know how to apply these in practice.

T-VÄB101 Electrical studies, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to explain the basics of electrical engineering and safety, and independently solve the most common power network faults that occur in lighting and sound systems. Students are able to evaluate the environmental impact and economic significance of electrical energy consumption.

T-VÄB102 Rigging and occupational safety, 1 credit

Learning outcomes:

Students are familiar with the legislation and practices relating to hoisting, hoisting equipment, auxiliary hoisting equipment and working at height. Students are able to select, inspect and use the correct hoisting equipment in different situations. Students are aware of dangerous techniques and equipment, and able to plan and execute a safe rigging event.

T-VÄB103 Performance analysis and professional competence, 4 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to analyse different kinds of performances and artworks. They are able to view the contents and implementation of stage works from different perspectives and express their notions both orally and in writing. Students are able to evaluate the characteristic features of work in the different sectors of performing arts. Students know the views and perspectives of professional artists and makers in their own field.

T-VÄB104-06 Seminar, 3 credits

1 credit / year of study

Learning outcomes:

Using different tools, students are able to present their own learning and artistic work as well as develop their discussion and argumentation skills by actively taking part in discussions.

T-VÄB107-08 Thesis project portfolio seminar, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to design and write a thesis project portfolio. Students are able to use up-to-date materials and portfolio tools and able to partake in discussions. Students are able to choose a point of view for their thesis portfolio, create a structure for it and develop the work both independently and under guidance.

T-ÄB500 SOUND IN PERFORMING ARTS, 47 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to perceive the different factors affecting performances and artworks. They are familiar with working in an artistic working group. Students understand the significance of sound to the artwork and are able to implement a sound plan for the stage.

T-VÄB501 Spatial etude, 4 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to define site and place-specific thinking about an artwork as well as use their own history and relationship to a space, place or site as a starting point for artistic work. They are acquainted with the possibilities of lighting and sound in creating site and place-specific works of art.

A

T-VÄB504 From idea to realization, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to function as part of a group that devises and develops ideas based on free techniques and working methods, as well as realize a work of art for a public space. They utilize previously learned skills and the dynamic process of jointly producing an artwork.

T-XB206 Devising, 7 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students understand the basic idea of devising and identify different ways of working that are typical of the devising method. They perceive the different working methods of the process and the most important culmination points. Students are also able to flexibly take on and experiment with different professional roles outside their own area of study. They gain an understanding of the significance of various elements in the dramaturgical continuum.

Production classification D

T-XB207 Performance as a process, 12 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students identify their own focus of interest and perspective on the selected subject, combining it with the shared thought processes of the working group. They apply the working methods learned during the course in devising and are capable of interacting openly with their working group in order to come up with solutions together. They perceive the different working stages of a performance and are able to plan how the necessary material should be collected and assembled. They are capable of analyzing the collected material in relation to the selected topic and to further develop their dramaturgical thinking in performances. Students understand the significance of different areas of the theatre to the planning of a performance, and are able to construct a performance plan for a shared rehearsal period, in creative interaction with the artistic working group.

Production classification C

T-XB213 Dance and sound design, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to identify elements that combine sound and movement as well as adapt their own sound design to characteristic expressive features of dance. They are able to take into account the significance of sound from the perspective of the performer.

T-XB211 Light and sound as co-actors, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to identify and differentiate between the impact that different elements of a

performance (performer, light, sound) have on a scene and its constituents. They understand the differences and possibilities of expression in different areas, and deepen their interactive skills in the artistic work.

T-VÄB503 Third year production, 15 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to realize an independent artistic work as sound designers. They are able to develop mastery of their tools, sonic expression and working methods. In production work, students deepen their ability to engage in collaborative work with different professional groups through pre-planning, rehearsals and performances.

Production classification B

T-ÄB504 Sound in performance, 3 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to use current software and hardware tools for producing, shaping and mastering sound, as well as for combining these into more extensive compositions and designs as required by the performance. Students are able to adapt the material they have produced to the unique spatial characteristics of the performance, understanding the significance of sound to the performance as a whole.

T-ÄB300 SKILLS AND TOOLS, 33 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to depict the basic characteristics of sound and light. They recognize the physical and psychological laws of hearing and sight, and are able to utilize the basic concepts of their craft. Students master the tool-based skills necessary to mastering their profession.

T-ÄB301 The basics of sound, 3 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to depict the basic physical characteristics of sound. Students identify the physiological features of the ear and hearing, as well as psychological factors that affect listening and perception. Students are able to use basic concepts correctly. They are capable of using technical equipment to verify various physical phenomena of sound.

T-ÄB302 Working in a sound studio, 3 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to work independently in a sound studio environment, in cooperation with other parties, and master the use of basic studio technology.

T-VÄB307 Graphical programming environments, 5 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students master the basics of programming in a visual programming environment and have the skills needed to use the same environment for independent continued study and use.

T-ÄB303 Sound as electric signal, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to understand the different parts of the sound reproduction chain and their functions and significance, from microphone to signal processing to loudspeaker. Students possess basic skills and understanding of the following:

Microphones

- types of microphone, their technical differences and general suitability for different tasks
- basic qualities and units of measurement (sensitivity, mV)

Mixer

- gain structure of the signal's preamplification
- progression of the signal through the channel strip
- signal routing in the mixer and most common ways of designing and constructing the layout of the mixer.

Processing

- students understand and are able to use the tools for controlling the dynamics of audio signals such as EQ, gate, compressor/frequency compressor

Electronic signal transfer

- students understand what the basic units of measurement are and where they come from (dBu, dBV, V, impedance, MW/W)
- students understand signal balancing
- students know different cables and types of cable and their usage, and understand the impact that cable type and length have on the signal.

T-ÄB304-05 Basics of electronic sound reproduction, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to plan, scale and construct a sound reproduction system based on their knowledge and skills in adapting theory to practical solutions. Students also possess the basic skills to ascertain the functionality of their system with the help of measuring techniques. Students possess basic information of the following sections:

Amplifier

- students understand the basic units of measurement (W,V)
- students are familiar with the concept of impedance
- students are able to measure the size of the amplifier as needed

Loudspeaker

- students know the different types of loudspeakers, their differences and application (sub/middle/top, active/passive)
- students understand the significance of frequency reproduction
- students understand the basics of a phase
- students understand the basic units of measurement (dB,V)

Measuring and building a sound reinforcement system

- students understand the difference between point source and coupled point source
- when designing, students know how to read and make use of the directional patterns provided for the loudspeakers
- students understand the basics of acoustic summation
- students understand the need and function of time delays and their application

Measurement

- know the basics of measuring, in other words what, why and how to measure in order to verify their own designs

T-VÄB310 Recording skills, 1 credit

Learning outcomes:

Students master the basic technique behind using digital cameras, as well as the workflows of shooting digitally and the basic programmes involved in the work phases.

T-ÄB306 Acoustic sources of sound, 3 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to apply the basics of instrument acoustics and the principles of acoustic sound formation in manufacturing instruments suitable for use in performances.

T-ÄB307 Electronic sources of sound, 3 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to convert the sound of acoustic instruments to electronic signals with a microphone technique suitable to the purpose. Students master the basics of electronics and are able to plan and build simple electronic devices that produce and amplify sounds.

T-VÄB301 Introduction to light, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to perceive and differentiate between different factors affecting lighting and the impact of light on the environment. By working with miniatures and object theatre, students have practiced how light behaves. Students are able to identify different qualities of light and to discuss light.

T-VÄB302 Technical basics of lighting design I, 3 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to identify theatre lighting equipment and different types of spotlights, as well as how the direction of the light plays a role in lighting a person. Students are able to construct a lighting system, use lighting equipment and at least one programmable lighting console.

T-VÄB303 Colour perception and colour systems, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students understand the most important thoughts of light theorists such as Goethe and Albers and the chromatics of light; they know how to perceive and interpret colours and their interaction. Students are able to identify the joint effect of surface colour and coloured light.

T-VÄB304 From text to image idea, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to analyze a text, look for reference material and transform it into a visual concept and a functional idea. Students are able to present their ideas and aims to a working group.

T-VÄB305 From image idea to space, 3 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to construct a miniature to scale. With the help of experiments and observations, students are able to investigate the practice of planning a stage setting, taking into account functional requirements and light expression in the performance.

T-ÄB308 Tools of sound expression in a performance, 2 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students master the most common software platforms used in performance situations and know how to create a workflow and materials for them.

T-ÄB400 PREMISES OF SOUND EXPRESSION, 17 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to analyse and develop their working methods as well as identify and adapt different expressive approaches to their artistic work.

T-VÄB316 Sound expression, 3 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to experiment with and produce different tensions and emotions with the help of sound and music.

T-VÄB502 Sound etudes, 4 credits

Learning outcomes: Students are able to identify and adapt different approaches of sound dramaturgy to various forms of sound expression.

T-ÄB402 The working methods of sound design, 1 credit

Learning outcomes:

Working in an artistic working group, students are able to analyze and develop their sound design and working methods. The core content of the study unit is the analysis and discussion of the working process in the study unit called Performance as a process.

T-ÄB403 Performing with sound, 3 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to investigate various possibilities and tools of sonic expression as well as adapt these to their own performance and to designing the performance as a whole in a contemporary design context.

T-VÄB315 Introduction to sound, 3 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to evaluate sound environments and different aspects of sonic expression and to differentiate between what they hear. Students are able to use various methods of recording with both fixed and mobile equipment, various microphone techniques and recording formats, as well as to do preliminary design in connection with recording. Students know the basic techniques of digital editing and are capable of adapting these to make small-scale sonic artworks. Students master the practical basics of sound reproduction and have experience in building a small-scale sound reproduction system as well as of simultaneously playing back recorded and live sound.

T-ÄB401 Recording music, 3 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to use different methods of recording the music of acoustic and electronic ensembles. Students are also able to evaluate the space, the equipment available and other preconditions and limitations of the recording process.

T-ÄB600 ELECTIVE STUDIES, 15 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students learn more about subjects close to their own qualities as artists and thus deepen their artistic education by increasing their knowledge and skills. Students may add at least 15 credits' worth of elective studies to their BA degree studies. Students assemble their elective studies from study units offered at other academies of the University of the Arts Helsinki or from other universities under the Flexible Study Rights (JOO) agreement. Study units that can be counted as elective studies are agreed in the HOPS discussion with the students' own HOPS counsellor.

T-VÄB700 THESIS PROJECT, 6 credits

T-VÄB701 Thesis project, 6 credits

Learning outcomes:

Students are able to write and put together a thesis portfolio where they present a broad scope of their thinking and artistic studies as well as their work as artists. Having completed the portfolio, students are able to analyze and reflect on what they have learned as well as direct their focus towards master's degree studies. Students are able to present their thesis portfolio and their work as artists at the degree programme seminar.

T-VÄB702 Maturity examination

Before the thesis project can be approved, the student must undergo a written maturity examination that shows in-depth knowledge of the field of the thesis project, as well as skills in either Finnish or Swedish.