

Doctor of Fine Arts (DFA) degree		240 cr.		
<p>Learning outcomes of the Doctor of Fine Arts degree:</p> <p>A person who has completed a Doctor of Fine Arts degree is an expert in their field of study. They:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have the skills and knowledge to engage in independent artistic research • can carry out an artistic research project based on a motivated and well-argued research proposal • can critically evaluate the stages of the artistic research process and their outcomes, and to take part in the social and research-based public discourse in their field of specialisation in an expert role • know how to document the different processes of artistic research and to communicate the contents of their research in various contexts • can identify important and topical phenomena related to their field and to engage in their critical evaluation • know how to put their acquired knowledge to practice and to work methodically, professionally, and creatively in the arts and artistic research • can work in collaboration with experts both from their own field and from other fields • understand the ethical dimensions of their practice in the context of arts and research and work in a fair and responsible manner <p>The degree can be completed either in Finnish, Swedish, or English.</p>				
DFA	Doctor of Fine Arts Degree	240 cr.	Contents	Learning outcomes
K-Jo	Doctoral thesis in Fine Arts	170 cr.	The doctoral thesis in Fine Arts is composed of an artistic component and a written component. The written component is connected to the artistic component and provides a general outline of the entire research project. The structure of the doctoral thesis is flexible and scalable. This means that the scope of the different components that comprise the doctoral thesis can be partitioned in different ways, and the number of the components may also vary. The individual components of the doctoral thesis can be published during the doctoral studies. In this respect, the doctoral thesis in Fine Arts is structurally similar to an article-based dissertation. Overall, the doctoral thesis must be planned so that it corresponds with 170 credits worth of work. A more detailed description of the doctoral thesis can be found in a separate document.	The doctoral student has a profound understanding of the fine arts and can critically analyse, articulate, and contextualise artistic research in different settings
K-Ji	Doctoral studies in Fine Arts	70 cr.	Contents	Learning outcomes
K-Ji-10	Artistic research seminars	46 cr.	This study module consists of several thematic seminars, and it is primarily intended to be completed during the first two years of studies. The thesis circle, which can also be taken at a later stage in the studies, is an exception to this principle.	The doctoral student acquires a diverse knowledge of the contexts of artistic research. They become acquainted with a variety of methods and reporting practices that can be employed in artistic research. They are familiar with the starting points of both experimental and practice-based research and know how to use them creatively in their own research. Furthermore, the doctoral student can develop a research approach that is motivated in the context of their personal project and provide arguments in support of this approach. They learn about different documentation and reporting techniques and improve their writing skills from the perspective of their own research. They acquire the skills necessary for the organisation of artistic setups that are motivated from the perspective of their research.
K- Ji-11	○ Thematic seminars	14 cr.	Thematic seminars comprise a study unit with a changing annual focus. The seminars are organised independently from each other,	The doctoral student learns about the ontological, epistemological, and social questions pertaining to artistic research. They are familiar with the basic theories and concepts and

			and they provide the participants with an opportunity to examine artistic research in a broader cultural context.	can employ them in their own research. Furthermore, they can contextualise their own research setting with artistic research and other fields of research more generally.
K-Ji-12	○ Research seminar	8 cr.	The research seminar is a study unit where each doctoral student organises a seminar that focuses directly on their own research and where they discuss the progress of their research project once a year. The seminar work includes group discussions of the newly developed artistic and written components of the student's doctoral thesis. The critical assessment performed in the group is intended to facilitate the student's progress and to allow them to reach more profound conclusions in their research. In general, the student's supervisor(s), as well as possible external experts, are invited by the student to participate in the seminar. The successful completion of the research seminar requires that the doctoral student takes an active part in the seminar work for a minimum of two years. Participation in the Research Days can be included as part of the research seminar.	The doctoral student <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - can provide a well-organised account of the progress of their research to the seminar participants and knows how to introduce any acute challenges pertaining to the research project as a topic for peer discussion - can actively seek feedback on their own research and knows how to give feedback to other doctoral students - is able contextualise elements of their artistic practice with the research project as a whole
K-Ji-13	○ Thesis circle	2 cr.	The thesis circle is a peer-support group that helps the participants make progress in their writing process. The study unit is intended to be taken in the final stages of the doctoral research project when the doctoral student is compiling the different components of the doctoral thesis into a manuscript.	The doctoral student <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - knows how to organise extensive written texts - actively asks for feedback on the organisation of their doctoral thesis - is able to provide critical comments on their peers' research - acquires skills with which they can analyse writing as a process and a creative practice
K-Ji-14	○ Methodological studies	6 cr.	This study unit is organised as a practicum, and it familiarises the doctoral student with the essential connections and questions pertaining to artistic practices and methodological experimentations. The doctoral students formulate artistic research arrangements based on clearly defined themes that arise from their own research. These arrangements are then shared with the peer group so that they can be analysed and critically discussed. Experimental arrangements or exercises can function as a context for seeing how the artistic components work, or they can deal with topics, components, or questions that need clarification. This working method also allows the doctoral student to clarify the structure of the methodological tools, concepts, and problems related to their artistic research and to learn to express them more clearly. If the doctoral student has completed a course on the methodology of a specialised field of study, they can be given credit for that as part of this study unit.	The doctoral student <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - understands the relationships between the artistic practices and methodological problems and solutions related to the construction of knowledge in artistic research - is familiar with the international methodological discourse and concepts in the field - knows the methodological approaches and concepts that are relevant, topical, and essential from the perspective of artistic research and the contexts of contemporary art, and knows how to apply them in a motivated way in their own research - is familiar with the epistemological and methodological approaches employed in artistic research and can identify their diverse relationships with the multidisciplinary field of research and society
K-Ji-15	○ Writing	8 cr.	The study unit of writing supports the doctoral student in their independent artistic research as part of a research community. The doctoral student learns about various practices and techniques of academic and creative writing at different stages of their studies.	The doctoral student <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - understands how the concepts work in relation to the artistic practice and knows how to formulate and apply them consistently in their own research - learns about the boundary conditions and practices of academic writing and knows how to apply them in their own research - familiarises themselves with the opportunities presented by creative writing in the field of artistic research and learns to appreciate writing as a method of conducting artistic research
K-Ji-18	○ Waypoint seminar	4 cr.	This study unit is targeted at doctoral students who are hitting the halfway mark of their doctoral studies. It is organised as an intensive seminar, where the individual components which the doctoral students have already finished are discussed, and a plan for	The doctoral student <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - can explain the connections between the different parts of their research project - can identify and explicate the problematic parts of their research and knows how to seek assistance in the resolution of the issues

			completing the doctoral thesis is formulated. The study unit includes an advance assignment pertaining to the organisation of the doctoral thesis, which the doctoral student completes before the start of the seminar.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - can make decisions that allow them to finish the doctoral thesis - knows how to improve the documentation strategies related to their research by making them more specific
K-Ji-17	○ Exhibition practices of artistic research	2 cr.	This study unit provides the doctoral student with the skills and knowledge to critically evaluate, develop, and adapt the exhibition practices of artistic research. The unit encourages the doctoral student to reflect upon the exhibition practices of artistic research, which they can use to promote their own research at its different stages either by experimenting with a more extensive component or a more detailed, but fragmentary component. The students taking part in the unit develop and critically discuss various exhibition practices of artistic research, such as the exhibition, article, intervention, studio, processes that extend beyond the walls of the studio or the practice space, and other kinds of individual and collective forms and combinations of public performance.	<p>The doctoral student</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - becomes acquainted with different exhibition practices of artistic research and learns to develop them and to connect them with their own research in a motivated way - can identify formats, methods, and experimental arrangements of public presentation that are relevant to the promotion of their research at its different stages - recognises the benefits of the feedback received both from peers and from other people and knows how to critically contextualise the feedback so that it can lead to improvements in their personal research project
K-Ji-20	Research skills	14 cr.	The studies included in this study module are compulsory. They are primarily intended to be completed during the first two years of study apart from the symposium, which can also be completed near the end of the studies.	The doctoral student acquires the basic skills required to work in a multidisciplinary research community and becomes better acquainted with conducting artistic research in an interactive relationship with both Finnish and international agents. The doctoral student is ready to take part in academic discourse and to organise events pertaining to artistic research. They know how to pursue connections that are relevant to their own research. With supervision, the doctoral student can create an introduction of an artistic research project that is ready for publication. The individual courses included in the study module are organised as lectures, seminars, workshops, and independent work.
K-Ji-21	○ Orientation week	1 cr.	The orientation week provides the doctoral student with the prerequisites to carry out their studies at the Academy of Fine Arts of the University of the Arts Helsinki. During the orientation week, the doctoral student learns to understand the doctoral studies more generally in terms of the contents of the studies and from the perspective of the advancement of their own study path. They also learn to understand the structure of the doctoral studies from the perspective of Uniarts Helsinki's community and the peer community of the doctoral research programme.	<p>The doctoral student</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - knows how to work as part of the operating environment and research community of the University of the Arts Helsinki and the Academy of Fine Arts - understands the curriculum and the objectives of the degree and knows how to make a Personal Study Plan (HOPS) - knows the operating principles and practices of the Academy of Fine Arts - knows how to make use of the Study Services and the Research Support Services - knows how to seek information and to promote their studies independently - is aware of the funding agents in research and knows how to apply for research funding - is familiar with the contents of Uniarts Helsinki's Ethical Code of Conduct and knows how to find information about the principles concerning research ethics - becomes acquainted with the use of the Research Catalogue platform in order to promote their research, present it in public, and learn about the pre-examination process
K-Ji-22	○ Conference presentation	2 cr.	The doctoral student learns about the practices of academic discourse by presenting their own research in relevant conferences or symposia.	<p>The doctoral student</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - knows the most important conferences in their own field - is familiar with the presentation practices of a conference in artistic research - knows how to submit a conference abstract and to fund and budget their participation - can prepare and present a conference paper - can form contacts and networks that are personally relevant to them - knows how to publish their paper in conference proceedings

K-Ji-23	○ Symposium	5 cr.	The doctoral student plans, coordinates, and organises a symposium related to their own research.	The doctoral student <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - knows how to organise and coordinate an academic symposium - can actively take part in academic discourse - is able to create and maintain contacts that support their research
K-Ji-24	○ Publishing	4 cr.	The doctoral student produces a publication to appear in a suitable research publication. This publication can be a written article, a mixed-media exposition, or an editorial work.	The doctoral student <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - knows how to make a publication proposal and to formulate a research publication - is aware of the relevant peer-reviewed publication channels in their field and the research-based criteria employed by these publications - is familiar with the peer-review process and understands its relevance to research - can accept critical feedback and improve the quality of their research
K-Ji-25	○ Ethics in the arts and research	2 cr.	This study unit is jointly organised for doctoral students from all the Academies of Uniarts Helsinki. The studies on ethics offered at Uniarts Helsinki include a course on the ethics of art and research (2 cr.), the online course on research ethics (1 cr.), as well as other courses. Both the course on the ethics of art and research and the online course on research ethics are compulsory for the doctoral students of the Academy of Fine Arts. This is because the contents and questions pertaining to ethics are varied, on the one hand, and particular to the individual fields of study, on the other.	The doctoral student <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - knows what responsible conduct of research includes - learns what is meant by research misconduct and plagiarism in the context of research and knows how to act when encountering them - knows how to request an ethical review from the Ethics Committee of Uniarts Helsinki - understands how shared authorship can be agreed upon with other researchers, artists, and collaborating partners - understands the ethical values and discourses pertaining to the arts and research as well as their varied contexts - identifies the various power relations that exist in university politics and arts politics - recognises ethical questions that are relevant to their own research - identifies different ways of creating and promoting art and research in an ethically, ecologically, and socially responsible way
K-Ji-26	○ General research skills	2 cr.	This study unit provides the doctoral student with skills and knowledge that are necessary for researchers at various stages of their research career. The study unit increases the doctoral student's expertise pertaining to information retrieval, data management, data security issues, and research communications, and improves their skills in writing an abstract or a proposal for a conference or an artistic research event, as well as their data protection skills. After completing this study unit, the doctoral student has gained new skills and knowledge to identify questions that are particularly relevant at different stages of their research career and to consider how to manage work-related stress in a meaningful way. Parts of the study unit are organised jointly with the other academies of Uniarts Helsinki. This also provides the doctoral students from different academies with an organic way to meet new people and to form networks within their research community.	The doctoral student <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - masters the basic practical skills required in research - acknowledges the different stages in a researcher's career and the questions that are especially relevant to each stage - knows how to look for references by making use of various channels of information retrieval - recognises the challenges pertaining to data security and is aware of the relevant solutions to them - knows how to write a brief report of their research that is suitable for the given context - can discuss their research in general terms - knows how to control work-related stress related to the researcher's profession in a meaningful way - recognises the significance of the research community/communality
K-Ji-30	Optional studies	10 cr.	This study unit is composed of optional studies that support the doctoral student's research	The doctoral student: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - complements their expertise by becoming acquainted with specialised fields that support their research and/or with techniques or tools that are relevant to their research - knows the essential contexts of their research and ways to acquire information that will make them appreciate these contexts more profoundly - is familiar with the current artistic and theoretical discussions in their field - knows how to put the relevant theories to practice and how to make use of the current artistic discourse in the context of their own research - increases their expertise in artistic research in another relevant way