

## **MA in Curatorial Practice**

### **Curriculum in Year One:**

#### **The Platform I**

16 ECTS, mandatory, first semester

The Platform is the core of the Curatorial practice study. In this course students begin to test and develop their approach and ideas through the idea/concept of curation as a nomadic practice. The main emphasis in the course is on developing understanding and engagement with some key notions of curatorial practice, such as theme, space and context. Through studio visits with artists, curators and/or specialists from different fields of practice, the students are expected to develop and deepen their own approach to curation. The role of curation, and the different aesthetic, social and political aspects involved are discussed and developed. In the course students develop a curatorial project, with one to five artists with emphasis on key notions of curation. Students also deliver a short critical analysis on their studio visits and development of projects at the end of the course.

#### **Fine Art and Curatorial Practice Seminar I**

4 ECTS, mandatory, first semester

In the Fine Art Seminar the profession's specialist subjects are discussed and analysed and students place their artistic practice within the context of contemporary art and related theory. Specific themes and approaches within the field are introduced through lectures, studio visits and discussions of academics, artists, curators and other specialists. In engaging with the introduced topics, in discussions, readings, and assignments, the students' artistic and theoretical approach are strengthened. The seminar is intended to increase students' ability and knowledge in applying critical thought; in analysing the special characteristics of visual language and visual expression and engaging in the professional discourse of fine art.

#### **Curatorial Research: Practice and theory**

4 ECTS, mandatory, first semester

In this seminar programme the concept of research within the context of Curatorial Practice is introduced and discussed. The main emphasis is on practical application of curatorial research and to highlight related individual methods in curation, within the framework of MA studies. The role of writing in the process of developing and examining the student's approach to curating is foregrounded together with an introduction to a variety of artist

writings, approaches and methodologies within the field of curation. The seminar is taught partly in conjunction with the seminar *Artistic Research: Practice and Theory* and thereby offers a platform for discussion between the two different lines of inquiry. The seminar is based on lectures, discussions, assignments completed in class and students' independent homework.

## **The Platform II**

16 ECTS, mandatory, second semester

In the second semester students continue to develop their works and projects in consultation with the programme director of MA studies. In this course students work in close relationship with a cultural institution (placement), where they engage in developing projects in the context of art institutions, other cultural institutions or in the public sphere. Students work with an instructor from the host institution and a member of the MA staff at the university in continuous dialogue throughout the course/placement in developing the theoretical and practical frame of their practice. A great deal is demanded of students in terms of independent procedures, that in their curatorial practice there is systematic building up of knowledge in relation to both practical methods and the processing of ideas, as well as relating to the theoretical assumptions of the profession. Scheduled meetings between allocated academic staff at the University, the responsible person at the institution in question and the student involved throughout the course enable an input from different perspectives relating to practical and theoretical aspects of the course. At the end of the course the student will deliver a written reflection and critical analysis on their development and work at the host institution.

## **Fine Art and curatorial practice Seminar II**

4, ECTS, mandatory, second semester

In the Fine Art Seminar II the students critically engage in discussing their own artistic practice in the context of research and theory particular to their own personal approach. In the seminar students are responsible for choosing readings/material that reflect, relate to, or situate their own practice, and lead critical and informed discussion under the supervision of the instructor(s) of the seminar. Through this process the students have the opportunity to critically reflect on their own practice, situate their practice within a context, and develop a professional discourse relating to their practice. The students' theoretical foundation and critical and reflective views on their practice are thereby strengthened.

## **Cultural management**

2, ECTS, mandatory, second semester

Students are introduced to some of the practical aspects of the curatorial practice. Concepts such as copy right, ownership and contract are introduced and their practical and legal status analysed and explained. Students are also introduced to financial planning, project managements, working with the media, and editorial work in relation to curatorial practices. In the course the emphasis is on the practical know how, but theoretical and artistic emphasis are also in the background.

## **Writing in the Context of Practice**

2, ECTS, mandatory, second semester

The seminar is intended to provide students with a support for the analysis of their work and strengthen the use of writing in their practice. The aim is to strengthen students' specialist area of research and theoretical assumptions before the actual work begins on the MA curatorial project. The integration of research, curatorial practice and writing is discussed with an emphasis on independent and systematic working methods in thesis writing. Practical exercises and applications of different methods are the main subject of the seminars. Academic procedures, copyright, the gathering of source material, the recording of source material and writing of academic texts will be discussed.

**+ elective courses**

## **Curriculum in Year Two:**

### **The Platform III**

18 ECTS, mandatory, third semester

In the fall semester of the second year students begin to prepare their MA projects for the coming spring semester by further implementation and development of their research and art practice in consultation with the programme director and other instructors. In this course special emphasis is on the component of texts in the curatorial practice and on developing a good understanding of the role different kinds of text play in the context of curatorial practice. In the course students focus on big scale exhibition making, such as Biennials and Art Fairs, and establish a firm understanding of this context of curatorial practice. Students develop a proposal in the form of an exhibition and an written application, which they can defend before their peers at the end of the course. A great deal is demanded of students in terms of independent procedures, that in their artistic practice and research there is systematic building up of knowledge in relation to both practical methods and the processing of ideas, as well as relating to the theoretical assumptions of the profession. At the end of semester review (portfolio review) they must be able to present and discuss the outlines and plans for their MA project work.

## **Fine Art and Curatorial Practice Seminar III**

4 ECTS, mandatory, third semester

In the Fine Art Seminar the profession's specialist subjects are discussed and analysed and students place their artistic practice within the context of contemporary art and related theory. Specific themes and approaches within the field are introduced through lectures, studio visits and discussions of academics, artists, curators and other specialists. In engaging with the introduced topics, in discussions, readings, and assignments, the students' artistic and theoretical approach are strengthened. The seminar is intended to increase students' ability and knowledge in applying critical thought; in analysing the special characteristics of visual language and visual expression and engaging in the professional discourse of fine art.

**+ elective courses**

## **MA Project – Curatorial Practice**

30 ECTS, mandatory, fourth semester

For the final project, students should organize, develop and execute a curatorial project. The project can take the form of an exhibition, an artistic event or other manifestations with the agreement of the director of MA studies and project instructor. The development of students' practice and research are manifest in the MA project. Main emphasis is on deepening the students' understanding of their own particular curatorial practice in relation to content, space & context. Great emphasis is placed on the integration of theory into practice. As part of the MA curatorial practice project the students must submit a thesis which is a reflective supplement to the work but articulating methods, ideas and curatorial context.

### **Learning outcomes of MA Project – Curatorial Practice**

At the end of the course, students should:

have a clear overview of contemporary art's main movements, methods and works,

be able to present a project plan and apply specialist research methods in their curatorial practice and follow to a conclusion,

be able to develop and present complex subjects in their artistic or curatorial practice and analyze these based on professional assumptions before both the general public as well as specialists,

have good command of the relevant methods and techniques in the implementation of their work,

possess knowledge of the ethics of artistic practice, curatorial practice, research and professional debates,

demonstrate originality, intuition and imagination in the development and making of their work and be able to adapt knowledge, understanding and ability to find for solutions to unfamiliar circumstances or contexts,

be able to initiate curatorial projects, manage these and shoulder responsibility for the work of individuals and groups, alone and in collaboration with others,

have developed the necessary study skills and independence in artistic practice to be able to engage in further study and/or work in the professional field of the fine art.

Assessment: Final project and thesis