



General Syllabus for Doctoral (third-cycle) Education Leading to a Doctor of Philosophy in Artistic Practice NABA International PhD in Artistic Practice

GENERAL INFORMATION

Artistic Practice fosters a dialogue between practical inquiry and theoretically grounded methodologies within the field. It involves an intertwined process of creative and analytical making, engaging with contemporary research relevant to the scope of the PhD. Emphasis is placed on both the practice itself and critical reflection on a central subject of significance to Artistic Practice research, situating it within relevant knowledge and methodologies.

The doctoral program in **Artistic Practice** aims to equip practitioners with a comprehensive education in both practice and theory. The focus is on fostering independent and critical knowledge creation, ensuring depth and breadth across theoretical and practical dimensions. Additionally, the program seeks to expand the field's dialogue with the broader society, enriching its engagement beyond academic and artistic communities.

The International Doctorate in Artistic Practice is a collaborative initiative by NABA, Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti (**Teaching Institution**) and HDK-Valand Academy of Art and Design at the University of Gothenburg (HDK-Valand – **Awarding Institution**).

PROGRAM AND STRUCTURE

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Artistic Practice is a 240-credit program that combines rigorous coursework and research in creative and theoretical fields.

The program structure includes:

Coursework: 60 ECTs credits

Doctoral Dissertation: 180 ECTs credits

Program Components

1. Coursework and Seminars

Doctoral students are required to complete 60 credits of structured coursework, which includes both required courses and electives. Core courses are conducted at HDK-Valand, while additional seminars and public programming take place at NABA (Milan-Rome). The curriculum covers a range of topics designed to support artistic research, critical theory, and professional development.

COURSES

60 ECTs of course work

30 ECTs = 4 Mandatory courses at 7,5 credits each

30 ECTs = Elective courses or seminars that can be taken in NABA or elsewhere



Mandatory

Basic Course 1: Writing Research | Research Writing

Third-cycle level | 7.5 credits | Course code: KF3BAS1

Read more [HERE](#)

Basic Course 2: On research methods and research design

Third-cycle level | 7.5 credits | Course code: KF3BAS2

Read more [HERE](#)

Ethnography for Creative Practice

Third-cycle level | 7.5 credits | Course code: KFHVA01

Read more [HERE](#)

Researching Imaginaries

Third-cycle level | 7.5 credits | Course code: KFHVA05

Read more [HERE](#)

Elective

Courses (HDK)

Elective Course 1: Ethnography for creative practitioners

Third-cycle level | 7.5 credits (HDK)

Elective Course 2: Researching Imaginaries

Third-cycle level | 7.5 credits (HDK)

Seminars (NABA)

Seminar 1 (3 ECTS Credits)

Seminar 2 (3 ECTS Credits)

Seminar 3 (3 ECTS Credits)

Seminar 4 (3 ECTS Credits)

Seminar 5 (3 ECTS Credits)

The 3-credits seminars at NABA are thematic, featuring guest speakers and international keynotes, and their topics change annually.

KEY STAGE SEMINARS

Stage seminars also called % seminars

These 4 events take place at key points in the PhD

The events can be on person or online

They each have a specific agenda in terms of the progress of the PhD

25% period of total study - open

50% open

80% can be open or closed

End seminar (closed)



At each of these seminars there is an invited “discussant” with a PhD (also called an “opponent”) who views and reads material for the candidate and then conducts a discussion with the candidate.

TEACHING (NABA)

Since the PhD in Artistic Practice is not recognized within the Italian university system, NABA is supported in its doctoral program by HDK. To ensure an adequate financial contribution to participants in the PhD program, NABA hires PhD candidates under a renewable CoCoCo (Collaborazione Coordinata e Continuativa) contract on a yearly basis. PhD candidates at NABA are required to contribute through teaching hours as specified in the program guidelines. For this reason, applicants must ensure they have the legal right to work in Italy (NABA cannot provide support for applicants in the Working VISA process)

4 years (100 hours per year)

5 years (87 teaching hours per year)

6 years (75 hours per year)

7 years (62 hours per year)

8 years (50 hours per year)