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Aalto University  
School of Arts, Design  
and Architecture

# Studies, Curriculum and Sisu

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# Studies



Aalto University  
School of Arts, Design  
and Architecture

# Degree structure: 40 ECTS of studies + thesis

## Doctoral thesis

### General Research Studies 15-25 ECTS

Compulsory:

ARTS-L0100 Introduction to Doctoral Studies, 1-2 ECTS

ARTS-L0102 Doing Research, 6 ECTS

LC-L1010 Research Ethics for Doctoral Students, 1-2 ECTS

### Research Field Studies 15-25 ECTS

Compulsory:

Department's / Research field's doctoral seminar, min. 4 ECTS

# General research studies, optional courses

## *General courses, methods and methodology*

ARTS-L0110 Research through Art and Design, 2-4 ECTS

ARTS-L0111 Methods of Qualitative Research, 6 ECTS

AXM-L1006 Artistic and Art-Based Research, 4 ECTS

## *Philosophy and theory*

ARTS-L0603 Philosophy of Science, 4 ECTS

ARTS-L0606 Knowing Aesthetics, 6 ECTS

AXM-L1001 Contemporary Theories for Art Research, 4 ECTS

ARTS-E0604 Global Perspectives: Re-mapping the History of Art, 4 ECTS

ARTS-E0708 Sculpture Now! 5 ECTS

## *Writing and presenting doctoral research*

More about these during Aalto Orientation Days

Courses on transferable skills and competences listed at: <https://www.aalto.fi/en/study-at-aalto/being-a-doctoral-student-at-aalto#6-organisation-of-the-doctoral-pathway>

# Research Field Studies, optional courses

**ARK-L5003 Planning Theory, 6 ECTS**

**ARK-L5004 Urban Studies, 6 ECTS**

**AXM-L1000 Department of Art and Media Doctoral School**

**MUO-L0010 Department of Design Thematic Research Seminar, 3 ECTS**

**MUO-L1001 Positioning in the Fields and Practices of Design Research 2-ECTS,**

**AXM-L1002 Art, environment and activism, 4 ECTS**

**AXM-L1003 Curating and its Futures, 4 ECTS**

**AXM-L1004 Perspectives on Art Pedagogy, 4 ECTS**

***+ Optional master's level courses which can be included in the doctoral degree (to be discussed with supervisor)***

# Other ways to complete the module

- **Winter/summer schools, thematic research seminars**
- **Courses from other Universities, Aalto Master's level courses**
- **Literature, either according to the department's literature list or as agreed with the professor**
- **Reflective report on art and creative practices related to thesis topic**
- **Conference paper/presentation or publications (not included in the doctoral thesis)**
- **Teaching at a university, preparing a lecture or a series of lectures on history, theory or methods of the student's own research field, thesis advising**

# Studies elsewhere

- **Studies taken in another Aalto School or other university may be included in the degree**
- **If you are interested, first discuss with your supervising professor**
- **After taking studies outside Aalto, you always need to apply for **credit transfer**, even if you agreed about them in advance:**  
**<https://into.aalto.fi/display/enopisk/Credit+transfer>**
- **Custom course credit**
  - Conferences etc.
  - See Sisu HELP for technical instructions

# International studies

- **Exchange studies through partnership agreements: same process and mobility grants as for Master's level students**
- **Visiting researcher positions**
- **Shorter research visits through projects**

**<https://into.aalto.fi/display/endoctoralarts/Studies+abroad>**



# Questions?

[doctoral-arts@aalto.fi](mailto:doctoral-arts@aalto.fi)



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# SISU



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# Basics

- **[www.sisu.aalto.fi](http://www.sisu.aalto.fi)**

- Aalto username and password

- **Sisu HELP:**

**<https://www.aalto.fi/en/applications-instructions-and-guidelines/sisu-instructions-front-page>**