

General study programme for the research school in design within the field of textiles and fashion

1 Subject description

In a broad sense, design entails defining and expressing/creating things, products and systems, which also includes defining what they are in an imagined context. The artistic basis for design as an activity and a craft lies in the ability to express things and in the understanding of the expressiveness in materials and techniques; the ability to give concrete form to the abstract prerequisites and the understanding of design possibilities in materials and techniques, as well as potential use in relation to, in one way or another, the given context.

A central theme of artistic research within the design field is consequently to, in relation to the given context, develop, and through artistic work, critically illuminate the conditions and grounds for art to express and advance the understanding of expressiveness in materials and techniques, i.e. to develop, advance and critically illuminate the artistic grounds for design as an activity and a craft. It concerns artistic design research with a strong focus on, both theoretically and practically, advancing understanding of the interaction between analysis and synthesis in the design process as a basis for development of design methodology, design techniques and design programmes and presupposes a practice-based approach; for design through design. The development of methodology, programmes and techniques presupposes critical, experimental and artistic work. Similarly, an in-depth understanding of the expressiveness in materials, techniques and prospective use presupposes experimental artistic work.

The education focusses on artistic design research within the field of textiles and fashion, with the options of specialising in:

- *textile design*; developing, advancing and critically illuminating the artistic basis for design as an activity and a craft with the focus on the expressiveness in textile materials and techniques as they build and express textile products and environments.
- *fashion design*; developing, advancing and critically illuminating the artistic basis for design as an activity and a craft with the focus on the expressiveness in the garment as it dresses and expresses people,
- *textile interaction design*; developing, advancing and critically illuminating the artistic basis for design as an activity and a craft with the focus on the expressiveness in the use of textiles as they define and express textile products and environments.

2 Learning objectives

The education has the aim of preparing for advanced research work within the design field and also that doctoral students themselves develop advanced professional excellence as designers.

2.1 Artistic licentiate degree

2.1.1 Knowledge and understanding

For an artistic licentiate degree the doctoral student shall

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding within practice-based design research, including relevant specialist knowledge within design, particularly focussed on the textile field, and also demonstrate knowledge of artistic research methods in general and methodology within practice-based design research in particular.

2.1.2 Skills and capabilities

For an artistic licentiate degree the doctoral student shall

- demonstrate creative ability within his/her artistic field,
- demonstrate the ability to critically, independently, creatively and through thorough research, identify and formulate significant artistic issues, to plan and with adequate methods undertake an artistic research project and other skilled artistic assignments within given time limitations and thereby contribute to knowledge development and to evaluate this work,
- demonstrate the ability to, in both national and international contexts, orally and in writing or in another way, clearly present and discuss research and research findings in dialogue with the research community and society in general, and
- demonstrate such skills as required to independently participate in research and development work and to independently work in other skilled activities.

2.1.3 Judgement and approach

For an artistic licentiate degree the doctoral student shall

- demonstrate the ability to make ethical judgements relating to his/her own research,
- demonstrate insight regarding the possibilities and limitations of art, its role in society and people's responsibility for how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify his/her need of further knowledge and to take responsibility for his/her artistic development.

2.2 Artistic doctoral degree

2.2.1 Knowledge and understanding

For an artistic doctoral degree the doctoral student shall

- demonstrate wide-ranging knowledge within and a systematic understanding of practice-based design research, as well as a depth of relevant specialist knowledge and creative ability within design, particularly focussed on the textile field,
- demonstrate knowledge of artistic research methods in general and methodology within practice-based design research in particular.

2.2.2 Skills and capabilities

For an artistic doctoral degree the doctoral student shall

- demonstrate creative ability within his/her artistic field,
- demonstrate the ability to conduct artistic analysis and synthesis, as well as independent critical scrutiny and judgement of new and complex phenomena, issues and situations,
- demonstrate the ability to critically, independently, creatively and through thorough research, identify and formulate artistic issues, and to plan and with adequate methods conduct research and other skilled artistic assignments within given time limitations and to analyse and evaluate such work,
- through a documented artistic research project, demonstrate the ability to significantly contribute to knowledge development through own research,
- demonstrate the ability in both national and international contexts, to orally and in writing present and discuss research and research findings with authority in dialogue with the research community and society in general,
- demonstrate the ability to identify a need for further knowledge, and
- demonstrate the preconditions to, within both research and education as well as in other skilled professional contexts, contribute to society's development and support the learning of others.

2.2.3 2.2.3 Judgement and approach

For an artistic doctoral degree the doctoral student shall

- demonstrate intellectual independence, artistic integrity and honesty in relation to research, as well as the ability to make ethical judgements relating to research, and
- demonstrate advanced insight regarding the possibilities and limitations of art, its role in society and people's responsibility for how it is used.

3 The programme's structure

The third-cycle programme for a doctoral degree comprises a total of 240 higher education credits, of which 60 higher education credits in the form of courses and 180 higher education credits in the form of a documented artistic research project, which is equivalent to four years full-time studies.

The third-cycle programme for a licentiate degree comprises a total of 120 higher education credits, of which 40 higher education credits in the form of courses and 80 higher education credits in the form of a documented artistic research project, which is equivalent to two years full-time studies.

3.1 Course component

The course component comprises:

- Research methodology, artistic research, practice-based design research 10 higher education credits,
- Presentation and documentation of artistic research 10 higher education credits,
- Design theory and research ethics 10 higher education credits,
- Teaching and learning in higher education, teaching and supervision within the artistic field 10 higher education credits,
- The senior seminar – four courses of 5 higher education credits each.

The senior seminar in design consists of a general design seminar and a research seminar:

- the design seminar assembles doctoral students in design, the Design Collegium and students in design at second cycle and first cycle for seminar presentations (invited guests, doctoral students, senior researchers) every week during term time),
- the research seminar meets every week during term time, bringing together doctoral students in design and the Design Collegium for critical discussions on current research within the artistic field, with a particular focus on practice-based design research.

See in addition 6.6 for examination of courses.

3.2 Studio and workshop work

Experimental studio and workshop work constitutes a central part of the studies. Studio and workshop work are primarily elements included in the artistic research project, but are also part of various course elements and workshops organised within the framework of the senior seminar.

3.3 Documented artistic research project

The programme includes an artistic research project documented in a doctoral thesis of 180 higher education credits, respectively documented in a licentiate dissertation of 80 higher education credits. The focus of the artistic research is defined in consultation with the principal supervisor. The research shall be presented on an ongoing basis at the senior seminar.

The documentation of the artistic research project shall include a written section where the research is justified, discussed and related to the relevant research field as well as to other relevant research.

3.4 Recognition of previous education

A doctoral student who has completed a part of the third cycle programme in the same subject with a pass grade at a university in the country can have it recognised. A doctoral student may also be entitled to have his/her education at a foreign educational institution recognised. A decision on whether previous education shall be recognised rests with the examiner.

Approved course at masters level can be determined by the examiner for recognition in third cycle programme provided that such a course does not constitute a part of the course requirements of 240 higher education credits for the general entry requirements for third cycle programmes. Neither can an approved course at masters level be recognised for course credits in the senior seminar.

3.5 Supervision

Every research student shall have an examiner, a principal supervisor as well as at least one assistant supervisor. The principal supervisor and the assistant supervisors constitute a supervisory group. The assistant supervisors are from the university, from other academic institutions and/or other relevant external activity.

The principal supervisor shall be a senior lecturer with a PhD active within the artistic field and linked to the university. The principal supervisor has principal responsibility for guidance and advice within the framework of the artistic project and the task of guiding the doctoral student's studies and research work so that it fulfils the programme's objectives. The principal supervisor is also responsible that the research student receives sufficient supervision.

Assistant supervisors participate in the supervision of the research student.

Professors and other lecturers qualified for appointment to a readership, who are active within the artistic field and permanently linked to the university can be appointed as examiner. The examiner has overall responsibility for the third cycle programme and shall ensure that the doctoral programme fulfils the quality requirements in terms of the research assignment and other elements.

KFU, which is responsible for the research school's activities, appoints supervisors and examiner based on proposals from the director of studies for the research school.

3.6 Individual curriculum

In accordance with the Higher Education Ordinance, an individual curriculum shall be prepared for each research student. This individual curriculum, which shall be approved by KFU after consultation with the research student, principal supervisor and examiner, shall be in writing and signed by the research student, principal supervisor, examiner and director of studies for the research school.

The individual curriculum shall contain

- a timetable for the doctoral programme,
- details on how supervision for the doctoral student is organised,
- details on who is examiner,
- details of prospective specialisation in the programme and exam,
- a list of completed and planned courses,
- a description of completed and planned parts of the doctoral student's artistic research project,

- a description of the undertakings in general that the doctoral student and the university have during the programme, and
- what is otherwise necessary for the programme to be conducted effectively at all times.

The curriculum is to be followed up and reviewed on two occasions per year during the period of study by the research student, principal supervisor and examiner for approval by KFU.

3.7 Director of studies

Artistic third cycle programmes at the university are led by a director of studies. The director of studies shall be an active researcher with a PhD within the artistic field, unless decided otherwise by KFU. Director of studies is responsible that an individual curriculum is drawn up for new doctoral students no later than three months after the studies commence. Director of studies is responsible that the studies are followed up and curricula are reviewed and prepared for adoption in KFU on two occasions per year for all doctoral students. The director of studies shall also take the initiative that courses are developed and seminars are held.

4 Entry requirements, selection and admission.

4.1 General entry requirements

General entry requirements for programmes at third level are met if the applicant has successfully completed a second level degree, completed course requirements of at least 240 higher education credits, of which at least 60 higher education credits at second level, or in some other way have acquired fundamentally equivalent knowledge inside or outside the country.

KFU may, for an individual applicant, grant an exemption from the general entry requirements, if there are specific reasons. A signed decision granting an exemption must be justified and specifically notified to the admissions unit at the University of Borås.

4.2 Specific entry requirements

Specific entry requirements for a third level programme in design at HB are completion of a masters degree in textile design, fashion design, interaction design, industrial design, product design, architecture or equivalent.

A specific requirement is also that the applicant shall demonstrate advanced artistic proficiency within the design field in an appended portfolio.

Applicants from abroad, who do not have English or a Scandinavian language as mother tongue, shall in addition normally pass an English language test to be admitted.

4.3 Selection

Selection between applicants for a place on a third cycle programme is on the basis of application documents received and interviews with the most qualified applicants. The basis for selection among the qualified applicants for a third cycle programme is the degree of ability to assimilate a third cycle programme. Applications are scrutinised by an admissions group, appointed by KFU on the basis of proposals from the research school's director of studies. The applications group is led by the research school's director of studies

4.4. Admission

Decision on admission of students to third cycle programmes, and decision on the maximum number of doctoral students who may simultaneously be admitted to third cycle programmes in design is made by KFU. Only the number of doctoral students who can be offered acceptable

conditions in terms of supervision and studying in general may be admitted to third cycle programmes.

According to the Higher Education Ordinance, only students who intend to conduct their research studies with a minimum of 50% activity may be admitted to a third cycle programme.

Further, only students who, in accordance with the requirements and guidelines set by the university, have funding guaranteed for their entire period of study, may be accepted for a third cycle programme.

5 Application

Applications for third cycle programmes are to be made with a design portfolio and an application project in which the applicant describes the desired focus of the artistic research project. A certified list of qualifications shall be appended to the application.

Applications shall contain documentation which certifies applicants general and specific entry requirements, as well as other documentation which can be of value in assessing the applicant's potential to profit from the education.

6 Degrees and examinations

6.1 Degrees

Within the framework of entitlement to pursue third level studies in the field of textiles and fashion at the University of Borås are the following artistic degrees:

- 2.1 Artistic licentiate degree in design
- Artistic licentiate degree in design specialising in textile design,
- Artistic licentiate degree in design specialising in fashion design,
- Artistic licentiate degree in design specialising in interaction design,

- 2.2 Artistic doctoral degree in design
- Artistic doctoral degree in design specialising in textile design,
- Artistic doctoral degree in design specialising in fashion design,
- Artistic doctoral degree in design specialising in interaction design,

6.2 Requirements for licentiate degree

A licentiate degree requires a total of 120 higher education credits, 40 of which obtained from courses and 80 in relation to research. Of the course credits, at least 10 higher education credits shall be comprised of the senior seminar.

6.3 Licentiate seminar (Presentation and defence of licentiate dissertation)

The research assignment is presented through a documented artistic research project, which shall be presented and defended at a public seminar, at which it is reviewed by an opponent (discussion leader), appointed by KFU after consultation with principal supervisor and examiner.

KFU sets the form for the seminar after consultation with the doctoral student, principal supervisor and examiner.

6.4 Requirements for doctoral degree

A doctoral degree requires a total of 240 higher education credits, 60 of which obtained from courses and 180 in relation to research.

6.5 Public defence (Presentation and defence of thesis)

No later than three months before the planned public defence, the principal results of the doctoral work shall be discussed at a final seminar with an opponent appointed by KFU based on proposals from the director of studies after consultation with principal supervisor and examiner.

The research assignment is to be presented through a documented artistic research project, which shall be presented at a public defence. The public defence shall be led by a chairperson. There

shall be an opponent at the public defence. Chairperson and opponent shall be appointed by KFU. KFU decides opponent based on proposals from the doctoral student's examiner.

KFU sets the form for the public defence based on proposals from the director of studies, principal supervisor and examiner.

6.6 Examination and grade

Course examination: The doctoral student's examiner, or alternatively a course examiner appointed by KFU, shall examine courses. Recognition of courses is performed by the doctoral student's examiner.

Licentiate examination: The doctoral student's examiner shall, after consultation with the principal supervisor, assess and grade the overall research work including presentation and defence of the work at the licentiate seminar.

Doctoral examination: An examining committee consisting of two external members and one member linked to the faculty shall assess and grade the overall research work, including presentation and defence of the work at the public defence. KFU decides examining committee based on proposals from the doctoral student's examiner.

Courses, licentiate work and doctoral work are graded either Pass or Fail.