



Faculty of Fine & Performing Arts

## SKÅR01, Context and Collaboration, 30 credits

*Kontext och kollaboration, 30 högskolepoäng*  
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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### Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by Department Board of Malmö Theatre Academy on 2022-08-31 and was valid from 2023-08-28, autumn semester 2023.

### General Information

The course is a compulsory component of the Master's Programme in Performing Arts as a Critical Practice (120 credits). The course can normally be included as part of a first- or second-cycle degree.

#### *Main field of studies*

Performing Arts as Critical Practice

#### *Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

### Learning outcomes

On completion of the course student shall

#### Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of context and collaboration within performing arts including both broad knowledge of the field and a considerable degree of specialised knowledge in areas of the field as well as specialised insight into current research and development work
- demonstrate familiarity with methods and processes for dealing with complex phenomena, issues and situations connected to contexts and processes within performing arts
- demonstrate an understanding of institutional structures impacting the field of performing arts as critical practice

## Competence and skills

- demonstrate a knowledge of the key methods, concepts and working modes of the course and programme
- demonstrate the ability to design processes with partners from different fields
- demonstrate the ability to engage in peer-to-peer methods of sharing and discussing artistic work, utilizing a shared vocabulary and references for exchanging about practice and creative processes

## Judgement and approach

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the field of contexts and processes within performing arts informed by relevant artistic, social and ethical issues
- demonstrate insight into the role of art in society
- demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.
- demonstrate the capability of exploring different social art practices and their relevance to theatre institutions

## Course content

The focus of the course is to introduce key methods, concepts and working modes of the program. The course is divided into three modules that run parallel during the semester with the aim of continuously interacting with each other:

- Processes 1, 10 credits
- Practices 1, 10 credits
- Research and Reflection 1, 10 credits

The first module Processes 1 gives an understanding of contexts, the ethics of engagement, and thorough preparation of processes. The concept of 'context' will be introduced, situating the school and its surrounding region through engaging with potential collaborators. Further, the students will acquire an understanding of institutional structures and get tools for designing processes with partners from different fields.

In the second module Practices 1 the students will work on the development of their artistic practices while also participating in collective practice sharing sessions with the group. The students are introduced to peer-to-peer methods of sharing and discussing work in progress material. Through weekly practice sessions and peer-to-peer feedback they will become familiar with each other's ways of working and will build shared vocabulary and references for exchanging about practice and creative process. This module also includes the development of a context-specific group project through a workshop with a guest artist.

The third module Research and Reflection 1 aims to create a strong theoretical dialogue and writing practice among the students with the aim of continuing the work of building a shared vocabulary and set of references. The reading will take place in the form of a collective discussion and is based both on a set curriculum which introduces various trends in critical theory and approaches to performance as critical social practice, and on a "fluid" curriculum based on practices and research interests

in the group. The writing practice opens new ways for the student to reflect on their artistic work, reading, and practice.

## Course design

The teaching consists of seminars, lectures, own work with supervision and peer-to-peer sessions.

In the module Processes 1 the teaching consists of seminars in which central topics such as context and situated practice are explored. There will be a focus on the mapping of the fields, including meeting with and getting to know the partner organizations. The students will be introduced to collaborative and dialogical methods as well as practices and tools for hosting and facilitating projects. There will be recurring sessions with invited artists and other lecturers with expertise in facilitation, hosting and reflection on ethical issues in the work process. A component in the teaching is put on the introduction to principles of process design.

In the module Practices 1 the teaching will consist of seminars, own artistic work with supervision, sharing practice-session involving peer-to-peer methods and by guests and context-specific project with an invited guest artist. The student will be guided to situate their own artistic practice and interests. A key component is the development of sharing working methods and building of feedback tools.

In the module Research and Reflection 1 the teaching consists of seminars, workshops and reading and writing with supervision and peer-to-peer sessions. Parallel with the reading and discussion of a set and fluid curriculum, the students will begin to formulate a strong writing practice including both artistic and academic/theoretical observations. In the first semester the students will introduce their own texts and references and will work as a group towards developing shared language and understanding of each other's references and practices. They will also rehearse reflective writing as a first preparation for the MA thesis at the end of the program.

## Assessment

Examinations consist of continuous assessments by supervisors during recurring supervision, and after implementation and presentation of various projects.

The module Processes 1 is examined through an oral presentation at a seminar in the end of the semester.

The module Practices 1 is examined through a presentation of own artistic work and a context-specific project with an invited guest artist.

The module Research and Reflection 1 is examined through a written reflection on a given course material.

The course offers regular exams, re-exams in close connection with the regular exam as well as an examination opportunity for courses that have been completed in the past academic year (catch-up exams). The individual supervision is limited to the semester the student was first registered to the course. Exceptions can be made if there are special reasons.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

*Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.*

## **Grades**

Marking scale: Fail, Pass.

The course uses the grading scale Fail (U) or Pass (G). To pass the course, participation in compulsory elements such as seminars and workshops is required.

## **Entry requirements**

Bachelor's degree in Performing Arts (180 credits) or equivalent.

## **Further information**

The course is evaluated orally or in writing after the end of the course. A summary of results is communicated to the students. Experiences and views from the evaluations should be observed and taken into consideration the next time the course is offered.

## Subcourses in SKÅR01, Context and Collaboration

Applies from H23

- 2301 Processes 1, 10,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 2302 Practices 1, 10,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 2303 Research and Reflection 1, 10,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass