



Faculty of Fine & Performing Arts

## SKÅR02, Alliances and Arenas, 30 credits

*Allianser och arenor, 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).

*Main field of studies*

Performing Arts as Critical Practice

*Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

### Learning outcomes

On completion of the course the student shall

#### Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the field of alliances and arenas 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 knowledge and understanding of field work methodologies, process-design and tools of critical practice in relation to the main field of study, in order to initiate and build alliances
- demonstrate familiarity with methods and processes for dealing with complex phenomena, issues and situations in the field of alliances and arenas within performing arts

### Competence and skills

- demonstrate the ability to negotiate, create processes and collaborate with institutions, societal stakeholders as well as other artists and artistic communities
- demonstrate the ability to include documentation and aftercare
- demonstrate the ability to develop theoretical and practical foundations for artistic research and artistic development work.

### **Judgement and approach**

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the main field of study 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 course is divided into three modules:

- Processes 2, 10 credits
- Practices 2, 10 credits
- Research and Reflection 2, 10 credits

This course has its focus on learning how to collaborate with institutions, societal stakeholders, as well as with other artists and artistic communities. Central to this course is the 'work in the field block' during which each participant will work with one of the partners of the MA programme. Attention will be given to field work methodologies and tools of critical practice, detailed process design of a specific project, aftercare, documentation and reflection.

The principles of process design will be applied specifically to the preparation of the Work in the field project, including the ethical aspects of the collaboration. These aspects will be reflected continuously throughout the preparation and the realization of the Work in the field project, as well after the conclusion of the project. Preparing for and carrying out aftercare is an integral part of the process.

The students are asked to reflect on how an artist can negotiate and create processes with people outside the artistic field and/or artists from other artistic fields. Exploring ethical questions, guidelines and reflections are part of the semester's work.

The course includes an introduction of artistic research methods and considerations. There will be discussions and seminars on artistic research, research ethics and knowledge-production in the field of research-based art practice. The theoretical trajectory will be supplemented with readings and reflections on institutional critique and affirmative ethics.

### **Course design**

The teaching consists of seminars, lectures, peer-to-peer practice and writing sessions and a work in the field project' under supervision, which takes place working in collaboration with one or more outside partners in the Malmö area.

Each course component relates to one or more of the 3 parallel modules that constitute the course: Processes, Practices and Research and Reflection.

As part of the Processes module a range of field work methodologies will be explored through assignments. Invited guests will share their own experiences and ways of working through talks, practice sessions and short workshops.

In the frame of the Practices trajectory of the course time will be dedicated to a period of Work in the field, in collaboration with partners outside the academy. This work can have its starting point in the students' own artistic practice and can be done in the format of a lab or a closed seminar. Alternatively, the Work in the field connects to on-going processes, initiated by the partner, for instance research or curatorial work.

During the preparation phase of the Work in the field project regular peer-to-peer sharing and feedback sessions of the concept and draft materials will be conducted and touch-base and peer-to-peer practice dilemmas discussion and feedback will be held.

In the Research and Reflection component students will be introduced to documentation tools and ethics. The documentation material of the Work in field project will be compiled, shared and reflected. The theoretical trajectory will be focused on institutional critique, criticality and affirmative ethics. The students continue their writing practice with an important focus on documenting and reflecting their own work accomplished in the field during Work in the field.

## Assessment

Examinations consist of continuous assessments by supervisors during recurring supervision, and after implementation and presentation of various projects. In addition, written and oral reflection on a given course material may occur.

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.

At least two out of three modules in the prerequisite course Context and Collaboration (30 credits), within the Master's Programme in Performing Arts as Critical Practice.

**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 SKÅR02, Alliances and Arenas

Applies from V24

- 2401 Processes 2, 10,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 2402 Practices 2, 10,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 2403 Research and Reflection 2, 0,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass