



Faculty of Fine & Performing Arts

## SKÅR03, Critical Practices, 30 credits

*Kritisk praktik, 30 högskolepoäng*  
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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### Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Department Board of Malmö Theatre Academy on 2022-08-31 to be 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.

*Language of instruction:* English

*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

After completion of the course the student shall

#### Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in field of critical practices 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 in the field of performing arts as critical practice
- demonstrate knowledge, from different perspectives, of critical performing practises, social art practices, and project-designing as well as project preparation

### **Competence and skills**

- demonstrate the ability to initiate and build alliances within, across, and outside already existing structures, from the base of critical art practice
- demonstrate the ability to collaborate with cultural/social institutions, including preproduction and aftercare
- demonstrate the ability of documentation of specific working processes
- demonstrate the ability to design and conduct artistic research

### **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
- demonstrate knowledge of questions of spectatorship and participation and a curatorial approach to the exam project

### **Course content**

The course Critical Practices, which spans the third semester of the Master's programme, prepares the students for their Exam Projects and Master Theses.

The course is divided into three modules:

- Processes 3, 10 credits
- Practices 3, 10 credits
- Research and Reflection 3, 10 credits

The Processes module focuses on the conceptualization and overall process design of the students' Exam projects. In this module there is an emphasis on research, concept and script development, and dramaturgical framing. This module also includes the detailed preparation of the collaborations and the preproduction work of creating the conditions for carrying out the project. There is attention given to exploring curatorial approaches, and to questions of spectatorship and participation, including ethical considerations that need to be taken into account during the preparatory phase of a work.

The parallelly running Practices module includes a workshop with a guest artist who is engaged in creating work with specific communities and in partnership with social/cultural institutions. Through practical exercises and experiments during this workshop the students address and explore initial ideas and dilemmas pertaining to their Exam projects.

The Research and Reflection module during this semester is concentrated on the development of theoretical and practical foundations for artistic research and artistic development work. In this module, there will be discussions and seminars on artistic research, research ethics, working methods and knowledge-production in the field of research-based art practice. The module serves as a bridge between the master's programme and the doctoral programme, as well as a bridge leading towards the students' writing of their Master's thesis.

## Course design

The teaching consists of a workshop, seminars, lectures, individual supervision, as well as peer-to-peer and staff-led practice-, theory- and feedback-sessions.

Throughout the semester there are ongoing practice sessions, sharing and feedback moments, providing a continuous platform for experimentation, tryouts, exchange and guidance in the development of the conceptual frame and preliminary materials of the Exam project. The trajectories of the students are shared and supported in a collective setting by peers, staff, advisors and guests. Additionally, documentation of specific working processes of selected performing arts practices and projects will be referenced and reviewed as case-studies and possible examples.

The Processes module is based on a student-led study plan with additional supervision, in order to create the overall process-design for the upcoming Exam project. The Practices module includes workshops, seminars and lectures, as well as regular peer-to-peer studio practice sessions and feedback sessions dedicated to the development of the concepts and initial materials of the students' Exam projects. The Research and Reflection module combines input during group seminars and individual assignments and guidance.

## 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.

Prerequisite courses: Context and Collaboration (30 credits), and at least two out of three modules passed in the prerequisite course Alliances and Arenas (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 SKÅR03, Critical Practices

Applies from H24

- 2401 Processes 3, 10,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 2402 Practices 3, 10,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 2403 Research and Reflection 3, 10,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass