

## CURRICULUM

### **Master of Music (cand. musicae), music teacher**

#### **Degree course**

### **CLASSICAL SINGING AND MUSICAL DRAMA Aarhus**

Effective as of 2011

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# 1 Introduction

**The MMus (Classical Singing and Musical Drama) music education degree course** at the Royal Academy of Music, Aarhus, is a 2-year course during which students acquire specialist knowledge, skills, and qualifications to become music teachers at the highest level and singers in musical drama contexts and elsewhere. In addition, the course focuses on making students capable of becoming distinctive music business entrepreneurs.

**The course structure** has a constant focus on the Solo Singing and Musical Drama subjects. The main study area also comprises the Ensemble Singing/Chamber Music subject. All of these subjects are concluded after the 4th semester. Theoretical and practical pedagogics tuition is covered, and the student learns how to communicate his/her technical and musical knowledge and skills.

The Entrepreneurial Studies subject is concluded after the 3rd semester and provides the student with relevant tools for administering his/her artistic qualities through e.g. self-management and entrepreneurial skills.

The Classical Singing and Musical Drama degree course concludes with a student-defined master's project which is based on student interests and needs and also constitutes their specialisation in the field.

## **The course subjects are divided into the following fields:**

- Main study area: Subjects where the student is a performer as well as subjects that support this aspect and pedagogical subjects.
- Entrepreneurial Studies: Subjects and projects where students gain skills and qualifications as entrepreneurs and managers of dynamic processes and acquire career administration tools.
- Master's project: The project itself as well as guidance and subjects that prepare the student for project work.

The elements of the course are credited with ECTS points based on an assessment of the workload involved in the subjects.

**In addition to scheduled tuition**, students at the Royal Academy of Music may participate in the following activities:

- Staging of operas.
- Master classes with internationally acclaimed musicians.
- Study trips.
- Chamber music in a rich and professionally challenging study environment.
- and much more.

## 2 Course content, individual subjects, and examinations

<b>Classical Singing and Musical Drama</b>	1st sem	2nd sem	3rd sem	4th sem	SUM
<b>Main study area</b>					
Solo Singing	16	14	5	10	45
Accompaniment and Repetition	1	1	1	1	4
Ensemble Singing/Chamber Music	2	2	1	2	7
Musical Drama	2	4	1	2	9
Tuition Training	3	3	4		10
Education Theory	3	3			6
<b>Entrepreneurial Studies</b>	3	3	3		9
<b>Master's project</b>			15	15	30
SUM	30	30	30	30	120

## 2.1 Main study area

### 2.1.1 Solo Singing

#### Objectives

Upon completion of the subject, the student:

- Possesses specialist knowledge of internationally recognised artistic and technical vocal practice, repertoire, methods, and theory.
- Has mastered artistic and technical skills and forms of expression.
- Commands critical and analytical approaches to music and musical practice.
- Is able to assess and choose among artistic forms of expression, create relevant solution models, and make informed and reflected artistic decisions.

#### Content

Singing tuition as well as participation in productions and projects.

Relevant repertoire for the individual singer is enhanced in terms of both quality and quantity, and the student develops his/her command of personal expression within various styles. Tuition facilitates a process whereby the student may independently take responsibility for his/her own learning needs, specialisation options, and potential for artistic development, and structure his/her time and work efforts. Part of repertoire preparation is considered an independent study where the student is responsible for preparing a repertoire volume corresponding to the volume prepared for and during main subject lessons.

#### Tuition and work formats

One-to-one and class tuition.

Joint classes:

Class tuition with accompaniment.

#### Semesters

1st to 4th semester.

#### Scope

45 ECTS towards the degree

#### Evaluation and examination regulations

After the 4th semester: Master's examination

*Examination content:*

By April 1st, a list of repertoire with a duration of 60 minutes is handed in at the studies office. The list must primarily comprise works from classical genres with a certain stylistic diversity but may also reflect a particular area studied by the student. Danish music with lyrics in Danish and contemporary music must be represented. Rhythmic music may be represented. The student chooses works with a duration of 25 minutes from the repertoire list, and the external examiner chooses other works with a duration of 15 minutes so that the concert duration is 40-45 minutes.

The student is notified of the works chosen by the external examiner one week before the examination.

The examination concert repertoire may overlap that of the master's project.

*Examination format:*

Practical test. Total duration including discussion: 1 hour.

*Marking and evaluation:*

External marking. Grade.

The assessment must reflect to what extent the objectives have been achieved.

## 2.1.2 Repetition and Accompaniment

### Objectives

Upon completion of the subject, the student:

- Is able to assess and choose among artistic forms of expression, create relevant solution models, and make informed and reflected artistic decisions.
- Is able to work purposefully with preparation and interpretation work.

### Content

The repetiteur helps the student apply his/her ear training knowledge, knowledge of music theory, and piano experience so that the study process is as rational as possible. Furthermore, repertoire for main subject tuition is prepared, and the student's ability to cooperate musically with the accompanist and prepare material independently is developed.

### Tuition and work formats

Repetition is one-to-one tuition.

Accompaniment follows main subject tuition.

### Semesters

1st to 4th semester.

### Scope

4 ECTS towards the degree

### Evaluation and examination regulations

Certificate. This certifies that the objectives have been achieved at a level at least corresponding to a Pass, and that current attendance rules have been followed.

### 2.1.3 Ensemble Singing/Chamber Music

#### Objectives

Upon completion of the subject, the student:

- Has mastered artistic and technical skills and forms of expression.
- Commands critical and analytical approaches to music and musical practice.
- Is able to assess and choose among artistic forms of expression, create relevant solution models, and make informed and reflected artistic decisions.
- Can commence and direct musical ensemble playing and interdisciplinary cooperation independently in the musician role.

#### Content

The student receives tuition and supervision in relation to musical practice. The repertoire must have a certain stylistic diversity. The student's ability to direct and participate in a listening and responsive manner in ensemble singing situations is developed.

#### Tuition and work formats

Joint class tuition with 3rd year BA students.

#### Semesters

1st to 4th semester.

#### Scope

7 ECTS towards the degree

#### Evaluation and examination regulations

Certificate. This certifies that the objectives have been achieved at a level at least corresponding to a Pass, and that current attendance rules have been followed.

### 2.1.4 Musical Drama

#### Objectives

Upon completion of the subject, the student:

- Has mastered dramatic skills and forms of expression.
- Commands critical and analytical approaches to music and musical practice.
- Is able to assess and choose among artistic forms of expression, create relevant solution models, and make informed and reflected artistic decisions.

#### Content

Tuition covers scenes, typically from opera literature and with due allowance for student singing subjects. Both solo scenes and ensemble scenes are covered. The aim is that the students participate in performances and Academy opera productions. The repertoire is chosen to provide the students with knowledge of the various dramatic expressions of



different periods of music history. Tuition covers subjects like role gestation, choreography, and communication.

### **Tuition and work formats**

Class tuition. Tuition is project oriented. Musical drama projects are planned and coordinated with the relevant subject groups.

### **Semesters**

1st to 4th semester.

### **Scope**

9 ECTS towards the degree

### **Evaluation and examination regulations**

After the 4th semester: Musical drama examination

*Examination content:*

Excerpt from a musical drama performance. Emphasis will be placed on credibility in gestating roles.

*Examination format:*

Practical test. Duration including interview: 30 minutes.

*Marking and evaluation:*

External marking. Grade.

The assessment must reflect to what extent the objectives have been achieved.

## 2.1.5 Training, beginning/intermediate level and advanced level

### Objectives

Upon completion of the subject, the student:

- Is able to reflect on practice and choice of methods in relation to his/her own artistic practice as well as in relation to tuition and communication courses.
- Has mastered advanced tuition skills as well as musical and technical skills and forms of expression.
- Commands critical and analytical approaches to music and musical practice.
- Is able to assess and choose among pedagogical methods and tools, create relevant solution models, and make informed and reflected artistic decisions.
- Is able to work with musical and pedagogical communication and discuss music related and professional problems with peers as well as non-specialists.
- Is able to manage complex and unpredictable creative challenges in pedagogical processes and while realising his/her musicianship in a globalised world.
- Can commence and direct musical ensemble playing and interdisciplinary cooperation independently in the musician and communicator roles.
- Is able to act professionally as regards responsibilities and ethics.

### Content

Three training courses. One beginning/intermediate level training course, one advanced level training course, and one training course at a level chosen by the student. The aim is for both sexes to be represented during the training courses.

Tuition training takes the form of supervised tuition of pupils. Tuition primarily takes place at the Academy, possibly in cooperation with institutions that employ Academy graduates (music schools etc.).

- Beginning level is defined by the pupil having few or no technical skills on the instrument prior to training.
- Intermediate level is defined by the student possessing basic understanding of technical functions.
- Advanced level is defined by a degree of independence as regards preparation and a personal position regarding expression. The training pupil's skills and musicality testify to a possible future professional career.

### Tuition and work formats

3 tuition training courses with a minimum of 10 lessons each. Some of these lessons are supervised.

### Semesters

1st to 3rd semester with a training course on each semester.

### Scope

10 ECTS towards the degree

### Evaluation and examination regulations

After the 3rd semester: Examination

*Examination content:*

One common beginning/intermediate and advanced level pedagogics examination.

Two 25 minute tuition demonstrations that take the form of normal tuition sessions and must include examples of the following:

- Warming-up of the training pupils (including singing exercises).
- Instruction in one or more songs that the pupils are preparing.
- Separate work on one or more technical issues (e.g. in connection with exercises or études).
- The student accompanies/supports the training pupils himself/herself at the piano.

After the tuition skills test, the student comments on the two lessons and answers questions from the external examiners. Some of the questions will be based on the student's reports. For the interview with the examiners, the student is assumed to possess knowledge of different tuition methods etc.

The examination lasts 50 minutes, and the interview lasts approx. 10 minutes.

*Pedagogical report:*

By November 15th, *one* joint report of the three training courses is handed in.

The report contains descriptions of all three training courses and must contain descriptions of the concrete technical and methodical guidance used for the commencement of the musical process, and of how the pedagogical course of development is to continue adapted to the qualifications of the individual pupil. The description may be based on entries in a pedagogical journal. Also a progressively sorted index of teaching materials (schools, other collections, individual compositions, rehearsal materials, and ensemble playing assignments) that the student is confident with and aims to use during tuition. Also, the description of beginning/intermediate level training must include a description of the training pupil including information on tuition so far and imminent tuition.

Scope: Max. 20 pages excluding annexes. Four copies are to be handed in.

*Examination format:*

Practical and written test. Total duration of the test including discussion: 75 minutes.

*Marking and evaluation:*

External marking. Two grades.

The assessment must reflect to what extent the objectives have been achieved.

## 2.1.6 Education Theory

### Objectives

Upon completion of the subject, the student:

- Possesses specialist and internationally recognised knowledge of relevant pedagogical, didactic, and psychological theories, concepts, and methods.
- Understands and is able to reflect on practice and choice of methods in relation to teaching and communication courses.
- Takes a critical and analytical approach to music and music education practice.
- Is able to discuss music education related issues.
- Is able to manage complex pedagogical processes in multicultural contexts.
- Is able to independently argue and assume responsibility for his/her own learning needs, specialisation options, and potential for creative development and prioritise and structure his/her time and work efforts.

### Content

An introduction to music education and music pedagogical work as well as development and research efforts in the field of music education, including key concepts, questions, and themes, based on presentations and themes on eg:

- music education theory and practice
- music pedagogical work in relation to the field of pedagogics as a whole
- musical forms of expression and processes of aesthetic cognition
- existing idiom and individual experience
- the relationship between artistic activity and cultural education
- professional identity and music pedagogical institutions
- personal and musical development
- music and musicality
- aesthetics and didactics
- different forms of knowledge
- participation, direction, and observation

Interaction with the training courses in other subjects is presupposed.

### Tuition and work formats

#### First semester:

Tuition takes place in large classes and study groups.

Each study group receives guidance.

The study group prepares a written assignment on a teacher approved subject.

Scope: 6 to 8 pages.

#### Second semester:

Tuition takes place in smaller classes (approx. 8 to 10 persons).

### Semesters

1st to 2nd semester.

**Scope**

6 ECTS towards the degree.

**Evaluation and examination regulations**After the 1st semester

The module concludes with a presentation of the assignment based on the study group work. The presentation is performed in the presence of all large class students. Subsequent to the presentation, the study group receives teacher response and comments.

Marking and evaluation:

Internal marking, pass/fail

After the 2nd semester**Examination**

At the examination, a written assignment on a teacher approved subject is handed in.

Work may be done in groups of 1 to 4 students.

Scope:

1-2 students: 10 to 15 pages.

3-4 students: 15 to 20 pages.

The deadline for hand-in is communicated by the studies office

*Examination format:*

The oral examination is individual and is initiated by an independent elaboration by the student lasting for a maximum of 10 minutes. This is followed by an interview of approx. 20 minutes on the subject.

*Marking and evaluation:*

Internal marking. Grade.

The assessment must reflect to what extent the objectives have been achieved.

## 2.2 Entrepreneurial Studies

### Objective

Upon completion of the Entrepreneurial Studies subject, the student:

- Possesses specialist knowledge of the music business and culture in an international context.
- Understands and is able to reflect on professional practice and the complex relations between music industry players.
- Commands programme creation and communication with a view to employment in music.
- Is able to assess challenges and issues in relation to his/her career, create relevant solution models, and make informed and reflected career decisions.
- Is able to communicate his/her own profile and discuss vocational issues in relation to peers, audiences, and media players.
- Is able to manage complex and creative challenges in relation to the music business and culture in a globalised world.
- Can commence and lead independently in various professional contexts and interdisciplinary cooperation.
- Is able to independently assume responsibility for his/her own potential for creative development in a professional career context.

### Content

Tuition on the individual semesters covers various subjects including:

#### 1st semester:

- Career plan
- Individual research
- Self-management
- Communication
- Financials
- Music and society

#### 2nd semester:

- Business plan
- Sales
- Marketing
- Partnerships and cooperation with other music industry players
- Development of ideas
- Project design

#### 3rd semester:

- Project management
- Individual and group guidance
- Realising a project
- Career plan

### **Mandatory assignments**

To pass each semester, the student must hand in an online learning portfolio containing the work/assignments completed over the course of the semester.

At the start of the tuition course, the teacher announces which online platform is to be used.

The semester can only be passed if the assignments have been handed in and approved by the teacher. All assignments must relate theory and/or method to practice.

**1st semester:** Development of a career plan drawing on perspectives from the interview with a business professional chosen by the student

**2nd semester:** Development of business plan for project

**3rd semester:** Examination assignment

**Scope of written assignments on the 1st and 2nd semester: 3 to 5 pages.**

### **Tuition and work formats**

Class tuition, seminars and individual guidance.

### **Scope**

9 ECTS towards the degree.

### **Semesters**

1st to 3rd semester

### **Evaluation and examination regulations**

*Examination format:*

Oral examination based on the examination assignment.

Duration: 20 minutes

Discussion: 10 minutes

The examination assignment is handed in online and consists of two parts:

- A well-developed presentation portfolio/home page with a professional look
- A project assignment/learning portfolio Scope: 5-7 pages or corresponding video material/accessible portfolio content. The assignment must include a reflection on the student's practical experience with entrepreneurial activities and must relate to 2-3 themes from the core areas of the subject with relevant literature (theory and/or method).

*Marking and evaluation:*

Internal marking. Evaluation: grade. The assessment must reflect to what extent the objectives of the course have been achieved.

## 2.3 Master's project

### Objective

Upon completion of the master's project, the student:

- Possesses specialist knowledge of practice, methods and theory within the chosen project area.
- Understands and is able to reflect on his/her practice and choice of specialist methods in relation to the project.
- Has mastered relevant methods, tools and forms of expression for creative, performative, and/or pedagogical work.
- Is able to identify project relevant knowledge in an independent and critical manner and evaluate, create and choose from project related solution models.
- May communicate and discuss project idea and results orally and in writing to both peers and non-specialists.
- Is able to manage complex and creative challenges in relation to project work.
- Is able to independently find relevant cooperation partners and act critically and professionally in vocational and/or cross-disciplinary cooperation.
- Is able to independently assume responsibility for his/her own learning needs and potential for development in relation to project work, and to draft and manage realistic schedules.

### Content

The student chooses and defines his/her own master's project. The project must include the following elements:

- At least one of the following dimensions: an artistic, performative, pedagogical or theoretical dimension
- A communicative dimension
- A written reflection. Scope: 15 to 30 pages

The repertoire of the 4th semester main instrument concert may overlap that of the master's project.

### Tuition and work formats

Individually, in large groups and in study groups

The main project is completed during the 3rd and 4th semesters.

Individual project guidance is provided by the main supervisor, possibly assisted by an external supervisor.

Preparations for the project are made in the Master's Project: Joint Classes subject.

The Master's Project: Joint Classes subject includes tuition in project management, method awareness, literature searches, interview techniques, etc. and provides an introduction to various research methods.

During the course, student projects are used as case studies as applicable.

The student prepares his/her own project plan as part of the tuition.



## **Deadlines**

### **1 April, 2nd semester**

The student sends a preliminary title and a draft of the content to the project coordinator along with a prioritised application for a main supervisor.

### **Early September, 3rd semester**

In the Master's Project: Joint Classes subject, the students are introduced to the scope, form and expectations/options in connection with the master's project and are instructed to prepare a preliminary project description.

Study groups of 3 to 4 students are formed. The group convenes at least three times during the project period. A report of these meetings must be included as an annex to the written part of the project.

### **1 November, 3rd semester**

The preliminary project description is submitted for review by the project coordinator.

This includes a description of the intended master's project as regards title, work format, plans for project realisation and final presentation format.

### **1 February, 4th semester**

In cooperation with the main supervisor, the student prepares the final project description which forms the foundation for the remaining work and the evaluation of the project.

This project description is binding in relation to the written part of the project.

### **1 April, 4th semester**

The written reflection (including material that the examiners are expected to be familiar with at the presentation) is handed in.

## **Special regulations regarding the written reflection**

In the written reflection, the student should account for e.g. the following:

- The chosen angle of the project

Which delimitations have been made, and for what reasons?

- The target audience of the project. "Who am I trying to reach?"

An identification and description of these as well as an evaluation of the degree to which they have been involved in work on the project.

- Music business anchoring. "Who may assist me?"

Where and how is the project meant to be located on the local/national/international music scene? This includes an evaluation of, and proactive measures in relation to, stakeholders.

- Traditions

An account of the artistic/pedagogical/performance related tradition that the project aspires to be a part of, including a list of relevant literature (in the broad sense of books, articles, TV shows, interviews, recordings, websites, etc.).

In addition, the written reflection must include the following:

- Literature list
- Abstract  
Short summary (max. ½ page) of the project in English

- Annexes

All relevant material is included as annexes, including the final project description and reports from study group meetings.

**Late May, 4th semester**

Presentation of final project

See the evaluation and examination regulations.

**Semesters**

3rd to 4th semester

**Scope**

30 ECTS

**Evaluation and examination regulations***Examination format*

A: Presentation (30 minutes)

Depending on the nature of the project, the presentation may take the following forms:

- A concert incorporating oral communication
- A teaching situation using a project approach
- A lecture

B: Interview with the board of examiners (10 minutes)

Duration of presentation and interview: 40 minutes. Duration of exam including discussion: 60 minutes.

*Marking and evaluation*

External marking. Grade and a written statement.

The assessment must reflect to what extent the objectives have been achieved.