

CURRICULUM

Master of Music (cand. musicae), music teacher

Degree course

CHURCH MUSIC WITH CHOIR AND ENSEMBLE DIRECTION

Aarhus

Effective as of 2011

Content

1 Introduction	3
2 Course content, individual subjects, and examinations	4
2.1 Main study area	5
2.1.1 Repertoire Playing.....	5
2.1.2 Liturgical Playing	6
2.1.3 Adult Choir	8
2.1.4 Ensemble Direction.....	10
2.1.5 Children's Choir	11
2.1.6 Support Subject: Child's Voice.....	13
2.1.7 Education Theory	14
2.2 Entrepreneurial Studies	16
2.3 Master's project	18

1 Introduction

The MMus (Church Music with Choir and Ensemble Direction) 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 church musicians and choir and ensemble directors at the highest level. In addition, the course focuses on making students capable of becoming distinctive music business entrepreneurs.

The course structure has a constant focus on the Art Repertoire Organ Playing subject as well as the Adult Choir, Children's Choir, and Ensemble Direction subjects. The main study area also comprises Liturgical Organ Playing that is commenced on the 3rd semester and concluded after the 4th semester. Education theory and practical pedagogics is taught in connection with the direction subjects.

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 Church Music with Choir and Ensemble Direction 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:

- Study trips.
- Master classes with internationally acclaimed musicians.
- Chamber music in a rich and professionally challenging study environment.
- Good opportunities for working with choir direction in a rich choir environment.
- and much more.

2 Course content, individual subjects, and examinations

Church Music with Choir and Ensemble Direction	1st sem	2nd sem	3rd sem	4th sem	Sum
Main study area					
Repertoire Playing	10	5	4	8	27
Liturgical Playing	2	2	4	5	13
Adult Choir	4	7	2		13
Ensemble Direction	5	7			12
Children's Choir	2	2	2	2	8
Education Theory	3	3			6
Child's Voice	1	1			2
Entrepreneurial Studies	3	3	3		9
Master's project			15	15	30
	30	30	30	30	120

2.1 Main study area

2.1.1 Repertoire Playing

Objectives

Upon completion of the subject, the student:

- Possesses specialist knowledge of internationally recognised artistic and technical practice, repertoire, methods, and theory in relation to organ literature.
- Has mastered artistic and technical skills and forms of expression on the pipe organ.
- Commands critical and analytical approaches to art repertoire 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 takes as its starting point the performance of selected central works of organ literature. Tuition progression is arranged individually.

The subject also aims at enabling the student to participate independently in various musical contexts, including ensemble playing.

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.

Tuition and work formats

One-to-one tuition and joint classes.

Semesters

1st to 4th semester.

Scope

27 ECTS towards the degree

Evaluation and examination regulations

After the 4th semester: Repertoire playing examination

Examination content:

The student performs a 45 minute concert programme consisting of solo works from the instrument repertoire. Repertoire list and programme must be handed in at the study office no later than by April 1st.

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

Examination format:

Practical test. Duration including discussion: 60 minutes.

Marking and evaluation:

External marking. Grade. The evaluation must reflect to what extent the objectives of the degree course have been achieved.

2.1.2 Liturgical Playing

Objectives

Upon completion of the subject, the student:

- Possesses specialist knowledge of internationally recognised artistic and technical 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

The student's ability to lead hymn singing is developed.

Tuition comprises transposition, sight reading, and improvisation.

Tuition and work formats

One-to-one tuition and joint classes.

Tuition and work formats

One-to-one tuition and joint classes.

Semesters

1st to 4th semester.

Scope

13 ECTS towards the degree

Evaluation and examination regulations

After the 4th semester: Liturgical playing examination

Examination content:

- Hymn music: Two hymns from the Danish hymnal (Den Danske Salmebog) with accompanying settings from one of the authorised Danish chorale books are offered. A maximum of four verses are performed. The exact verses to be played are stated in the assignment. The chorale book setting is to be used for at least one verse of each hymn, and the melody of each hymn must be played. At least one of the hymns must incorporate alternative accompaniment/harmonisation. Both hymns must comprise an introduction created by the student.
- Transposition: One of the chorales offered is transposed a whole tone or half a tone up or down (up to four key signatures). The transposition is performed as a chorale and may not be written down.
- Hymn sight reading: Two hymns played as chorales (one manual and pedals). Both hymns begin with improvised introductions and are connected using improvised modulation.

- **Improvisation:** Improvisation, possibly in the form of a prelude to a liturgical service or another church event, based on a hymn melody offered (three hymn melodies from different periods are offered by the external examiner) or free-form in a key and metre offered by the external examiner.

Preparation:

Hymn music: 24 hours.

Transposition and improvisation: A total of 2 hours at an organ.

All chorale settings offered must come from an authorised Danish chorale book. The assignment wording states which book is being used. All assignments are set by the external examiner.

Examination format:

Practical test. Duration including discussion: 60 minutes.

Marking and evaluation:

External marking. Grade. The evaluation must reflect to what extent the objectives of the degree course have been achieved.

2.1.3 Adult Choir

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 in relation to adult choir as well as musical 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

- Participation in tuition for classical choir conducting at master's level: methodology, theory, vocal ensemble, choir conductor ensemble and chamber choir (1st and 2nd semester). The student will, to a limited extent, have the opportunity to conduct the DJM Vocal ensemble in connection with the tuition.
- Own adult choir 3rd semester. Minimum 10 lessons of 45 minutes each. Part of the lessons are supervised.

Semesters

1st to 3rd semester

Tuition and work formats

Class tuition.

Scope

13 ECTS

Evaluation and examination regulations

After the 3rd semester: Examination

- Using the student's own adult choir, the student is examined in two movements, one assignment prepared in advanced and chosen by the student, and one extempore assignment set by the teacher. The set assignment is handed out one week prior to the examination.
The student may rearrange both movements as required.
- Examination of the assignment chosen by the student lasts 15 minutes while examination of the set assignment lasts 30 minutes. This is followed by a short (5

minute) interview on the training report and 10 minutes of discussion. Total duration: 75 minutes.

- The training report based on the 3rd semester must contain the following:
 - Choir presentation: number of participants, age, level, history, etc.
 - Description of status after the 1st training lesson including the training objective.
 - A journal of the training course lessons.
 - An evaluation of the training course and reflections on the methodological course.
 - An overview of repertoire used during the training course.

Scope: 8 to 10 pages. The report must be handed in by 1 December.

Examination format

Practical test. Duration including discussion: 75 minutes.

Marking and evaluation

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

2.1.4 Ensemble Direction

Objectives

Upon completion of the subject, the student:

- Has mastered advanced tuition skills as well as musical direction skills and forms of expression.
- Is able to act professionally as regards responsibilities and ethics.
- Is able to assess and choose among pedagogical methods and tools, create relevant solution models, and make informed and reflected artistic decisions.

Content

- Methodology with fellow student in the class.
- Tuition training with fellow students in the class.
- Brief training courses with existing amateur ensembles.
- Learning methods.
- Conducting technique.

Semesters

1st to 2nd semester.

Tuition and work formats

Class tuition.

Scope

12 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.

2.1.5 Children's Choir

Objectives

Upon completion of the subject, the student:

- Has mastered tuition skills as well as musical skills and forms of expression in relation to the children's choir field.
- Is able to act professionally as regards responsibilities and ethics.
- Is able to assess and choose among pedagogical methods and tools, create relevant solution models, and make informed and reflected artistic decisions.

Content

1st and 2nd semester tuition focuses on elementary work with children's voices.

3rd and 4th semester tuition focuses on choir training and repertoire.

1st to 2nd semester:

- Class methodology including an introduction to solfège, arrangement technique, and organisation of a pedagogical progression.
- 2nd semester: Supervised tuition training with beginning level pupils provided by the Academy.

3rd to 4th semester:

- Class methodology including repertoire study and rehearsal technique.
- 3rd to 4th semester: Training with the Academy Girls Choir. At least 10 lessons of 20 minutes each.

Semesters

1st to 4th semester.

Tuition and work formats

Class tuition.

Scope

8 ECTS towards the degree

Evaluation and examination regulations

Examination content:

After the 4th semester: Examination with the Academy Girls Choir

The student hands in a repertoire list by April 1st.

- a. 20 minutes of work is done on a work from the choir's repertoire. The work is selected by the external examiner, and the student is notified of the selection one week prior to the examination.
- b. 20 minutes of work is done learning an assignment provided by the Academy. The work is selected by the external examiner, and the student is notified of the selection one week prior to the examination.

The training report must contain the following:

- Class presentation: number of pupils, age, level, history, etc.

- A journal of the training course lessons with reflections on pedagogical issues of particular relevance to children's choir.
- An overview of repertoire used during the training course.

Scope: 8 to 10 pages. Four copies of the report are to be handed in 14 days prior to the examination.

Examination format:

Practical test and written report. Duration including 10 minutes of interview and discussion: 75 minutes.

Marking and evaluation:

External marking. Grade. The assessment must reflect to what extent the objectives of the course have been achieved.

2.1.6 Support Subject: Child's Voice

Objectives

Upon completion of the subject, the student possesses elementary knowledge of the child's voice, its functions, and methods for developing the voice.

Content

- Methodology in class.
- Repertoire study including tuition in appropriate repertoire organisation.
- Elementary physiology.

Tuition and work formats

Class tuition.

Semesters

1st to 2nd semester.

Scope

2 ECTS towards the degree

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.

2.1.7 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 regulationsAfter 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.