

CURRICULUM

Master of Music (Music Teacher) (cand. musicae)

ARTISTIC DIRECTION, RHYTHMIC VOCAL MUSIC Aalborg

Effective as of 2015

Content

1 Introduction	3
2 Course content, individual subjects, and examinations	4
2.1 Course structure	5
2.1.1 Module 1	5
2.1.2 Module 2	6
2.1.3 Module 3	7
2.2 Subject descriptions	8
2.2.1 Artistic Conducting of rhythmic Vocal Music	8
2.2.2 FLEX subject – elective course module	12
2.2.3 Rhythm and Coordination	13
2.2.4 Ear Training/Theory of Improvisation	15
2.2.5 Vocal Technique	16
2.2.6 Arrangement	18
2.2.7 Piano	20
2.2.8 Vocal Studies	21
2.2.9 Ensemble Singing	22
2.3 Entrepreneurial Studies	23
2.4 Master’s Project	25

1 Introduction

Master of Music (MMus) degree course in artistic conducting of rhythmic vocal music (CVM).
The candidate may use the following title: Cand. Musicae/Master of Music.

The course structure has a constant focus on the artistic conducting of rhythmic vocal music. In addition, a series of skill-oriented subjects such as Ear Training, Piano and Vocal Studies are taught. All of these contribute to the broad qualifications that a choir conductor must possess. Some of the subjects are concluded after the second and third semesters so that the student may immerse him- or herself more fully in the main subject on the fourth semester.

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 CVM 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.

Credits for the degree course

120 ECTS points are awarded for the CVM degree course, equivalent to 2 full-time student working years.

Objective of the degree course

Upon completion of the degree course, the student has developed his/her personal and professional competences as artistic conductor of rhythmic vocal music at a high pedagogical and artistic level.

Course structure

The degree course encompasses three subject areas:

Main study area: 81 ECTS

Master's project: 30 ECTS

Entrepreneurial Studies: 9 ECTS

The degree course is organised as a full-time study.

The main study area is divided into three modules. Each module concludes with an examination:

After the 2nd semester: 1st year test of artistic management of vocal music, vocal technique and Rhythm and Coordination

After the 3rd semester: Arrangement and Entrepreneurial Studies

After the 4th semester: pedagogical and artistic skills and project

Tuition and work formats

- Weekly class tuition in Aalborg; personal attendance or via the Internet if the student has access to a training class locally
- Campus 3 times per semester in Aalborg
- Training guidance via the Internet based on video recordings of the student's own training class

2 Course content, individual subjects, and examinations

ECTS chart	1st sem	2nd sem	3rd sem	4th sem	Total
Main study area					
Artistic Conducting of Rhythmic Vocal Music	9	9	5	9	32
FLEX subject	2	2	1	1	6
Rhythm and Coordination	3	3			6
Ear Training/Theory of Improvisation	2	2			4
Vocal Technique	2	2			4
Arrangement	3	3	3		9
Piano	2	3	1	2	8
Vocal Studies	3	2	1	3	9
Ensemble Singing	1	1	1		3
Entrepreneurial Studies	3	3	3		9
Master's project			15	15	30
Total	30	30	30	30	120

2.1 Course structure

2.1.1 Module 1

Artistic Conducting and Rhythm and Coordination (student skills and pedagogical practice)

Semesters

1st to 2nd semester

Content

- Development of student skills in relation to artistic conducting
- Performance with a focus on the student's own singing voice
- Development of student skills for the support subjects with particular emphasis on Rhythm and Coordination
- Public "band leader concert" on the 2nd semester
- Career planning (entrepreneurial studies)

Subjects

- Artistic Conducting of Rhythmic Vocal Music
- Methodology
- FLEX subject
- Ear Training/Theory of Improvisation
- Rhythm and Coordination
- Vocal Technique
- Arrangement
- Piano
- Vocal Studies
- Ensemble Singing
- Entrepreneurial Studies

2.1.2 Module 2

Arrangement and Entrepreneurial Studies

Semesters

3rd semester

Content

- Creation of three arrangements for the training class
- Further development of student skills in relation to artistic conducting
- Project start
- Business planning (Entrepreneurial Studies)

Subjects

- Artistic Conducting of Rhythmic Vocal Music
- Methodology
- FLEX subject
- Vocal Technique
- Arrangement
- Piano
- Vocal Studies
- Ensemble Singing
- Project Guidance
- Entrepreneurial Studies

2.1.3 Module 3

Pedagogical and artistic skills and master's project

Semesters

4th semester

Content

- Improvement of student skills in relation to artistic conducting
- Improvement of student creativity skills
- Preparation and execution of concert
- Project realisation

Subjects

- Artistic Conducting of Rhythmic Vocal Music
- FLEX subject
- Vocal Technique
- Piano
- Vocal Studies
- Project Guidance

2.2 Subject descriptions

2.2.1 Artistic Conducting of rhythmic Vocal Music

Semesters

1st to 4th semester

Objective

Upon completion of the subject, the student:

- Possesses personal and professional skills at an advanced pedagogical and artistic level in the field of rhythmic vocal music based on traditional as well as contemporary forms of expression.
- Can commence and conduct music in the field between vocal music and Rhythm and Coordination in an independent fashion.
- Is able to manage complex and unpredictable creative challenges in pedagogical processes.
- Is able to work with musical and pedagogical communication and discuss music related and professional problems with peers as well as non-specialists.
- Understands and 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.
- Is able to start and conduct improvisations at a pedagogical and artistic level.
- Possesses specialist knowledge of artistic and technical practice in connection with rhythmic vocal music.
- Is able to assess and choose among pedagogical methods and tools, and is able to create relevant solution models and make informed and reflected artistic decisions.
- Possesses specialist knowledge of artistic and technical practice as well as specialist and internationally recognised knowledge of relevant pedagogical, didactic and psychological theories, concepts and methods.
- Is able to use the skills acquired in the support subjects in relation to the creative, pedagogical and artistic process.

Content

- Didactics and method for "the intelligent choir"
- A stylistically diverse repertoire within rhythmic vocal music
- Experimental forms of expression
- Improvisation based on a traditional approach
- Microphone amplification
- Artistic conducting and communication
- Conducting technique
- Concert design and performance

Scope

Choir Conducting: 32 ECTS

Tuition and work formats

Over the course of the study, at least two different external training courses are executed, divided equally on three modules.

On one of these courses, the student may simultaneously be artistic conductor and choir singer.

The training is organised jointly by the student, the teacher and the training coordinator. Choir Methodology tuition for the student is executed as one-to-one and/or class tuition. The training course is continuously evaluated through video coaching by the student's teacher(s).

Band leader concert

On the 2nd semester, a band leader concert is executed featuring the student's own training class. The concert must last approx. 30 minutes and be executed in front of a live audience, either in Aalborg or with a live video streaming connection to Aalborg. Evaluation and feedback from the student's own teacher.

Evaluation and examination regulations

Module 1. 18 ECTS

After the 2nd semester

1st year test with the student's own training class – video documentation

Duration: 60 minutes

Discussion: 20 minutes

Oral evaluation: 10 minutes

Total duration: 90 minutes

Examination content

Using video recording, the student documents one entire, unedited rehearsal with his/her training class. The rehearsal must include the following elements; their order to be chosen by the student:

- Concert piece
- Improvisation
- 10 minutes of Rhythm and Coordination
- Detail work on music that has already been learned
- Preparation of new material

Recording requirements:

One continuous and unedited recording of the same rehearsal session using fixed cameras in HD quality. Recordings must be done from two angles:

1. "Audience" point of view
2. Side view of the conductor. All of the conductor must be visible

It is permitted to hand in one video edited to feature both angles.

The score must be included as an annex (PDF).

Marking and evaluation

Internal marking. Pass/fail.

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

Module 2 + 3. 14 ECTS

After the 4th semester

Concert featuring the student's own training class in front of a live audience – video documentation

Duration: 45 minutes – mangler noget beskrivelse

Recording requirements:

One continuous and unedited recording of the same concert using fixed cameras in HD quality. Recordings must be done from two angles:

1. "Audience" point of view
2. Side view of the director. All of the director must be visible

It is permitted to hand in one video edited to feature both angles.

A detailed concert programme and the score must be included as an annex (PDF).

Marking and evaluation

Internal marking. Pass/fail as well as a written statement.

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

After the 4th semester

Practical examination at the Academy

Tuition demonstration featuring the Academy practice choir and including the following elements:

- Concert piece
- Improvisation
- Detail work on material that has already been learned
- Learning of set assignment (set by the teacher one week prior to the examination as a case)

Duration of tuition demonstration: 60 minutes

Interview: 10 minutes

Discussion: 20 minutes

Oral evaluation: 10 minutes

Total duration: 100 minutes

No later than 2 weeks prior to the examination, the student hands in a written report at the studies office to be used during evaluation.

The report must fulfil the following requirements:

The report should contain at least 21.600 characters including spaces (equivalent to 9 normal pages). The number of characters must be stated on the title page.

The report must contain at least the following mandatory sections:

Introduction/preamble

A description of the training class

Objective and content

Ideas, means and methods and a description of the course

A description of 2 lessons

An evaluation of the course

Annexes (scores, repertoire list, methods, exercises etc.)

Marking and evaluation

External marking. Grade.

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

2.2.2 FLEX subject – elective course module

Semesters

1st to 4th semester

Objective

The FLEX subject is incorporated in the degree course in one or more of the following ways depending on the student:

- To accommodate special needs that arise in connection with artistic conducting of vocal music
- To provide an insight into closely related subject areas (e.g. Ear Training for choristers)
- To provide an insight into special subjects (e.g. new fields bordering on artistic conducting of vocal music and other subjects)
- To provide a greater insight into one of the minor subjects

Content

The student chooses direction and content for the FLEX subject following an interview with the Head of Studies. If the Head of Studies deems it professionally/practically feasible, the student may split up his/her FLEX subject into two parallel courses. The student chooses FLEX subjects for one year at a time or as a two-year course.

In consultation with the FLEX subject teacher, the student then drafts a description of the content and a plan for its execution. This must include where lessons are to be held, and whether they must be scheduled in advance or are subject to agreement between student and teacher.

Scope

6 ECTS

Tuition and work formats

Tuition may be as follows:

Students form classes studying a particular subject or receive one-to-one tuition.

Evaluation and examination regulations

Certificate with the evaluation Approved/Not approved. 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.

2.2.3 Rhythm and Coordination

Semesters

1st to 2nd semester

Objective

The student:

- Possesses elementary rhythm and coordination skills.
- Has acquired an understanding of the connection between singing, playing and movement.
- Acquires a foundation for instructing and arranging rhythm and coordination courses for training situations where the subject is used with vocal music.
- Is conversant with the didactics and methods of the Rhythm and Coordination subject.
- Is able to identify his/her own learning needs and potential for development in the field.

Content

- Musical and bodily expression
- Sense of tempo, pulse and subdivisions
- Polyrhythms and polymetrics
- Improvisation
- Conducting and communication
- Percussion technique
- Body percussion
- Arrangement – composition: arrangement related to percussion, movement and singing

Scope

6 ECTS

Tuition and work formats

Class tuition

Within a stylistically diverse repertoire, work is done on musical forms of socialising and corresponding bodily expressions based on movement, singing and percussion. The individual disciplines are included in tuition when deemed appropriate and to an appropriate extent.

Evaluation and examination regulations

After the 2nd semester

Examination content

One week prior to the examination, the student hands in an arrangement chosen for the examination. The arrangement must include all three elements: singing, playing and movement. In addition, an annex of max. one A4 page is handed in, describing how the arrangement can be related to the artistic conducting of vocal music.

Examination format

Fellow students participate at the examination. The student must demonstrate all instrument, singing, and movement parts that can then be delegated to the fellow students. Electronic media may be used during the demonstration.

Duration: 15 minutes

Discussion: 15 minutes

Evaluation: 5 minutes

Total duration: 35 minutes

Marking and evaluation

Internal marking. Grade.

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

2.2.4 Ear Training/Theory of Improvisation

Semesters

1st to 2nd semester

Objective

The student:

- Further develops his/her hearing, reading and theoretical skills in relation to his/her work as a rhythmic choir conductor.
- Acquires practical and theoretical knowledge of various forms of ear training and improvisation.

Content

Tuition may comprise the following:

- Notation
- Chord and scale theory
- Harmonic analysis
- Sight singing
- Rhythm reading
- Transcription and dictation
- Development of strategies for practising improvisation
- Polyrhythms

Scope

4 ECTS

Tuition and work formats

One-to-one and/or class tuition

Evaluation and examination regulations

Certificate with the evaluation Approved/Not approved. 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.

2.2.5 Vocal Technique

Semesters

1st to 2nd semester

Objective

Upon completion of the subject, the student:

- Possesses elementary factual knowledge of voice physiology and singing and speaking functions in the form of concrete awareness of his/her own voice and those of his/her pupils.
- Is able to reflect on practice and choice of methods in relation to his/her own artistic and pedagogical practice.
- Possesses elementary theoretical knowledge at a level that enables serious professional communication with peers.
- Has acquired practical and theoretical knowledge of voice functions, including register functions, articulation/lyrics pronunciation, phrasing, sound variations, dynamics and vibrato regarding his/her work as a rhythmic choir conductor.

Content

- Anatomy and physiology – larynx, vocal tract, breathing and body consciousness
- Voice functions, deficiencies and disorders
- Caring for the voice, speaking exercises and warm-up exercises
- Phonetics (including comparison with other languages) in terms of articulation and acoustics
- Singing voice acoustics
- Voice hygiene, deficiencies and disorders relating to voice use
- Methodical auditory voice analyses
- The anatomy curriculum is identified, and physiological points are demonstrated, using models, charts, compendia and the student's own body.
- The curriculum corresponds to Lone Rærbech "Stemmebrugslære", Seth Riggs "Singing for the Stars" and Cathrine Sadolin "Komplet sangteknik", including supplementary material.

Tuition and work formats

Class tuition

Voice disorder tuition and voice function observation using a laryngoscope is handled using external partners.

Scope

4 ECTS

Evaluation and examination regulations

Examination after the 2nd semester

Examination content:

Written test of topics covered during tuition

Examination format

Written proctored examination. Duration: 3 hours

Marking and evaluation

Internal marking. Grade.

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

2.2.6 Arrangement

Semesters

1st to 3rd semester

Objective

Developing the student's theoretical, practical and original skills as an arranger for choirs and vocal ensembles

Content

- Practical and theoretical knowledge of the various traditions and forms of expression within rhythmic vocal music through studies of a diverse repertoire
- Creation of vocal arrangements for use during tuition of the student's own training classes

Scope

9 ECTS

Tuition and work formats

One-to-one and/or class tuition

Evaluation and examination regulations

Examination after the 3rd semester

Examination content

Three arrangements for choir/vocal ensemble are created.

Examination format

The student creates three arrangements and produces a video recording of the arrangements sung by the training classes.

Interview: 10 minutes

Discussion: 20 minutes

Evaluation: 5 minutes

Total duration: 35 minutes

No later than 2 weeks prior to the examination, the student hands in the arrangements as PDF scores to be used during the evaluation, as well as MP3/MP4 format recordings of the arrangements sung live by the training class.

In addition, a written report is handed in at the studies office.

The report must fulfil the following requirements:

The report should contain at least 14.400 characters including spaces (equivalent to 6 normal pages). The number of characters must be stated on the title page.

The report must contain at least the following mandatory sections:

- Introduction/preamble
- A description of the training class
- A description of the arrangement process
- Objective and content
- An evaluation of the course
- Annexes

Marking and evaluation

External marking. Grade.

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

2.2.7 Piano

Semesters

1st to 4th semester

Objective

Upon completion of the subject, the student:

- Can use the piano as an accompanying instrument, during rehearsals and when learning a new repertoire.
- Is capable of varied accompaniment.
- Possesses knowledge of relevant methods for learning and adapting new material.
- Has acquired knowledge of relevant theory, chording and technique.
- Possesses relevant genre knowledge.
- Possesses musical and technical skills that support working professionally as an artistic conductor of vocal music.
- Is able to express himself/herself on the piano within a wide range of rhythmic styles.
- Is capable of using the piano in practical teaching situations as well as in arrangement and theory contexts.
- Is able to identify his/her own learning needs and potential for artistic development, and to prioritise and structure his/her time and work efforts in relation to these.

Content

- Rhythmic coordination training and groove technique
- Accompaniment to own singing based on figurations
- Voicings in relation to various styles within rhythmic music
- Rhythm section roles transferred to piano
- Simplified and extended piano roles
- Sight reading, including score playing and figuration playing
- Playing by ear
- Transposition
- Improvisation

Scope

8 ECTS

Tuition and work formats

One-to-one and/or class tuition

Evaluation and examination regulations

After the 4th semester: certificate with the evaluation Approved/Not approved

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.

2.2.8 Vocal Studies

Semesters

1st to 4th semester

Objective

Upon completion of the subject, the student:

- Possesses knowledge of voice singing and speaking functions.
- Is capable of using his/her speaking and singing voice appropriately.
- Possesses knowledge of relevant pedagogical concepts and methods in relation to choir and voice work.
- Possesses well-developed breathing and supporting technique.
- Has acquired a command of intonation technique.
- Has acquired technical and musical vocal skills enabling him/her to sing parts in an adequate manner in rehearsal contexts.

Content

- Advanced speaking and singing vocal technique, children's voices, caring for the voice, speaking exercises and warm-up exercises
- Creating awareness of register functions, sound variations and lyrics pronunciation
- Phrasing, sound variations, dynamics, vibrato, etc.
- Learning of a singing repertoire in e.g. jazz, rock, Latin, pop, folk songs, children's songs, etc.
- Microphone singing
- Unaccompanied singing

Scope

9 ECTS

Tuition and work formats

One-to-one and/or class tuition

Evaluation and examination regulations

After the 4th semester: certificate with the evaluation Approved/Not approved

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.

2.2.9 Ensemble Singing

Semesters

1st to 3rd semester

Objective

- The student acquires solid singing skills in relation to choirs and vocal ensembles.
- The student gains knowledge of a diverse repertoire within rhythmic vocal music based on traditional as well as contemporary forms of expression within rhythmic music.

Content

- Experimental forms of expression, circle songs, etc.
- A stylistically diverse repertoire within rhythmic music
- Improvisation based on a traditional approach
- Microphone amplification

Scope

3 ECTS

Tuition and work formats

Class tuition

Evaluation and examination regulations

After the 3rd semester: certificate with the evaluation Approved/Not approved

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.

2.3 Entrepreneurial Studies

Semesters

1st to 3rd semester

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, and is able to 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 individual semesters includes the following:

1st semester:

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

2nd semester:

- Business plan
- Sales
- Marketing
- Communities of practice and cooperation with other music industry players
- Idea development
- Project design

3rd semester:

- Project management
- Individual and group guidance

- Project realisation
- Career plan

Mandatory assignments

It is a prerequisite for passing each semester that the student hands in an online learning portfolio containing the assignments/works created during the semester.

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

It is a prerequisite for passing the semester that the assignments are handed in and approved by the teacher. Theory and/or method must be related to practice in all assignments.

1st semester: development of a career plan drawing on perspectives from an interview with a business professional selected by the student

2nd semester: development of a project business plan

3rd semester: examination assignment

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

Tuition and work formats

Class tuition, seminars and individual guidance

Scope

9 ECTS

Evaluation and examination regulations

Examination format:

Oral examination based on the examination assignment

Duration: 20 minutes

Discussion: 10 minutes

Total duration: 30 minutes

The examination assignment must be handed in online and must consist of two parts:

- A well-developed and professional-looking presentation portfolio/website
- A project assignment/learning portfolio. Scope: 5-7 pages or equivalent video material/accessible portfolio content. The assignment must include a reflection on the student's experience with entrepreneurial practice and relate to 2-3 themes from the core subject areas of the disciplines with accompanying literature (theory and/or method).

Marking and evaluation

Internal marking. Grade.

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

2.4 Master's Project

Semesters

3rd to 4th semester

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 ideas and results verbally 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 master's project builds upon one or more of the student's major areas but may draw on cross-disciplinary approaches.

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

- An artistic/performative dimension
- A communicative and/or pedagogical dimension
- A written reflection including job market/music business approaches

Scope

30 ECTS

Tuition and work formats

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

The project is prepared during the 1st and 2nd semesters in the Master's Project Special Studies subject. The Entrepreneurial Studies subject may also form part of the preparations. 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.

The repertoires of the 4th semester main instrument concert performance and the artistic/performative dimension of the master's project may overlap.

Deadlines

Early October on the 2nd year of the master's degree course: Introductory meeting for the entire year and the project coordinator/director of studies.

- 1 November: Project frame and supervisors decided
- 1 February: Final problem formulation defined with supervisor and approved by supervisor and director of studies
- 1 April: Master's project handed in

Guidance: internal and external guidance

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/presentation of the project including documentation of the artistic/performative dimension in the form of a portfolio, CD/DVD recordings or similar

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

Discussion and preparation of statement (20 minutes)

Marking and evaluation

External marking. Grade and a statement.

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