School of Arts University of Nova Gorica

Two-year Master programme in

MEDIA ARTS AND PRACTICES

Index
1 About the programme
2-4 Diagrams - Overview of all modules and their interconnections
5-6 Programme structure and implementation
7 Educational and professional goals, Access to further studies, Examination and assessment regulations
8-9 Admission requirements
10 About the School

About the programme

The master programme of Media Arts and Practices (120 ECTS) offers the students to specialize in any of - or in between - the carrier module areas:

- Animation
- Film
- Photography
- New Media
- Contemporary Art Practices
- Scenographic Spaces

Candidates are invited to approach the programme with a project idea or clear interest in a specific medium or creative realm. In an international study and production atmosphere students will, gradually develop their final project and theoretical thesis, all in close interaction with mentors, guest teachers and fellow students.

Regular peer reviews in front of academic committees and trans-disciplinary interaction in studio-workshops foster the student’s increasing proficiency in the chosen area. Along the two years of study the student takes part in an individual selection of short skill- and theory-based courses, both on- and offline. Developed within the international (EU-supported) ADRIART project (http://adriart.net) the programme offers academic experience in several site-specific course runs at referenced partnering institutions in Austria, Italy and Croatia. Check the ADRIART publication >> http://issuu.com/zaumetnost/docs/adriart_design_publication_a5_book

The complete two-year implementation cycle strongly focuses on short location-specific module runs.

Carrier Modules (CM):

- ANIMATION
- FILM
- PHOTOGRAPHY
- NEW MEDIA
- CONTEMPORARY ART PRACTICES
- SCENOGRAPHIC SPACES
Diagram A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4</th>
<th>SUMMER Semester</th>
<th>22 ECTS</th>
<th>MASTER THESIS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>FALL Semester</td>
<td>4 ECTS</td>
<td>FINAL PROGRESS TRACK [FPT]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8 ECTS</td>
<td>STUDIO G FOCUS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 ECTS</td>
<td>STUDIO H FOCUS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6 ECTS</td>
<td>STUDIO I FOCUS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6 ECTS</td>
<td>MASTER THESIS PREPARATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>SUMMER Semester</td>
<td>4 ECTS</td>
<td>INTERIM PROGRESS TRACK [INTPT]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8 ECTS</td>
<td>STUDIO D DEFINE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 ECTS</td>
<td>STUDIO E DEFINE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 ECTS</td>
<td>STUDIO F DEFINE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>FALL Semester</td>
<td>4 ECTS</td>
<td>PROGRESS TRACK REVIEW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8 ECTS</td>
<td>STUDIO A EXPLORE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 ECTS</td>
<td>STUDIO B EXPLORE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 ECTS</td>
<td>STUDIO C EXPLORE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A ECTS</td>
<td>INITIAL PROGRESS TRACK [IPT]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* All numbers refer to ECTS credits

TIP Techniques in Practice  DIP Discourse in Practice  SIP Selections in Practice
## Diagram B: list of modules and levels

### CARRIER MODULE
- **Leveling**
  - **EXPLORE**
  - **DEFINE**
  - **FOCUS**
- **ECTS**: 8, 8, 8

### PROGRESS TRACK
- **Leveling**
  - **INITIAL**
  - **INTERIM**
  - **FINAL**
- **ECTS**: 4, 4, 4

### STUDIO
- **Leveling**
  - **EXPLORE**
  - **DEFINE**
  - **FOCUS**
- **ECTS**: 4, 4, 4

### TIP + DIP
- **TIP**
  - **ECTS**: 6, 6, 4, 4
- **DIP**
  - **ECTS**: 4, 4, 4, 4
- **TIP Techniques in Practice**
- **DIP Discourse in Practice**
- **= 2 ECTS**

### SIP
- **Leveling**
  - **SIP Selections in Practice**
  - **Selections from TIP+DIP, STUDIO or out of the programme.**
- **ECTS**: 4, 4

### MASTER THESIS MODULE
- **ECTS**: 6, 22
Diagram C: Example of horizontal and vertical connections in one semester (year 1, autumn semester)

One of the six carrier modules (Animation / Film / Photography / New Media, Contemporary Art Practices / Scenographic Spaces) in connection with the Studio courses and a selection of TIP/DIP (Techniques / Discourses in Practice) and SIP (Selections in Practice) courses and courselets, represent the student’s main area of production.

**INITIAL PROGRESS TRACK (IPT)**

*INITIAL PROGRESS TRACK (IPT)*

**BEGINNING OF THE STUDY**

Progress Track observes and tracks the student's progress through the whole process of the master studies and confronts him/her with her/his fellow students and the study board.

Progress mentor leads the student through the Progress Track with the help of his/her expert mentor (can be the student’s Carrier Module leader or other chosen expert mentor).

**STUDIO**

Topical, interdisciplinary work

Students from all Carrier Modules (CM) can choose any studio. They work with studio leader(s), but they can also contact their carrier module mentors for expert know-how.

Studio can be lead either by programme core teaching staff or by guest artists & external experts.

**CARRIER MODULE**

Carrier Module (CM) keeps and develops student’s study vertical in his/her chosen media or field. It is not as concerned about student’s academic study progress as it is focused on the progress of achieving goals and competencies in the chosen field/media(area) in professional terms.

The chosen expert mentor (can be the carrier module mentor or other expert mentor) is tightly connected with the Progress Track, where s/he supports the student from the view of the field/media. S/he helps the student in choosing the TIP/DIP courselets and SIP contents, supporting the chosen vertical in field/media/area.

**PROGRESS TRACK REVIEW**

**END OF SEMESTER**

**TIP / DIP COURSES AND COURSELETS**

Provide supportive contents, connected to: the Carrier Module, the Studio and the Progress Track.

**SIP SELECTIONS IN PRACTICE**

Selection can be made from TIP/DIP, Studio or outside the programme.
PROGRAMME STRUCTURE AND IMPLEMENTATION

The Media Arts and Practices programme offers a selection of so called Carrier Modules, from which a student elects one on the basis of his/her master project proposal, interest or motivation: Animation, Film, Photography, New Media, Contemporary Art Practices, or Scenographic Spaces. These Carrier Module areas are not defined and implemented completely independently, rather they are supported and closely intertwined with other compulsory and elective modules, some of which are area-specific, but most are conceived to simultaneously support more than one Carrier Module:

Please consult the diagrams on p. 2-4 for an overview of all modules and their interconnections.

Each student’s individual master project represents the vertical vertebrae of his/her study programme. It is systematically developed, individually mentored and collectively reviewed within the compulsory Progress Track module which runs parallel with the Carrier Modules in the first three semesters, and where students regularly present and discuss with mentors and peers their personal (portfolio) as well as master thesis project progression.

Within the Studio Module the student is required to take one Studio per semester 1, 2 and 3 from a minimum of two choices offered per semester. A Studio course is a collective, congested study experience, closely connected to a student’s individual Carrier Module implementation. As a self-standing course it connects the areas of more Carrier Modules into a cohesive topic-based and research-oriented production. Often realised as a site-specific project in workshop form, it treats a specific topic in an interdisciplinary way. The offer, as well as profile (content) of Studios is “sensitive” to the realm choices of each year’s student cohort.

Please consult the diagrams on p. 2-4 for an overview of all modules and their interconnections.

Throughout the entire course of study students take a variety of smaller “courselets” that provide them with competencies required for their final master project. Taking into account the individual student’s entry skills and knowledge, the selections are partially ruled by the student’s selection of the Carrier Module and negotiated with mentors within the Progress Track module. These courselets are organised within three supportive modules: Techniques in Practice (TIP), Discourses in Practice (DIP) and Selections in Practice (SIP) which are all compulsory, meaning that students have to earn ECTS from each (please consult the diagrams). The Selections in Practice (SIP) module represents the so called “open part” of the curriculum, offering the students in the first year to freely choose any of the smaller units offered under TIP or DIP, perhaps attend an additional Studio course, or accredit any of the externally attained level- and area-relevant credits.
The **Master Thesis compulsory module** consists of two compulsory courses in the second year of study: Master Thesis Preparation (semester 3) reflects on the methodology of the master project production and leads to a full research-based concept for the written part of the master thesis; the Master Thesis course (semester 4) is ultimately where the student accomplishes the programme both in terms of theory (written paper, including project documentation) and practice (project/product), drawing also from the competences acquired in Carrier-Module based sequence of Studios and the selections within the supportive modules. Here the student finishes and evaluates the master project, **produces the written part of the master thesis, and defends both in front of a committee.**

<< Please consult the diagrams on p. 2-4 for an overview of all modules and their interconnections >>

Along the entire programme of study, the student is closely connected with peers and mentors: The Carrier Module leader is usually the **“expert mentor”**, who guides the development of the student’s master thesis project and the overall in-depth acquisition of knowledge and skills within the chosen area. The expert mentors are also engaged within the Progress Track, where they are complemented by the **“progress mentor”**, guiding all enrolled students through group or individual meetings, through the Studio coursework and towards the Master Thesis. Every student also selects a **personal tutor** to accompany her/him throughout the study process.
EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL GOALS

By successfully finishing the programme, the student...

- acquires particular practice and theory-based skills and knowledge in the selected area (animation, film, contemporary art practices, new media, photography, or scenographic spaces) and their interconnections

- autonomously develops and manages own role and competences in a collective learning setting and in the individual master project, applying the developed roles and competences constructively and collaboratively within site-specific, topic-relevant production environments, nurturing a culture of continuous and strategic competency development

- acquires and/or upgrades self-defined discursive skills and specific theoretical (history, criticism) and project-management related knowledge, along with practical skills related to field-specific methodology and technology, evaluating all of these against other components of competence in the field, and reflects on their interconnections

- carries out independent creative conception, realization (production) and finalization (including presentation) of a coherent project, based on research and/or development work in the selected area; the student completes this practical project, connected to a methodologically developed, theory-supported written thesis, both created according to international standards in the chosen area, presenting and defending them as a whole in public, in front of a professional/academic committee, peers and relevant programme-external stakeholders.

ACCESS TO FURTHER STUDIES

After successfully finishing the programme, the student can either enrol a further postgraduate programme on MA or (also professional) PhD level, progress in the current professional pathway, or pursue a new career in the selected area as mastered within the Media Arts and Practices programme.

EXAMINATION AND ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

All modules finish with assessed coursework in the form of exercises, (semi) products, performed studies or seminar papers. There a very small share of informative final written examination, most of the assessment is formative. Often the assessed material coursework is accompanied by performed oral examination in the form of a viva infront of an academic and/or professional committee and peers. Incomplete progress between selected modules is possible. Most of the coursework is submitted and archived digitally online, within a dedicated learning management system (intranet).
Admission requirements

General requirements for enrolment are:

- Higher education degree (180 ECTS)
- Assessment of artistic ability for the Media Arts and Practices programme passed. Certificate of artistic ability is valid only for the current study year.

Applicants with a first degree from non-university higher education programmes accomplished after year 1993 and before 2005 according to the Higher Education Law of Slovenia are to address their application request to the School’s Board of Studies. The Board can assign further conditions to the applicant according to her/his area of prior study, these can encompass BA-level provision, exam-only or non-formal qualifications.

Enrollment capacity: 8 (+ 1 for Slovenes without Slovene citizenship or foreign citizens from countries which are not members of the EU)

In case the number of candidates exceeds the number of available enrollment places, the candidates will be selected based on their results: > 90% for their Assessment of artistic ability, > 10% for their grade-point average of school degree.

Assessment of artistic ability includes:

- Pre-submitted portfolio of candidate’s artistic or creative works, with a full biography, and a motivation letter with project idea or expression of interest. Please submit all materials in English.
- Interview

Note

- The portfolio should illustrate the candidate’s interest and quality of work, the diversity and level of knowledge and skills.
- The motivation letter with a project idea or expression of specific abilities and qualities should:
  - show activity of the candidate as regards her/his choice of CARRIER MODULE,
  - briefly explain the candidate’s master thesis project idea, or alternatively describe his/her motivations and interests in the choice of specific medium/media as related to own professional or academic pathway.
- In the interview the authorship of the submitted material shall be proven as well as the candidate’s ability of comprehension and expressing his/her thoughts in the realm of the study programme.
Timeline from application to enrolment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application &amp; portfolio submission</th>
<th>Interview</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1st round application dates</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>from 1.6. to 8.7.2016</td>
<td>from 27.6.</td>
<td>until 15.9.2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>until 31.8.2016</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2nd round application dates</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3rd round application dates</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Candidates who submit their application with portfolio by June 20 will be invited to attend the interview already in the June period.

**If there will be free spaces after the second round, we will be accepting applications until October 5, or until all spaces are taken, in a way that enrollment will be possible only until October 30, after previous resolution by the rector. All the above deadlines apply to EU citizens or candidates with a permanent residence in Slovenia. For deadlines for other candidates please see [http://www.ung.si/en/study/admissions/second-level-admissions/information-for-foreign-students/](http://www.ung.si/en/study/admissions/second-level-admissions/information-for-foreign-students/).

Candidates are welcome to visit the school especially during semester production shows (c.f. [vsu.ung.si/razstave](http://vsu.ung.si/razstave)) and on Open Days (check online in [Slovenian](http://vsu.ung.si/razstave) or [English](http://vsu.ung.si/razstave) for exact dates), but also outside of these. If you would like to visit the school, please contact the School of Arts Office at the below address and let us know about your arrival a few days ahead to make sure that we will be able to devote some time to you.

**FINANCING**

EU students (students coming from European Union member states) pay no study fee for attending the MAP programme, as this fee is compensated by the University founders and donators. An equipment-production fee of 950 EUR applies annually for all students, and is to be paid each year at enrollment.

The study fee for students coming from non-EU states applies and is to be paid each year at enrollment. Please contact info.vsu@ung.si for details. An equipment-production fee of 950 EUR applies annually for all students, and is to be paid each year at enrollment.

**Other information (programme background & handbook, where to stay, eat, get insurance, work... Student guide)**

Please find a comprehensive collection of links to other relevant information here [http://vsu.ung.si/map-app](http://vsu.ung.si/map-app)
About the School

History
The School of Arts was founded in 2008, upon the fifteen years of experience of the Famul Stuart School of Applied Arts. The school continues to evolve and develop innovative ways to provide knowledge and skills through practical examples and contextual projects. Basic school activities are centred on the notion of art and broadening the application of art, from creative industries to specific interactions with science and technologies, as well as interdisciplinary media production contexts, from the laboratory to the streets.

The School of Arts now offers the full vertical BA/MA structure: a Bachelor of Arts in Digital Arts and Practices and now also the master programme of Media Arts and Practices. Further programmes are planned: additional BA and higher level programmes, upgraded programmes of the Famul Stuart School of Applied Arts, as well as other programmes aligned with the School’s vision.

Location
Via Armando Diaz 5, Gorica, Italy
After collaboration in reviving the Renaissance Fužine castle (1994 - 2004) and facing the modern lifeless underpass of Bežigrski dvor (2004 - 2012), both in Ljubljana, the School of Arts is since 2012 continuing interaction with closer and further surroundings in the twin town Nova Gorica/Gorizia.

Postal address
University of Nova Gorica School of Arts
Vipavska 13
SI-5000 Nova Gorica
Slovenia

School of Arts Office
info.vsu@ung.si
+386 51 33 67 70