

Curriculum for MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM MUSIC

Master of Arts in Music (MA-M)

Cross-Faculty Program

Course of Study: Master of Arts in Music

1. Course Aims and Mission Statement

The aim of the Master's Degree Program is to provide graduates with outstanding levels of artistic, scientific, social and communicative competence, thus offering the best possible qualifications in the diverse professional fields that are open to musicians. Graduates will also have the necessary prerequisites and skills for organisational, advisory and executive/managerial activities in the cultural and media sectors (concert venues, theatres, museums, artists' agencies, publishers, radio, etc.).

Building on the qualifications acquired in the bachelor's program, students of the Master's degree enter a process of intensified research and realisation of their individual artistic concepts, and bring them into broad and interdisciplinary discourse of institute research through team and project work (e.g. Master's Project, Laboratories for Music Research). This in turn contributes to a continually relevant, multifaceted and intercultural development of the arts.

In this sense, the already acquired abilities of the students are further deepened and highly professionalised. At the same time, the open-ended research activities of the Master's program serve as free spaces for thought and work in which artists from different origins and genres encounter each other through research. They can also share and exchange their own thoughts and approaches and develop their work together, even beyond the horizon of one's own experience.

In order to make the research work visible to the outside world and to bring it into public discussion, concert events, symposia, sound and video recordings, various internal institution publications and external partners are actively promoted. This provides the students with an important basis for continuing Career Orientation and Professionalisation, but it is also part of JAM MUSIC LAB University's general contribution to the advocacy of ongoing conscious perception of artistic production. This also encompasses reflection on a wide variety of aspects that are linked with society and the facilitating of related dialogues.

2. Structure of Studies

The Master's degree consists of four semesters and is divided into two degree programme stages of two semesters each.

(Please refer to the core application, Chapters 3 and 4, and the descriptions and specifications contained therein regarding Research)

MA 1st Programme Stage (MA Expertise Level 1: Project Planning Research)

Semesters 1-2

1st Programme Stage allows the students to plan, organise and begin the initial implementation of the upcoming work as part of the Master's project. The artistic, research-related and organisational challenges of the project are discussed in consultation with the respective supervisors of the Master's projects, or where relevant, with the major artistic subject (MAS) teachers. As part of the collaborative process a related action plan and a project plan for implementation will be identified. A recommendation with regard to the compulsory electives to be covered is also provided for the best possible support for the Master's project.

In MA 1st Programme Stage, with the involvement and close coordination of MAS teachers, Master's project teachers and the respective scientific director, the planning of the Master's project is completed according to following standardised categories:

- Definitive formulation of the area of interest regarding research and knowledge
- Indication of the methods of scientific or artistic work
- Defining of the time frames of the work process up until completion
- Coordinating and broadly defining adequate compulsory and free-choice electives in the context of the Master's project

Coinciding with this as part of the Master's degree, students continue to further deepen musical and artistic expertise in theory and practice, as well as intensified research. A presentation given by the students on the progress and development of the Master's project and the written Master's thesis at the end of semester 2 decides on the progression to the 2nd Programme Stage.

MA 2nd Programme Stage (MA-Expertise Level 2: independent scientific/artistic work and research)

Semesters 3-4

Students finalise their Master's project regarding independent work and organisation. Musical and artistic expertise in theory and practice, as well as related research, are brought to a higher degree of professionalism in preparation for the upcoming Master's examination. A successfully completed Master's examination at the end of the 4th semester demonstrates outstanding qualifications in the respective main artistic subject (MAS), the ability to independently and effectively realise musical/artistic production and research, as well as a distinct expertise in project management and communication.

3. Examinations

3.1. Committee Examination

Depending on the type of examination, the board would consist of at least two to a maximum of six examiners and one chairperson. The appointing of personnel for various boards are set up by the relevant bodies of JAM MUSIC LAB and published internally within the institute.

Entrance Examination

The basic prerequisites for enrolment in the Master's degree program are a completed Bachelor's degree or an equivalent degree from a recognised Austrian or non-Austrian post-secondary education institution, the successful completion of the admission examination and the availability of a study place.

An application for the admission examination of the Master's degree must be applied for in writing, which should include the following: a curriculum vitae, a motivation letter and an synopsis of the planned content of the artistic and research work.

Admission into the Master's degree course relies strongly on excellent musical proficiency in the MAS and professional suitability for the area of independent artistic production and research. The same criteria must be demonstrated in the course of the entrance examination through an artistic/musical presentation followed by a verbal presentation of the submitted synopsis.

Details on examination requirements and content are defined by the relevant bodies of JAM MUSIC LAB University and published on the Institute's website (Please see the details in the core application, Chapter 3.7.4, Examination and Examination Methods, Admission Examination for Bachelor and Master Studies).

MA Degree Examination

The committee examination is carried out at the end of the 2nd semester of the Master's degree and serves to verify the students' studies thus far and the status quo of the Master's project and ongoing work. The students present the progress of their work and explain the planned steps towards successful and timely completion. The content and the appropriate form of the presentation – be it an artistic presentation, verbal lecture etc. – are chosen by the students and to be submitted in writing in advance. The presentation itself is followed by a critical questioning of the candidate by the examination board.

Students who register on time and have sufficient study success are admitted to the examination. Examinations are determined by the relevant bodies of JAM MUSIC LAB University and published on the Institute's website.

Master's Examination

The Master's examination with exam committee consists of two practical parts (internal examination and external/public examination concert of about 45 minutes each) and an oral part in the form of a defence of the written Master's thesis. The defence consists of an approximately 30 minute verbal presentation of the submitted work, followed by a subsequent critical questioning of the candidate by the examination committee.

Students who register on time and have sufficient study success are admitted to the examination. Examinations are determined by the relevant bodies of JAM MUSIC LAB University and published on the Institute's website.

4. Prospective Professional Fields and Qualifications after Master's Degree

As musicians and music makers, graduates have outstanding artistic and professional qualifications and the social competence to compete in the current international professional reality. As performers and creative musicians they can work freelance as part of their own projects, as soloists and/or as ensemble members in various musical groups and orchestras focusing on Jazz, Pop, Rock, theatre, musicals, TV programs, film music etc.. Graduates can also work in other active areas of professional music, art and culture mediation, especially in the context of teaching and research activities in the field of higher education

In addition to their expertise in the field of artistic production, performance and research, which is tied to the practical experience gained by interacting with areas such as music management as part of the Master's degree, graduates now have best possible prerequisites for leading activities in the field of artistic projects, in arts and cultural management and in the work fields of the creative and media sectors.

5. Awarding of the degree "Master of Arts in Music"

The academic degree "Master of Arts in Music" is awarded after completion of the Masters's examination and all prescribed lectures before the annual graduation ceremony of JAM MUSIC LAB University, which concludes the summer semester. The corresponding document can be produced in either German or English.

6. Course Plan



Course Curriculum

Master's Degree Program: Music (MA-M) – Master of Arts in Music

ECTS: Compulsory modules (Modules 1-8) ECTS 100, free-choice modules and electives (Modules 9A-9F) ECTS 20 (in total: ECTS 108)

Cross-Faculty Master's Degree Program							
Compulsory Modules							
Courses	H/W	CRS	Yr. 1		Yr. 2		ECTS
			Sem. 1	Sem. 2	Sem. 3	Sem. 4	
			ECTS	ECTS	ECTS	ECTS	
Master's Module 1 - Central Artistic Subject (MAS)			Yr. 1		Yr. 2		40,0
MA MAS	1,25	MAS	10	10	10	10	40,0
Master's Module 2 - Artistic Practice (AP)			Yr. 1		Yr. 2		32,0
Master's Project	2	MP	8	8	8	8	32,0
see electives and particular information on obligatory participation							
Master's Module 3 - Music Pedagogy Theory and Practice (MTP)			Yr. 1		Yr. 2		0,0
see electives							
Master's Module 4 - Practice and Technology of Music Production			Yr. 1		Yr. 2		0,0
see electives							
Master's Module 5 - Applied Theory and History of Music (THM)			Yr. 1		Yr. 2		4,0
The Interdisciplinary Nature of Art 1-2	1,5	SE	2	2	0	0	4,0
see electives							
Master's Module 6 - Scientific and Artistic Research (SAR)			Yr. 1		Yr. 2		4,0
MA Graduated Seminar 1-2	1	SE	0	0	2	2	4,0
see electives and particular information on obligatory participation							
Master's Module 7 - Career Orientation and Professionalisation (CP)			Yr. 1		Yr. 2		4,0
Music Business/Management 1-4	0,5	SP	1	1	1	1	4,0
see electives and particular information on obligatory participation							
Master's Module 8 - Master Thesis and Examination (MTE)			Yr. 1		Yr. 2		16,0
Master Thesis			0	0	2	2	4,0
Master Examination			0	4	0	8	12,0
Total ECTS / Semester			21	25	23	31	100,0
Total ECTS / Study Year			46		54		100,0
Master's Module 9 - Free Choice Modules and Electives			Yr. 1		Yr. 2		20,0
Distribution of ECTS from modules 9A-9F			6	6	4	4	20,0
ECTS TOTAL			58		62		120,0

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Cross-Faculty Master's Degree Program
Free Choice Modules and Electives

Free choice modules and electives are allocated according to the available places as well as previous knowledge that is required for participation. The selection of these modules must be done in such a way that the specified minimum amount of ECTS points are acquired in elective modules A,B,E and F.

Courses	H/W	CRS	ECTS	ECTS	ECTS
Master's Module 9 - Elective A / Artistic Practice: obligatory participation of at least 4 ECTS					19,0
MA Ensemble 1-2	1,5	EL	2	2	4,0
MA Ensemble Advanced Studio Recording 1-2	1,5	P	2	2	4,0
MA Big Band 1-2	1,5	EL	2	2	4,0
MA Training - Rhythm Section 1-2	1,5	P	2	2	4,0
MA Piano Minor Study for Non-Pianists/Second Instrument for Pianists 1-2	0,5	EL	1	1	2,0
Guest Lecturer/Seminar/Workshop/Excursion (updated each semester)	0,5		0,5	0,5	1,0
Master's Module 9 - Elective B / Music Pedagogy Theory und Practice					15,0
MA Elementary Music Pedagogy 1-2	1,5	LP	2	2	4,0
MA Intercultural Music Pedagogy 1-2	1,5	L	2	2	4,0
MA Didactics of Jazz and Popular Music 1-2	1,5	SP	2	2	4,0
MA Ensemble Conducting/Management - Jazz/Popular Music 1-2	0,5	SP	1	1	2,0
Guest Lecturer/Seminar/Workshop/Excursion (updated each semester)	0,5		0,5	0,5	1,0
Master's Module 9 - Elective C / Practice and Technology of Music Production					10,0
MA Music Processing 1-2	1	LP	1,5	1,5	3,0
MA Studio Internship 1-2	1	LP	1,5	1,5	3,0
MA Media Music 1-2	1	LP	1,5	1,5	3,0
Guest Lecturer/Seminar/Workshop/Excursion (updated each semester)	0,5		0,5	0,5	1,0
Master's Module 9 - Elective D / Applied Theory / History / Philosophy / Art					16,0
MA Aural Training 1-2	1	L	1,5	1,5	3,0
MA Advanced Harmony and Theory 1-2	1	P	1,5	1,5	3,0
MA Advanced Arranging and Composing 1-2	1	P	1,5	1,5	3,0
Philosophy and Art History 1-2	1	L	1,5	1,5	3,0
History of Media Music 1-2	1	LP	1,5	1,5	3,0
Guest Lecturer/Seminar/Workshop/Excursion (updated each semester)	0,5		0,5	0,5	1,0
Master's Module 9 - Elective E / Scientific and Artistic Research: obligatory participation of at least 4 ECTS					33,0
MA Laboratory for Music Research / Composition 1-2	1	RS	2	2	4,0
MA Laboratory for Music Research / Improvisation 1-2	1	RS	2	2	4,0
MA Laboratory for Music Research / Performance 1-2	1	RS	2	2	4,0
MA Laboratory for Music Research / Cross Culture Studies 1-2	1	RS	2	2	4,0
MA Laboratory for Music Research / Media Music 1-2	1	RS	2	2	4,0
MA Laboratory for Music Research / Didactics in Jazz and Popular Music 1-2	1	RS	2	2	4,0
MA Laboratory for Music Research / Music and Personal Identity 1-2	1	RS	2	2	4,0
MA Artists in Residence Programs 1-2	1	RS	2	2	4,0
Guest Lecturer/Seminar/Workshop/Excursion (updated each semester)	0,5		0,5	0,5	1,0
Master's Module 9 - Elective F / Career Orientation and Professionalisation: obligatory participation of at least 2 ECTS					15,0
MA Music Work Placement 1-2	2	INT	2	2	4,0
MA Media Music Work Placement 1-2	2	INT	2	2	4,0
MA Music Pedagogy Work Placement 1-2	2	INT	2	2	4,0
Project Management/Public Relations 1-2	1	SP	1	1	2,0
Guest Lecturer/Seminar/Workshop/Excursion (updated each semester)	0,5		0,5	0,5	1,0
Total ECTS of all Electives 9A-9F			54	54	108,0

ECTS = European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System

MAS: Main Artistic Subject / L: Lecture / LP: Lecture with practice / LC: Lecture with Conservatorium / P: Practice / SE: Seminar / RS: Research seminar / SP: Seminar with practice

PS: Proseminar / INT: Internship / MSI: Main Artistic Subject with individual lessons / MSG: Main Artistic Subject with group lessons / EL: Ensemble lesson / EX: Excursion

7. Types of Lectures / Term glossary, abbreviations:

MAS:	Main artistic subject
L:	Lecture
LP:	Lecture with practice
LK:	Lecture with Conservatorium
P:	Practice
SE:	Seminar
RS:	Research seminar
SP:	Seminar with practice
PS:	Proseminar
INT:	Intership
MSI:	Main artistic subject with individual lessons
MSG:	Main artistic subject with group lessons
EL:	Ensemble lesson
EX:	Excursion

8. Description of MA Modules

Preamble

The curriculum content of the Master's degree is divided into nine modules, which is done so according to the main focus of the program. By having such an extensive variety of interdisciplinary options made available to all students of the Master's degree, it allows for a high degree of interdisciplinary expertise formation as well as the best possible development of individual talents and additional qualifications. The different courses in the areas of the arts, music education and applied media music can act as compulsory or elective modules in each case depending on the given student's chosen study major.

At the same time, the MA modules are structured (in terms of content variability) in such a way that the respective Master's projects of the students and the related necessary activities of practice, career orientation and research are broadly supported.

Master's Module 1: Main Artistic Subject (MAS)

Building on the qualifications acquired in the Bachelor's degree program as part of the MAS, students of the Master's degree enter a process of intensified specialisation and maximum professionalisation of their abilities, as well as the introduction to concepts involving artistic research as part of the Master's project.

Students, together with the teachers of the MAS, discuss the musical, artistic and organisational challenges of their project and, in a collaborative manner, determine related work and decisions regarding the elective modules that are to be covered.

Master's Module 2: Artistic Practice (MA AP)

At the center of the Master's Module 2: Artistic Practice is the realisation of the respective Master's projects of the students in the form of different working and research teams. In this compulsory elective, students are afforded the particularly valuable opportunity to deepen and perfect their expertise in the field of ensemble performance and to further refine skills associated with musical interaction and communication. High demands in the musical implementation and appropriation of repertoire from a wide range of different genres and related interpretive and improvisational concepts are central to the undertaken work.

Master's Module 3: Music Pedagogy Theory and Practice (MA MTP)¹

In the Master's Module 3: Music Pedagogy Theory and Practice, students deepen central expertise, which enables them, beyond the exercise of their own artistic work, to convey concepts of music-related knowledge and professional proficiency in the field of music education. The focus is on adequate mediation models in the fields of Jazz and Popular Music, as well as the comprehensive challenges for present-day music teachers in terms of the overall social relevance of their work.

Master's Module 4: Practice and Technology of Music Production (MA PTM)²

In the Master's Module 4: Practice and Technology of Music Production, students deepen central expertise in the understanding and application of current media and technology in music production. In the course of the Master's degree, the module offers opportunities for the specialisation of students' individual working concepts as well as allowing them to develop a sense of professionalism to the highest degree. Musical concepts and their consequent realisation in the context of applied music are analysed and worked out in a practical manner. This is done so with specific attention to various, multifaceted aspects and the interrelationships between production technology, the desired functioning and effect, as well as the various forms of artistic aesthetics and design.

Master's Module 5: Applied Theory and History of Music (MA THM)

In Master's Module 5: Applied Theory and History of Music, the focus lies predominantly in the investigation of current musical trends and movements and in their general relations to art and society. Interdisciplinary concepts in connection with music and other art forms, especially those of contemporary visual media, also undergo investigation.

Master's Module 6: Scientific and Artistic Research (MA SAR)

In Module 6: Scientific and Artistic Research, the concepts of scientific work and applied art-related production are further deepened and set into interaction with one another. In addition to a seminar offer, which accompanies the realisation of the written Master's thesis, students are offered "MA Laboratories for Music Research" to further intensify their research activities, in particular those of the Master's project. The development and research of artistic methods in science and the application of scientific approaches in artistic creation are put into interaction here and form an integral part of the institute's approach to university education as ongoing processes of lively research practice.

Master's Module 7: Career Orientation and Professionalisation (MA CP)

In the Master's Module 7: Career Orientation and Professionalisation, students deepen their already established professional experience in various sector-specific work fields, be it as a professional musician, music teacher, music producer, composer, as well as in cooperation with related project organisation. Special qualifications in the extended field of music management and project responsibility, as well as communication and public relations work, are developed by means of specific courses for students of all fields of study.

The institute's internal development program "JAZZUBATOR" offers a wide range of concerts, workshops, internships, seminars and lectures on the range of topics related to Master's Module 7: <http://www.jammusiclab.at/pages/jazzubator/>

The yearly updated course offer of Module 7 also includes presentations by guest lecturers who, as outstanding representatives of their field, comment on relevant developments in the current market.

¹ Module 3: Music Pedagogy Theory and Practice is available to students of the "Master of Arts in Music" degree program as an elective module

² Module 4: Practice and Technology of Music Production is available to students outside the "Master of Arts in Music / Media Music" degree program as an elective module

Module 8: Master's Thesis and Examinations (MTE)

Module 8: Master's Thesis and Examinations comprises of the preparatory work that the students must undertake for the examinations "Presentation: Master's Project" and "Master's Examination". The ability to develop independent research-led artistic concepts, as well as their verbal presentation and artistic performance must be demonstrated.

Master's Module 9: Free Choice Modules and Electives (MA FCE)

In Master's Module 9: Free Choice Modules and Electives, within the guidelines of the respective field of study, students choose from prescribed electives, which must fit according to the respective ECTS quota. Students also choose, still with regard to their individual specialisation, from a defined range of free choice electives and, where applicable, those of other fields of study offered and made accessible to students in the context of interdisciplinary exchange.

Part of the free choice electives is an annually redefined range of subject-related lectures, seminars, workshops and projects.

The offer of Master's Module 9 promotes the cross-faculty communication of teachers and students alike and thus, furthering the ongoing exchange of subject-related knowledge and practical know-how.

In principle, content-relevant courses which have been successfully completed at other comparable institutes may be documented for accreditation with studies in JAM MUSIC LAB University.

The assigning of electives and free-choice electives are subject to offers in a given semester, as well as available places.

Completion of MA modules

The completion of modules is dependant on various conditions and is defined in detail by the following criteria:

- successfully completed individual subjects
- Achievement of the following expertise levels:
 - a) MA Expertise Level 1: Project planning research
 - b) MA Expertise Level 2: Independent scientific/artistic work and research

All modules in Master studies can be provided in the form of 2-semester units as a "transcript of records".