Description of the training component

Please note that this is a translation of the Norwegian description of the training component. In case of discrepancies between the Norwegian and English versions of this text, the Norwegian version takes precedence.

Norwegian Artistic Research School

The Norwegian Artistic Research School was established in 2018 as a collaboration between Diku – the Norwegian Agency for International Cooperation and Quality Enhancement in Higher Education, the Norwegian Academy of Music, Oslo National Academy of the Arts, the University of Bergen and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology. All accredited Norwegian educational institutions with study programmes that lead to a PhD degree in artistic research may accede to the cooperation agreement after approval of the contracting parties.

The research school is aimed at research fellows in programmes that lead to a PhD degree in artistic research, as well as research fellows attached to the Norwegian Artistic Research Programme through the research fellowship programme.

By offering joint professional training, the research school will enhance the candidates’ own doctoral work, and contribute to further development of ‘the Norwegian Model’ for artistic research, which takes art and the artistic practice as its point of departure, and is characterised by reflection and cross-disciplinary communication and cooperation.

The research school will offer training that is relevant to the full disciplinary breadth of artistic research. Through the research school, the research fellows will acquire knowledge of and skills and competence in artistic research in accordance with the Norwegian Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning (NKR).

Name: Norwegian Artistic Research School
Study level: PhD. The training can be part of the required joint professional coursework in an institutional doctoral degree programme in artistic research.
Teaching semester: First–fifth semester
Duration: 500–600 hours (total workload corresponding to 20 credits)
Teaching language: English
Teaching location: Can vary
Objectives and content
The objective of the Norwegian Artistic Research School is to give research fellows an introduction to methods, theory and ethics as they relate to artistic research, as well as training in disseminating the results of artistic research. The joint professional training is intended to support research fellows’ artistic PhD projects and contribute to professional depth and breadth.

Learning outcomes
After completing the research school’s programme, research fellows are expected to have achieved the following learning outcomes:

Knowledge: The candidate ...
• masters fundamental theory relating to artistic research
• can describe the diversity in theories and methods in artistic research, and reflect on and argue for choices of methods and processes in own artistic research
• can contribute to the discourse on artistic research

Skills: The candidate ...
• can formulate research questions and plan the artistic research, with the focus on artistic processes and results
• can work on complex questions, and challenge established discourses and practices in the field
• can deal with interdisciplinary questions in artistic research

Competence: The candidate ...
• can discuss ethical principles and concerns in artistic research
• can identify ethical issues and can engage in artistic research with integrity
• can share artistic research in relevant national and international contexts
• can participate in debates in the field in international forums

Admission
Participants must have been accepted for a PhD programme in artistic research or the Norwegian Artistic Research Fellowship Programme. It is the institutions that sign up candidates for the research school. Deadlines for registration are advertised annually.

Work and teaching methods
Training is provided through seminars, conferences and in other relevant forums, and through contact with other research fellows and peers who work in the field of artistic research nationally and internationally. Work and teaching methods include lectures, workshops, various forms of sharing artistic research and discussions. The discussions are related to each research fellow’s project and to artistic research in general, with the emphasis on the transfer value in relation to the research fellow’s own artistic research. The training can take place in both large and small groups.

The research fellows are expected to prepare and familiarise themselves with different material in advance, which is then shared and discussed at the seminars. At the conferences, the research fellows meet national and international projects and professional environments in the field of artistic research. The research fellows present and discuss their own projects and take part in relevant discourses. By sharing their own artistic research project, the research fellows contribute to developing their respective artistic fields. The conferences provide an opportunity for interdisciplinary exchanges and are an arena for a more general discourse on artistic research.
Assessment
Attendance is registered and a record is kept of whether work requirements are met. This information is communicated to each candidate’s institution, which decides whether the training can be approved as part of the institution’s required interdisciplinary coursework.

Reading list
A general reading list is updated and published annually. In addition, a supplementary and less extensive reading list relating to each activity may be published.

Evaluation
The programme is quality assured:
Annually through:
- an evaluation among the participants after activities.
- an evaluation among candidates who have completed the research school.
- an exchange of experience and discussions at a dialogue meeting with the institutions.
Every three years through:
- an expanded evaluation that also includes supervisors and relevant representatives of the participating institutions.
- an evaluation from candidates who have held doctoral defences in the past three years.
Every six years through:
- a more extensive evaluation that includes external peers.
Institutions that have research fellows participating in the research school’s programme will be given access to the results of the evaluations.

Education quality assurance
The Board of the Norwegian Artistic Research School is responsible for the content and quality of the training.

Administrative responsibility
Diku – the Norwegian Agency for International Cooperation and Quality Enhancement in Higher Education, represented by the Norwegian Artistic Research Programme, has administrative responsibility for the research school.