

Course plan 2025–2026

Supplements the document 'Norwegian Artistic Research School, description of the training component'.

1 April 2025

Nasjonal forskerskole i
kunstnerisk utviklingsarbeid
Norwegian Artistic Research School

Norwegian Artistic Research School – Course plan 2025–2026

The Norwegian Artistic Research School constitutes a whole. It consists of a series of seminars, conferences, and digital resources where the full learning outcome is achieved through participation in the whole program.

Work on most of the learning outcomes extends over several seminars/conferences and require use of the digital resources.

After completing the research school's program, PhD students are expected to have achieved the following learning outcomes:

- *masters fundamental theory of 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*
- *can formulate research questions and carry out artistic research, with 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*
- *can identify and discuss ethical issues and can engage in artistic research with integrity*
- *can share artistic research in relevant national and international contexts*
- *can participate in professional exchanges of opinions in international forums*



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Structure

Module 1: Introduction to artistic research (equal to credits: 2)	
Digital learning resource (<i>introduction to artistic research</i>)	
Digital seminar (1 day)	October or March
In-person seminar (1 day) and preparatory assignments	October or March

Module 2: Methods and sharing (equal to credits: 4)	
Digital learning resource (<i>methods and sharing</i>)	
In-person seminar (3 days) and preparatory assignments	May (2 nd semester)

Module 3: Ethics and relations (equal to credits: 4)	
Digital learning resource (<i>ethics and relations</i>)	
In-person seminar (3 days) and preparatory assignments	September (3 rd semester)

Module 4: The PhD result (equal to credits: 4)	
Digital learning resource (<i>artistic outcome and reflection</i>)	
In-person seminar (3 days) and preparatory assignments	June (4 th semester)

Artistic Research Forum (equal to credits: 6)	
Participation only	October/March
Presentation and preparatory assignments	October/March
Presentation and preparatory assignments	October/March
Presentation and preparatory assignments	October/March

Module 1: Introduction

The participants will be introduced to the historical development of and different models for artistic research, with particular emphasis on what is distinctive about the Norwegian PhD model. We discuss the difference between research on, for and through the arts, and the connection between artistic research and artistic practice. Further, we discuss which research topics and questions are dealt with in artistic research and what characterises knowledge production. Key concepts in artistic research – nationally and internationally – are elaborated on. The participants will also be introduced to the Norwegian Artistic Research School and relevant learning resources and tools. We will very briefly introduce ethics, and we will investigate different ways of sharing artistic research.

The module consists of three components:

- An online resource (Research Catalogue) which will be made available to the PhD students and supervisors as soon as the PhD student is registered in the research school.
- An online introductory seminar. The seminar will give an introduction to the research school (including guidance in the use of the online resource).
- An in-person seminar. In the seminar the PhD student will be asked to introduce themselves and to share their research project in a plenary or a group work session.
- We recommend that the PhD student take part in the first conference (Artistic Research Forum, ARF) immediately after the in-person seminar.

Recommended semester:

First semester. The module must normally be completed before the PhD student can participate in the next modules.

Duration:

A total workload of 50–60 hours, corresponding to 2,0 credits.

The seminar relates especially to the following learning outcomes:

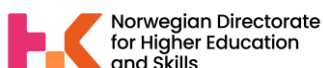
- masters fundamental theory of artistic research
- can describe the diversity in theories and methods in artistic research, and reflect on and argue for choices of methods and processes in own artistic research
- can formulate research questions and carry out artistic research, with focus on artistic processes and results
- can deal with interdisciplinary questions in artistic research
- can share artistic research in relevant national and international contexts

Work and teaching methods:

Preparatory assignments, lectures, presentations in varied formats, workshops and discussions.

Coursework requirements:

- Make yourself familiar with the online resource and the literature/projects on the reference list
- Submit a bio and project abstract in a relevant format
- Give a presentation of your research project
- Contribute to the discussions about the other PhD students' research projects



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Module 2: Methods and sharing

The module is about sharing and documentation, with an emphasis on the diversity of methods within the field of artistic research. Based on the PhD students' projects, different site- and time-specific and permanent formats for presentation and documentation are discussed, as well as how they influence work methods, artistic results, and reflections.

Recommended semester:

Second semester. Module 1 must normally be completed to qualify for participation.

Duration:

A total workload of 100–120 hours, corresponding to 4 credits.

The module relates especially to the following learning outcomes:

- masters fundamental theory of 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 formulate research questions and carry out artistic research, with focus on artistic processes and results
- can contribute to the discourse on artistic research
- can share artistic research in relevant national and international contexts

Work and teaching methods:

In-person seminar based on a digital resource, preparatory assignments related to the seminar topics, lectures, presentations in varied formats, plenary discussions, and discussions in groups. The assignments and supplementary readings will be shared at least one month before the seminar.

Coursework requirements (before the seminar):

- Make yourself familiar with the online resource and the literature/projects on the reference list
- Submit the material requested in the preparatory assignments
- Familiarise yourself with the other fellows' shared material
- Prepare a presentation in a relevant format

During the seminar, PhD students must give a presentation and play an active part in the discussion of the other PhD students' projects.

Moule 3: Ethics and relations

The module is about ethics in artistic research and artistic practice. It provides an introduction to basic research ethics and ethics in the arts, as well as methods for mapping ethical dimensions of artistic research. Various ethical challenges and potentials are discussed based on the PhD students' projects. We will further investigate and discuss relationships in artistic research. Based on the PhD students' research projects, endeavours are made to map relations and how they influence artistic processes and results in the different phases of projects. The seminar leaders share experiences in leading and carrying out complex artistic projects.

Recommended semester:

Second semester. Module 1 must normally be completed to qualify for participation.

Duration:

A total workload of 100–120 hours, corresponding to 4 credits.

The module relates especially to the following learning outcomes:

- can contribute to the discourse on artistic research
- can formulate research questions and plan artistic research, with 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
- can identify and discuss ethical issues and can engage in artistic research with integrity
- can share artistic research in relevant national and international contexts

Work and teaching methods:

In-person seminar based on a digital resource, preparatory assignments related to the seminar topics, lectures, presentations in varied formats, plenary discussions, and discussions in groups. The assignments and supplementary readings will be shared at least one month before the seminar.

Coursework requirements (before the seminar):

- Make yourself familiar with the online resource and the literature/projects on the reference list
- Submit the material requested in the preparatory assignments
- Familiarise yourself with the other fellows' shared material
- Prepare a presentation in a relevant format

During the seminar, PhD students must give a presentation and play an active part in the discussion of the other PhD students' projects.



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Module 4: The PhD result

The module is about the final phase of the artistic research project, and the identification and sharing of the contribution(s) to the field. Based on the PhD students' projects, the fellows and the seminar leaders discuss various forms of contributions, as well as different formats for final presentations, documentation and the archiving of artistic results and reflections.

Recommended semester:

Fourth semester. Module 1 must normally be completed to qualify for participation. It is recommended to also have completed module 2-3 before participation in module 4.

Scope:

A total workload of 100–120 hours, corresponding to 4 credits.

The module relates especially to the following learning outcome:

- can contribute to the discourse on artistic research
- can formulate research questions and plan artistic research, with 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
- can identify and discuss ethical issues and can engage in artistic research with integrity
- can share artistic research in relevant national and international contexts

Work and teaching methods:

In-person seminar based on a digital resource, preparatory assignments related to the seminar topics, lectures, presentations in varied formats, plenary discussions, and discussions in groups. The assignments and supplementary readings will be shared at least one month before the seminar.

Coursework requirements (before the seminar):

- Make yourself familiar with the online resource and the literature/projects on the reference list
- Submit the material requested in the preparatory assignments
- Familiarise yourself with the other fellows' shared material
- Prepare a presentation in a relevant format

During the seminar, PhD students must give a presentation, lead a group work session, and play an active part in the discussion of other PhD students' projects.

Conferences (Artistic Research Forums)

The conferences are important arenas for a constructive critical dialogue with the interdisciplinary national and international professional community. They provide opportunities to share the project 1) at an early stage, so that the professional environment can be invited to participate in reflection on contextualisation and research methods, 2) at an intermediate stage, so that the professional environment can be invited to participate in reflection on important changes in the project, ethical challenges, and delimitations, and 3) towards the final stage, so that the professional environment can be invited to participate in reflection on artistic choices, and forms of presentation and documentation. The fellows can also address other questions that are urgent in the project.

Recommended semesters:

First – fifth semester.

Scope:

Four three-day conferences (at least in-person attendee at three of the conferences)*. The PhD students present their ongoing research at three of the conferences and are also expected to contribute with questions and comments on the other PhD students' presentations. Preparatory and follow-up work comes in addition. A total workload of 150-180 hours, corresponding to 6,0 credits.

The conferences relate especially to the following learning outcomes:

- 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
- can formulate research questions and plan artistic research, with 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
- can identify and discuss ethical issues and can engage in artistic research with integrity
- can share artistic research in relevant national and international contexts
- can participate in professional exchanges of opinions in international forums

Work and teaching methods:

Conferences where artistic research projects are shared and discussed. The PhD students shed light on their projects from different perspectives, and a progression is expected over time in terms of the depth of the discussion.

Coursework requirements:

PhD students must read the conference abstracts, attend the presentations and play an active part in the discussion of other PhD students' projects. For three of the conferences, the PhD student must prepare an abstract and hold a presentation in a relevant format.

* In-person conferences can be replaced by digital conferences if there are specific reasons, and if it's agreed on by the institution in the PhD student's individual progress plan. However, if the PhD student attend less than three in-person conferences, the total number of conferences must be at least five.



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Reference list

The digital learning resources, available through [Norwegian Artistic Research School \(researchcatalogue.net\)](https://researchcatalogue.net/)

Mandatory readings for the research school as a whole:

(Module 1)

Borgdorff, H. (2012). The Production of Knowledge in Artistic Research. Chapter 7 in: The conflict of the faculties: Perspectives on artistic research and academia (pp. 140–173).

Retrieved from: <https://openaccess.leidenuniv.nl/bitstream/handle/1887/18704/07.pdf?sequence=11>

Cotter, L. (2019): "Reclaiming Artistic Research", Introduction to first edition. Hatje Cantz Verla

Butt, D. (2017). Artistic Research in the future Academy, [Chapter 3. Artistic Research: Defining the field](#), from Intellect Books, Briston, UK.

Doherty, C. (2021). Artistic Research in Africa - a conversation with Berhanu Ashagrie Deribew [podcast]. Arts Research Africa (ARA) Podcast. Available at: <https://www.listennotes.com/podcasts/arts-research/ara-podcast-artistic-At9Lh4Eciuz/>

Doherty, C. (2021). Reflections on Artistic Research as a Decolonising Strategy in Africa: the ARA2020 Conference. JAR Journal for Artistic Research. Retrieved from: [Reflections on Artistic Research as a Decolonising Strategy in Africa: the ARA2020 Conference | JAR \(jar-online.net\)](#)

(Module 2)

Arlander, A (2014): "Om metoder i konstnärlig forskning / On methods of artistic research" in Torbjörn Lind (ed.) *Metod – Process – Redovisning Konstnärlig Forskning Årsbok 2014 Vetenskapsrådet 2014, Method – Process – Reporting Artistic Research Yearbok* . p. 26-39.

Bärtås, M. (2010): You told me. Thesis for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Fine Art. Valand School of Fine Arts, Faculty of Fine, Applied and Performing Arts, University of Gothenburg, p. 43-76. Retrieved from: https://gupea.ub.gu.se/bitstream/2077/22325/1/gupea_2077_22325_1.pdf

Crispin, D. (2019). Artistic Research as a Process of Unfolding. Unfolding the Process, An International, Peer Reviewed Issue, Published by Norwegian Academy of Music.

Retrieved from: <https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/503395/503396>



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Hübner, F. (2020): Against Method? Common Ground? Conference proceedings for CARPA 6.
Retrieved from: <https://nivel.teak.fi/carpa6/falk-hubner-against-method-common-ground/>

(Module 3)

Eeg-Tverrbakk, C. (2020). Perspectives on Ethics in Performance Practice. Retrieved from.
<https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/699306/768304>. This article is a contribution to the Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership Project 2018-2021, *Advancing Supervision for Artistic Research Doctorates* funded by Erasmus+ and the project partners.

Fossheim, H. J. (2015). Confidentiality, The Norwegian National Research Ethics Committees.
Retrieved from: <https://www.etikkom.no/en/library/topics/data-protection-and-responsibility-concerning-the-individual/confidentiality/>

Fossheim, H. J. (2015). Consent, The Norwegian National Research Ethics Committees.
Retrieved from: <https://www.etikkom.no/en/library/topics/data-protection-and-responsibility-concerning-the-individual/consent/>

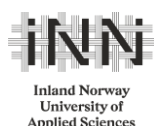
Gundersen, J. et al (2020). [Map Ethics! A method for identifying and addressing ethical dimensions of artistic research projects](#). [Map Ethics!](#) is part of the Strategic Partnership Project Advancing Supervision for Artistic Research Doctorates, supported by Erasmus+.

(Module 4)

All titles.

Conferences (Artistic Research Forum):

Abstracts published in advance of the conferences.



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