

At Iceland Academy of the Arts (IAA) Practice based research is taught through the modules *The Artist as a Researcher* and *Doing Things With Art*, which are compulsory modules for all MA students in Music and Performing Arts at IAA.

The Artist as a Researcher

6 ECTS

Course title: The Artist as a Researcher

Course code: TAARI06MS

ECTS: 6

Semester: Autumn

Prerequisites: Admission to the NAIP programme

Language of instruction: English

Compulsary for students on NAIP master

Description

The Artist as Researcher – Module 1 invites students to explore the extent to which different research methods and approaches – from writing research papers, to conducting interviews to curating a research oriented event – can deepen an artist's capacity to produce knowledge through and around their artistic practice – as well as the artistic practice of others.

Through readings, practical exercises, artist talks and group-led discussions – students will develop a research question of their own and explore that question throughout the programme.

Learning outcomes

To bring each artist studying on the programme closer to their own artistic questions, goals and objectives.

To equip each artist studying on the programme with tools and skills for talking about artistic practice, writing about it, and building discussion around it.

To equip each artist with tools, skills and knowledge for contextualising their artistic practice – or the artistic practice of others.

To equip each student with an awareness of artistic research as a field and provide practical tools and methods for undertaking artistic research.

To explore and experiment with developing a research question.

To explore and experiment with addressing a research question through a range of research modes.

Assessment methods

Students will be assessed on participation in the class, assignments will be given weekly, with closing research assignments given at the end.

The course is a pass or fail. And students will need to complete all assignments and attend no less than 90% of the course to pass.

Name of lecturers

Alexander Graham Roberts, Berglind María Tómasdóttir

Doing Things With Art

4 ECTS

Course title: Doing Things With Art

Course code: DTWA004MS

ECTS: 4

Semester: Autumn

Prerequisites: Admission to the NAIP programme

Language of instruction: English

Compulsary for students on NAIP master

Description

When art theorist Florian Malzacher argues that 'it's time to put the urinal back on the wall, and make art useful again', how are we to understand 'useful'?

Taking Plato and Aristotle as a starting point, and working through to contemporary thinkers such as Claire Bishop, Dorothea von Hantelmann, Jacques Ranciere and Florian Malzacher among others, this course will explore a range of divergent paradigms that deal in one way or another with art's long standing concern for its own social, ethical and political potential, purpose and usefulness. Within this frame, this course will not only explore divergent paradigms for thinking about the social, political and ethical dynamics of artistic practice, but furthermore consider how these different paradigms might be seen to have altered artistic practice itself.

Taught as a shared course across the Performing Arts Department and the Music Department, this course will look draw upon examples from music, visual arts, theatre and dance – and test the relationship between artistic practice and concepts such 'resistance', 'outreach', 'participation', 'performativity', 'inclusion', 'representation', 'community-engagement', 'authorship', 'spectatorship', and 'activism'.

Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes include:

– To equip each artist studying on the programme with tools and skills for talking about their work, writing about it, and building discussion around it. As well as tools for talking about the work of others – in relation to 'the social', 'the political' and

‘the ethical’.

– To equip each artist with tools, skills and knowledge for contextualising their work and the work of others – socially, politically, ethically.

– To develop tools and skills for generating knowledge together – through shared discussions, reading, writing and talking – around art and aesthetics and its social, Political and ethical potential.

Assessment methods

Students will be assessed on participation in the class, with assignments will be given weekly.

The course is a pass or fail. And students will need to complete all assignments and attend no less than 90% of the course to pass.

Name of lecturers

Alexander Graham Roberts, Berglind María Tómasdóttir, Einar Torfi Einarsson