



CURRICULUM

ADVANCED POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN OPERA

Soloist class/Young artist programme

Approved October 2019, revised February 2024

Please note that the original Danish text is the governing text for all purposes and in case of discrepancy, the Danish wording will be applicable.

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GENERAL RULES

AUTHORITY

The curriculum for the Advanced Postgraduate Diploma in Opera is laid down under the authority of Executive Order no. 1476 of 01.10.2020 concerning the Danish Academies of Music and the Royal Opera Academy in the area of the Danish Ministry of Culture and Executive Order no. 333 of 06.05.1997, Executive Order on management of the Royal Opera Academy.

ECTS

The Advanced Postgraduate Diploma in Music is a full-time course of study corresponding to 120 ECTS credits. 60 points in the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) corresponds to one year of full-time studies. The programme is organised as a full-time study programme within a two-year timeframe.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENT AND ENTRY EXAMINATION

The entrance requirement for the programme is a completed Master's programme from an academy of music, or equivalent qualifications, and a passed entrance examination. The decision on whether to admit an applicant is taken by the Academy/Royal Opera Academy on the basis of a concrete assessment of the applicant's abilities and skills, undertaken by the Academy/Royal Opera Academy and one or more external moderators appointed by the Danish Ministry of Culture. The requirements of the music profession are also taken into consideration, as well as the need to attain an appropriate balance of instruments and voices.

Applicants who have concluded a Master's or soloist programme at the Academy or the Opera Academy can only be admitted to a new Master's or soloist programme if a study place is vacant. The same applies to applicants who have been enrolled twice previously in a Master's or soloist programme without having taken the final examination.

INTERNATIONAL FEE-PAYING STUDENTS

Prior to the commencement of studies, a legally binding agreement must be entered into between the Royal Danish Academy of Music and the student. (Contract determining the Conditions set for the Provision of Education for International Students at the Royal Danish Academy of Music.)

TITLE AWARDED

Graduates of the programme are entitled to use the Danish title *solist med opera som speciale*. The title in English is Advanced Postgraduate Diploma in Opera.

PURPOSE AND COMPETENCY PROFILE OF THE PROGRAMME

The purpose of the Advanced Postgraduate Diploma in Opera is to qualify the student for employment in Danish and international ensembles, opera companies and opera houses.

Knowledge

- In-depth knowledge and understanding of artistic practice on the basis of internationally-recognised artistic practice and artistic research, and the ability to independently handle challenges and issues of an artistic nature.
- Thorough understanding of studied works, on the basis of extensive repertoire knowledge, which supports and develops the student's artistic profile.
- Specialised knowledge of methods and tools to solve artistic, dramatic and vocal technical challenges.
- Specialised knowledge of the opera industry and of artistic practice at the highest professional level, together with the ability to independently undertake own career planning.

Skills

- Mastery, at the highest professional level, of vocal-technical, dramatic, rehearsal-related and artistic skills associated with employment as a performing opera singer.
- The ability to convey an independent artistic expression at the highest professional level.
- Skills to present oneself to employers, the media and the public.

Competencies

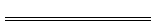
- Competency to undertake artistic activity with professional discipline at the highest professional level in complex and unpredictable work situations.
- Competency to take independent responsibility for one's own professional development and to expand one's own artistic perspective and identity.
- Competency to convey one's own artistic practice at the highest professional level.

STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

SCHEMA (ECTS AND TEACHING)


ADVANCED POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN OPERA

Subject complex	Subject	1st year	2nd year
Musical/vocal subjects	Musical/vocal subjects <i>(Including voice, vocal coaching and character studies)</i>	20 ECTS	20 ECTS
Drama subjects	Drama subjects <i>(Including drama and/or physical training and internship)</i>	20 ECTS	20 ECTS
	Submissions and final project	15 ECTS	15 ECTS
Alternative subjects	Alternative subjects <i>(Including career coaching)</i>	5 ECTS	5 ECTS
	TOTAL	60 ECTS	60 ECTS

The marking  indicates that the ECTS credits are triggered by certificate.

The marking  indicates that the ECTS credits are triggered by examination.

The marking  indicates the duration of the teaching.

The marking  indicates that there is a partial examination. The ECTS credits are released after the final examination.

1. MUSICAL AND VOCAL SUBJECTS

(1st-4th semester)

SINGING

(1st-4th semester)

Learning outcomes

At the conclusion of the subject, it is expected that the student will:

- Be able to realise his or her own vocal artistic ideas, and work independently with relevant issues at the highest professional level
- Be able to realise relevant opera parts at the highest professional level, and demonstrate a personal vocal and artistic identity
- Have rehearsed repertoire for use at auditions
- Have rehearsed 2-3 medium-sized opera parts in the original language

Learning content

Work is done on the further development of vocal and artistic skills, including ongoing work on the development of audition repertoire and character studies.

VOCAL COACHING

(1st-4th semester)

Learning outcomes

At the conclusion of the subject, it is expected that the student, at the highest professional level, will:

- Have acquired stylistic, linguistic and interpretative knowledge and skills, and the ability to apply these in independent methodological work in the rehearsal of relevant operatic literature, including audition repertoire and character studies

Learning content

Current repertoire is rehearsed in the original language, with the focus on musical, stylistic and linguistic/diction-related aspects of performance, as well as an understanding of the musical context.

CHARACTER STUDIES

(1st-3rd semester)

Learning outcomes

At the conclusion of the subject, it is expected that the student will:

- Have rehearsed 2-3 medium-sized opera parts in the original language
- Be able to meet the vocal and artistic demands of the parts, and demonstrate a personal interpretation of the role.
- Be able to demonstrate dramatic understanding of the whole of which the role is a part.

Learning content

Musical rehearsal of opera parts and a dramaturgical review of the relevant operas.

TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

Voice

Individual teaching.

Vocal coaching

Individual teaching.

Role studies

Individual teaching, and classes where relevant.

EXAMINATION REGULATIONS

VOICE

After the fourth semester

Learning outcomes

At the conclusion of the subject, it is expected that the student will:

- Be able to realise his or her own vocal artistic ideas and work independently with relevant issues at the highest professional level
- Be able to realise relevant opera parts at the highest professional level, and demonstrate a personal vocal and artistic identity
- Have rehearsed repertoire for use at auditions
- Have rehearsed 2-3 medium-sized opera parts in the original language

Examination form and duration

Integrated into the final graduation project and possible participation in performances of the Royal Theatre's repertoire.

Moderation and assessment

Assessment incorporated in the final graduation project.

Permitted examination aids

Not relevant.

Special provisions

See final graduation project after the fourth semester.

VOCAL COACHING

After the fourth semester

Learning outcomes

At the conclusion of the subject, it is expected that the student will:

- Have acquired stylistic, linguistic and interpretational knowledge and skills, and the ability to apply these in independent methodical work in the rehearsal of relevant operatic literature, including audition repertoire and character studies, at the highest professional level.

Examination form and duration

Integrated into possible performance participation and the final graduation project.

Moderation and assessment

Assessment is incorporated into the final graduation project.

Permitted examination aids

Not relevant.

Special provisions

Integrated into the final graduation project and possible participation in performances of the Royal Theatre's repertoire.

CHARACTER STUDIES

After the 3rd semesters

Learning outcomes

At the conclusion of the subject, it is expected that the student will:

- Have rehearsed 2-3 medium-sized opera parts in the original language
- Be able to meet the vocal demands of the parts and demonstrate a personal interpretation of the role.
- Be able to demonstrate dramatic understanding of the whole of which the role is a part.

Examination form and duration

Internal submission. Duration: 30 minutes, including assessment.

Moderation and assessment

The examination is assessed by the Opera Academy's principal and head of drama studies, as well as by the head of RDAM's voice department. The assessment awarded is pass/fail.

Permitted examination aids

Not relevant.

Special provisions

Prior to the examination, the student submits a repertoire list of the characters studied in the course. The repertoire list must be certified by the subject teacher.

From the repertoire list, the student and the moderator panel each select ten minutes of excerpts from the characters studied.

At the examination, the student performs the selected excerpts, with piano accompaniment. The excerpts are sung by heart and in the original language.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the repertoire list and the excerpts selected by the student are submitted on time to the Study Administration.

The Study Administration will announce the deadline for submission of the repertoire list and for submission of the moderators' choice.

2. Drama subjects

(1st-4th semester)

DRAMA AND/OR PHYSICAL TRAINING

(1st-4th semester)

Learning outcomes

At the conclusion of the subject, it is expected that the student will:

- Be able to work independently with acting techniques and scenic forms of work at the highest professional level.
- Be able to work independently with the physical aspects of the profession.
- Be capable of developing new solutions or artistic expressions in the encounter with complex challenges.

Learning content:

In dialogue with the student, the Opera Academy organises individual courses relating to drama and/or physical training. Where relevant, these courses support the student's internship and character studies.

To the extent possible, the student may attend classes in the subject in the Master's Programme in Voice Specialising in Opera.

Teaching and learning methods:

Classes and individual teaching

Examination regulations:

Examination form and duration

Integrated into the final graduation project after the fourth semester.

Moderation and assessment

See the final graduation project for moderation and assessment of this.

INTERNSHIP

(1st-4th semester)

Learning content

The internship is agreed between the student and the opera manager of the Royal Theatre, in dialogue with the management of the Opera Academy. The size and nature of the assignment will depend on the student's prerequisites and the current repertoire in the season in question.

Teaching and learning methods:

The student participates in one or more performances and is summoned for rehearsals and performances through the production manager of the Opera.

Examination regulations:

Learning outcomes

At the conclusion of the subject, it is expected that the student will:

- Be able to meet the artistic and practical requirements of working with opera production at the highest professional level.

Examination form and duration

Participation in performances.

Moderation and assessment

The internship is assessed by internal moderators, consisting of the opera manager of the Royal Theatre and the principal of the Opera Academy. The grade awarded for the internship is pass/fail.

Permitted examination aids

Not relevant.

Special provisions

The internship is agreed between the student and the opera manager of the Royal Theatre, in dialogue with the management of the Opera Academy. The size and nature of the assignment will depend on the student's prerequisites and the current repertoire in the season in question.

3. Alternative subjects

(2nd-4th semesters)

CAREER COACHING

2nd-4th semesters

Learning content:

Individual coaching sessions with the teachers of the Opera Academy and potentially classes/workshops. The teaching is organized by the head of the Opera Academy.

To the extent permitted by the individual internships, the student attends classes in entrepreneurship in RDAM's soloist class (Advanced Postgraduate Diploma in Music).

Examination regulations:

Learning outcomes

At the conclusion of the subject, it is expected that the student will:

- Have prepared relevant presentation material
- Be able to handle the encounter with relevant employers
- Be able to handle the encounter with the media and the public
- Possess insight into various formats for audience development

Examination form and duration

The subject is a certification subject, which is passed by active participation in teachings and submission of assignments during the course.

Moderation and assessment

If the certificate is not awarded, the student must submit a set written assignment of 5 standard pages. **One week** is allowed for the assignment. The test is assessed by the head of the Opera Academy. The grade awarded is pass/fail.

Permitted examination aids

Not relevant.

FINAL GRADUATION PROJECT

After the 4th semester

Learning content:

In dialogue with the student, the Opera Academy organises individual courses relating to drama and/or physical training. Where relevant, these courses support the student's internship and character studies.

To the extent possible, the student may attend classes in the subject in the Master's Programme in Voice Specialising in Opera.

Teaching and learning methods:

Classes and individual teaching, where relevant.

Learning outcomes

At the conclusion of the study programme, it is expected that the student will:

- Master, at the highest professional level, the artistic methods, tools and expressions of opera singing, and be able to realise and express a personal artistic identity.

Examination form and duration

The examination is divided into two submissions:

1. Scenic project or participation in the Royal Theatre's repertoire, to the extent assessed to be appropriate by the management of the Opera Academy
2. Audition examination

Moderation and assessment

The scenic project and the audition examination are assessed by external moderation and internal moderation consisting of the opera manager of the Royal Theatre, the Opera Academy's principal or his or her deputy, and an internal subject moderator who is not the teacher of the student's principal study. The principal of the Opera Academy or his or her deputy acts as the examination director.

The submissions are assessed in accordance with Executive Order no. 1476 of 01.10.2020 concerning the Danish Academies of Music and the Royal Opera Academy.

The assessment awarded for both submissions is Approved/Not approved, supplemented by a written statement on the student's technical standard.

Assessment criteria:

The assessment takes the form of an overall evaluation of the examinee's performance, with particular emphasis on:

- Independent and personal artistic expression
- Ability to communicate the works performed to an audience on artistic terms
- Ability to utilise technique as a means of conveying a personal artistic expression
- Loyalty of the interpretation towards the intentions of the composer and producer
- Overall impression of the submission
- Ability to communicate a text
- Integration of the musical and textual expression

Permitted examination aids

Not relevant.

Special provisions

In the scenic project, the student, in collaboration with his or her fellow students or students from the Master's programme of the Opera Academy, presents excerpts or complete works from the operatic literature chosen by the management of the Opera Academy in consultation with the responsible subject teachers. The repertoire must demonstrate fulfilment of the learning outcomes for the subject.

Participation in performances of the Royal Theatre's repertoire may substitute for the scenic project.

For the audition examination, the student prepares a repertoire list containing six arias, with a stylistic and linguistic variation that reflects the student's voice subjects. For the examination, the student chooses one aria, and the moderators subsequently choose two arias from the repertoire list. The arias are sung by heart and in the original language.

GUIDELINES FOR EXAMINATION AND ASSESSMENT

EXAMINATION GUIDELINES

These examination guidelines apply to the curricula for the Bachelor and Master's programmes.

BEFORE THE EXAMINATION

Examination basis

The examination basis is described in the curriculum that applies to the individual student. All of the curricula may be found at the Academy's website at www.dkdm.dk. All moderators must be familiar with the examination basis in advance of the holding of the examination.

Examination papers

The Study Administration is responsible for ensuring that copies are made of the relevant examination papers in advance of the examination.

An examination folder will typically contain an examination plan, assessment forms, curricula, the Assessment Order, guidelines for the holding of the examination, and possible programmes and repertoire lists. The internal moderator is responsible for collecting these from the Study Administration before the examination commences.

Prima vista tasks and set tasks

The examination regulations state who is responsible for providing a possible prima vista/set task.

Definition of a standard page

A standard page is defined as 2,400 characters, including spaces. Unless otherwise stated, the front page, bibliography, table of contents and any appendices are not included in the page count. Footnotes are included in the page count.

Other participants at the examination

The examination regulations stipulate who is responsible for ensuring the presence of other participants at the examination. If this is not stated in the curriculum, the Study Administration and the student's own teacher jointly agree who will be responsible.

Submission deadlines for logbooks, programmes, reports, repertoire lists, etc.

Submission deadlines for logbooks, programmes, reports, repertoire lists, etc. may be found on the Academy's intranet. Students who fail to submit compulsory examination materials on time, including the examination programme, may risk having the examination in question administratively cancelled and the student being registered as absent.

DURING THE EXAMINATION

Duration of the examination

It is the responsibility of the internal moderator to ensure that the prescribed normal or maximum duration of the examination is complied with. It is also the responsibility of the internal moderator to ensure that complex examinations with many participants are carried out according to plan by making sure that the timetable is adhered to. If an incorrect duration has been given in the examination submissions, the examinee must be prepared to allow the moderator panel to deselect parts of the programme. It is the responsibility of the internal moderator to inform the examinee in the event of a curtailment of the examination.

Access for observers

No observers are allowed to attend non-final examinations unless the examinee permits this. In the case of final examinations in the principal study, observers are allowed to attend unless the examinee does not permit this.

Factual errors

If formal errors are discovered during the course of the examination in relation to the examination regulations, the internal moderator is required to determine whether the examination can be completed. If the choice lies between postponing the examination and implementing it with major or minor deviations from the regulations, efforts should be made to ensure that the examinee is benefited as far as possible, and that the external moderator accepts possible deviations from the regulations. In case of cancellation of the examination (other than in the case of the absence of the student or the unavoidable absence of the moderator), the internal moderator must report this to the Study Administration in writing as soon as possible.

Absence of the examinee

If the student is absent from the examination, this will be noted on the assessment form, after which the examination will count as one of the three examination attempts to which the student is entitled. The assessment form must be signed by all moderators.

Absence of internal or external moderator

If the external moderator is absent without prior notice, it should be investigated whether the moderator can be replaced immediately or within a short space of time by another appointed moderator from the moderator list. In very special cases, an ad hoc appointed moderator may participate. Under normal circumstances, however, the examination will be cancelled. If the internal moderator is absent without prior notice, it should be investigated whether the moderator can be replaced immediately or within a short space of time by another moderator from the subject area. Under normal circumstances, however, the examination will be cancelled.

Absence of the student's teacher

If the student's own teacher is absent (either through unavoidable absence or absence without prior notice), the examination will be cancelled.

Absence of a contributing participant

If a participant is absent whose presence is required to complete the examination, the examination should only be conducted with a substitute if both the examinee and the moderator agree to this.

Absence of a performer

If one of the student's performers is absent, this will count as an examination attempt, and one attempt at the examination will be deemed to have been used up. If the absence is due to documented illness, this will be regarded as equivalent to the student himself or herself being absent due to illness, and a make-up examination will be planned. If a performer is absent and the student has found a replacement, efforts will be made to hold a re-examination as soon as possible.

Notification of assessment

All assessments will be notified in the examination room/assessment room. It is the responsibility of the internal moderator to inform the examinee of the outcome of the assessment. The grade (or the assessment Pass/Fail) should be communicated first, after which the internal moderator may supplement this with relevant remarks summarising the assessment of the moderators. The other moderators should not comment unless the internal moderator invites them to do so.

AFTER THE EXAMINATION

Appeals

The student is entitled to appeal the assessment awarded. The regulations governing appeals are set out in the Executive Order no. 1476 of 01.10.2020 concerning the Danish Academies of Music and the Royal Opera Academy. In connection with the examination, it is the responsibility of the internal moderator to inform the examinee of the appeals process, with reference to the Order.

GRADING

Grades are awarded in conformity with Executive Order no. 1244 of 11 December 2009 on Marking Scales and Other Forms of Assessment at Certain Educational Institutions Under the Danish Ministry of Culture.

ASSESSMENT OF PRIVATE STUDENTS

It is not possible for private students to register for the public concert (debut concert) of the Academy or the Opera Academy, or the like.

CREDIT, INTERNSHIP AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

CREDIT RULES

In connection with applications for academic credit, the student is required to obtain and present documentation to the extent required by the Academy.

RULES FOR INTERNSHIP

Internship may be included as a study element and an examination in the study programme. Internship may substitute for study elements corresponding to a maximum of 30 ECTS credits.

EXEMPTIONS

The Academy may grant exemptions from any rules in the curriculum that are determined solely by the Academy.

OTHER REGULATIONS AND DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

Disciplinary measures apply to all students at the Royal Danish Academy of Music, and students are therefore required to familiarise themselves with and keep themselves informed of the rules. In addition, all students are subject to the applicable student regulations, general rules for examinations and concert regulations that describe the specific rules for study activity, course registration, examinations and concert activities at the Academy. These may be found on RDAM's intranet.