

Department of Art and Media

Orientation 2025



Aalto University
School of Arts, Design
and Architecture

Orientation: Study Affairs



Master's Programme in Art and Media

Jaakko Kölhi

ARTS Learning Services – Student Services

August 2025



Aalto University
School of Arts, Design
and Architecture

Art and Media Student Services



Jaakko Kõlhi



Viivi Poutiainen



Mervi Palva

studentservices@aalto.fi

Scheduling appointments: mystudies.aalto.fi

Structure of the MA degree 120 cr

Major studies 60 cr

Master's thesis 30 cr

Elective studies 30 cr

Master's degree, 2 years

1st year

Major studies

Elective and language courses

2nd year autumn

Thesis seminar

Electives / minor / exchange

2nd year spring

Thesis seminar (continues)

Master's thesis

Recommended study timetable

Student Guide

Programmes

Master's Programme in Art and Media

Starting your studies

Curriculum 2024–2026

Curriculum 2022–2024

Recommended timetables

Course substitutions

Planning your studies

Other studies

Thesis

Graduation

Applications

Contact

Minors

Courses

Student Guide / Programmes / Master's Programme in Art and Media / Recommended timetables

Master's Programme in Art and Media

Recommended timetables

| | |
|--|---|
| Art Education | + |
| Photography | + |
| Game Design and Development | + |
| New Media | + |
| Sound in New Media | + |
| Visual Communication Design | + |
| Visual Cultures, Curating and Contemporary Art | + |

Fall semester - 2 periods and 2 intensive weeks.

Spring semester - 3 periods ja 3 intensive weeks.

Elective studies 30 cr

(not for Art Education / Kuvataidekasvatus)

Courses that you choose yourself! Your elective studies can include:

- **Elective courses of your own major**
- **Elective art and theory studies (TAITE)**
- **A minor**
- **Courses from other programmes/majors at Aalto University**
- **Language courses**
- **Courses from other Finnish universities (JOO)**
- **Exchange studies**
- **Internships (in Finland and abroad)**

Minor 18-30 cr

- **Part of the elective studies**
 - E.g. if you complete a 18 cr minor, you have 12 cr left for other elective courses
- **Can be from any field of study**
 - List of minors at students.aalto.fi
- **Some minors are “open”, some require application**
 - Read carefully the information on each minor
- **Application period for ARTS minors in April-May 2026**
 - aalto.fi: “Instructions for applying for ARTS Minors”

Exchange studies

- Possible to apply for student exchange for one semester (autumn 2026) to one of Aalto's partner institutions
- Exchange studies are included in the degree, typically as elective studies
- Interested in exchange? Start planning well in advance
- Application period for next autumn is in January 2026
- More information on the destinations, application criteria and other practicalities at students.aalto.fi:
→ Other studies → Exchange studies

Language requirements

1) Students educated in Finnish or Swedish

A) If completed as part of a Finnish BA degree: no language requirements.

B) If not completed as part of the BA degree, the language requirements are:

- 9 credits: 3 cr in written and oral communication, 3 cr in the second national language of Finland, and 3 cr in one foreign language.

2) Students educated in other languages than Finnish or Swedish

- 3 credits in one foreign language
 - English (minimum level CEFR B2)
 - Spanish, Chinese, French, German or Russian (minimum level CEFR B1)
 - Finnish or Swedish (any level)

Language courses are part of the elective studies

students.aalto.fi -> Language and communication studies

Credit transfer

If you have completed individual courses in other universities, you can transfer them to Aalto and include them in your elective studies.

As a rule, you cannot transfer credits from your BA degree.

students.aalto.fi:

-> Applications, instructions and guidelines -> Credit transfer



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Individual study arrangements

- Every Aalto student has a right to receive reasonable individual study arrangements for medical reasons. A medical reason may be e.g. dyslexia, a sensory impairment, mental health condition or learning difficulty.
- Examples of individual study arrangements include additional time for examinations (1 hour at Aalto), a private space or computer for examinations, or adjusted schedules.
- Individual study arrangements are based on an assessment by a specialist, meaning you need a certificate from a doctor, psychologist or similar specialist explaining your need for individual study arrangements.
- **Contact person at ARTS:** Sonja Norpila, sonja.norpila@aalto.fi

Sisu – sisu.aalto.fi

- **Student and study information system**
- **Planning your studies**
 - Create and follow your personal study plan (PSP)
 - See your weekly schedule and lecture locations
- **Registering for courses**
 - Add courses to your plan and register for them
 - Check your completed credits
- **Submitting applications**
 - Apply for credit transfer, course substitution, graduation
- **Sisu clinic on Thursday at 10-12 am in room R102 (Väre)**
- **Detailed Sisu instructions at students.aalto.fi**

Where to find information?

students.aalto.fi

- curriculum, academic calendar, rules and regulations, instructions

sisu.aalto.fi

- personal study plan, course registration, grades, applications

mycourses.aalto.fi

- course homepages, assignments, materials

mail.aalto.fi

- newsletters, events, application periods

mystudies.aalto.fi

- services for students, scheduling appointments

Academic advisor

- A faculty member in your own major
- Assigned to you in the beginning of your studies
- Your primary contact for questions related to the *contents* of your studies and your personal study plan
 - What optional or elective courses should you take
 - Which minor would be suitable for you
 - What courses would support your career goals
 - Practical training / Internships
 - Thesis process
- **Student tutors** are fellow students from the department and can help you with practical questions during the start of your studies

Student Services

- **Structure** of your studies: what is possible, what is not
- Technical issues with Sisu (study plan, course registration) and other platforms
- How to? Apply for a minor, for student exchange, for credit transfer...

Väre building, M wing, 3rd floor, room M311
studentservices@aalto.fi

Schedule an appointment: mystudies.aalto.fi



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What's next?

Welcome event today at 16:00 at MMK2 (Metallimiehenkuja 2)

Major specific orientation sessions today, Wednesday and Friday

(students.aalto.fi → Master's Programme in Art and Media → Starting your studies)

Thursday:

10:00-11:30 Study counselling clinic, IT Classroom R102 in Väre

12:30-14:00 Better Student Life at Aalto, Lecture hall A, Otakaari 1

10:00-15:00 Aalto Welcome Fair, Otakaari 1 lobby

Thank you!

Questions?



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26.8.2025