

ATHENS SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS

School of Fine Arts

DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME “DIGITAL ARTS”

<https://www.asfa.gr/en/studies-in-the-visual-arts-department/postgraduate-studies-in-visual-arts/ma-in-digital-arts/>

Regulations on Studies, Practical Training, Student Mobility, and Thesis Preparation

**Postgraduate Program MA in “Digital Arts”
Department of Fine Arts, School of Fine Arts, Athens
School of Fine Arts**

Contents

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS.....	4
About	4
ARTICLE 2. SUBJECT MATTER – PURPOSE	4
ARTICLE 3. CATEGORIES AND NUMBER OF ADMITTED STUDENTS	5
Categories of admitted students	5
Number of admitted students	5
ARTICLE 4. ADMISSION PROCEDURE	6
Call for Applications	6
Application procedure	6
Evaluation and selection procedure.....	7
Evaluation ranking – Selection criteria.....	8
ARTICLE 5. DURATION OF STUDIES.....	9
Extension of studies	9
Suspension of studies.....	9
Removal from the Programme.....	10
Withdrawal from studies.....	10
ARTICLE 6. CURRICULUM	10
CURRICULUM – COURSE STRUCTURE.....	11
1st Semester	11
2nd Semester.....	12
3 rd Semester.....	12
4 th semester.....	12
ARTICLE 7. DISTANCE EDUCATION	12
7.1 Synchronous distance education.....	12
7.2 Asynchronous distance education	13
ARTICLE 8. EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT OF POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS.....	13
ARTICLE 9. REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF THE MASTER’S DEGREE.....	14
ARTICLE 10. OBLIGATIONS AND RIGHTS OF POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS.....	15
REGULATIONS FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE MASTER’S THESIS	16
ARTICLE 11. MASTER’S THESIS	16
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM.....	18
ARTICLE 12. STUDENT MOBILITY.....	19
ARTICLE 13. PRACTICAL TRAINING.....	20

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

These Regulations set out the details governing studies, practical training, student mobility, and the preparation of the Master's Thesis, as provided for by the Updated Internal Regulations of the Postgraduate Programme [Government Gazette 3424/14-6-2024, Issue B] and the Study Guide.

About

The Postgraduate Programme "Digital Arts" was the first postgraduate programme established in 1998 (Government Gazette 1239/8-12-1998, Issue B), both at the Athens School of Fine Arts (ASFA) and in Greece Higher Education, in general, with the aim of specializing in and strengthening contemporary artistic and technological research and producing new knowledge, in accordance with international academic standards, in the field of Digital Arts, i.e. the field of visual arts using digital and New Media.

Its structure and curriculum have served as a reference model for related postgraduate programmes established more recently at other Greek higher education institutions, particularly in schools and departments of visual arts. It is indicative that the staffing of such programmes with artist-academics has, from their establishment to the present, been carried out to a very considerable extent by graduates of the "Digital Forms of Art" programme.

Since its establishment in 1998, 245 postgraduate students have been admitted to the Programme over 17 two-year cycles of study. Of these, 224 have graduated, while 13 are currently active students in the 17th cycle. Approximately 34 graduates of the Programme have joined related university departments in Greece in academic fields connected with their postgraduate studies, either as permanent or adjunct teaching staff, while many others collaborate on research projects and with other academic institutions.

Many graduates have also pursued doctoral-level studies in related fields at recognized institutions in Greece and abroad, achieved distinction in their subsequent artistic careers on the national and international art scene, or pursued professional activity in related areas of the creative industries, education, and culture in Greece and abroad.

It should also be noted that the field of study of the Programme constitutes a recognized academic subject area for faculty positions at higher education institutions.

ARTICLE 2. SUBJECT MATTER – PURPOSE

The subject matter of the Postgraduate Programme is specialization, research, and experimentation in the field of contemporary visual arts practices through the use of combined time-based, interactive, and computational media, together with students' systematic theoretical engagement with a range of fields and areas of knowledge related to the nature and character of these artistic practices.

These fields primarily concern, on the one hand, the historical and philosophical-aesthetic study of technological media—photography, cinematography, videography, digital computing systems—and cultural technologies, and, on the other, the ways in which these are appropriated and employed artistically at the intersection of art, technology, and science.

The purpose of the Programme is to provide a selected number of students with artistic experience, sustained engagement with the most recent processes and developments in the field of digital forms of art, and the technical expertise, methodology, and theoretical education required for the consistent development of artistic work or interdisciplinary research with an artistic orientation.

Through this feedback loop between artistic practice and theoretical inquiry, the Programme establishes the conditions for strengthening its interdisciplinary research character and, above all, the reflective and critical thinking that is essential to creative expression through combined digital media.

This is achieved through specialized postgraduate studio-based and theoretical courses, special seminar series, and intensive workshops on specific topics which, in accordance with international academic standards, aim to provide specialization in artistic creation and research using digital media.

Throughout the period of study, a major role is played by the continuous and close collaboration between students and teaching staff (artists, studio-based instructors, and theorists), thereby providing the most effective possible support at all stages of the research, conceptualization, planning, development, and realization of postgraduate students' artistic projects.

ARTICLE 3. CATEGORIES AND NUMBER OF ADMITTED STUDENTS

Categories of admitted students

The Postgraduate Programme "Digital Forms of Art" accepts holders of first-cycle degrees from Schools or Departments of Fine Arts, Visual Arts, Audiovisual Arts, Performing Arts and Film, Design and Applied Arts, Graphic Arts, Digital Creation, and Architecture in Greece, or from equivalent institutions abroad recognized by the Hellenic National Academic Recognition and Information Center (DOATAP).

Exceptionally, graduates of other university departments may also be admitted, provided that they possess and submit artistic work or expressive and theoretical research oriented toward the Programme. Admission is based on the particular relevance and quality of the applicant's submitted artistic work and/or research in relation to the Programme's field and orientation.

The Evaluation and Selection Committee determines whether applications from departments whose academic subject area is not related to that of the Programme may be accepted, taking into consideration the applicant's qualifications as a whole.

Final-year students may also submit an application, provided that they will have successfully completed their studies by the time the assessment and selection procedure for admission to the Programme takes place.

International students admitted to the Programme, whose language of instruction is Greek, must demonstrate adequate knowledge of Greek by submitting a certificate of proficiency.

Number of admitted students

The number of students admitted to each two-year cycle is determined by the Departmental Assembly following a recommendation by the Coordinating Committee and at the end of the preceding academic cycle, when the relevant call for applications is approved.

The call for applications for the admission of new students is issued every two years. New postgraduate students are admitted every two years, following completion of the educational programme of the preceding cycle.

The number of students admitted to each two-year cycle is set at a maximum of fifteen (15). In the event of a tie among applicants for the final available place, priority is given to the applicant with the higher score for artistic work. In all cases, the total number of admitted students may not exceed seventeen (17).

ARTICLE 4. ADMISSION PROCEDURE

Call for Applications

Every two academic years, at the end of the spring semester, and following a decision of the Assembly of the Department of Fine Arts of ASFA, a new call for applications for admission to the MA Program is published and posted on the Program's webpage and the institution's website. The call is also spread through the MA DARTS' social media

The call specifies in detail:

- a) the number of postgraduate students to be admitted;
- b) the eligibility requirements for participation in the selection procedure;
- c) the supporting documents to be submitted;
- d) the submission deadlines and the exact procedure;
- e) the procedure for conducting personal interviews with applicants, as determined by the relevant evaluation committee; and
- f) any other detail deemed necessary by the Assembly to facilitate information and the application procedure.

Applications together with the required supporting documents are submitted electronically to the Programme Secretariat within the deadline specified in the call. The deadline may be extended by decision of the Departmental Assembly following a recommendation by the Coordinating Committee.

Application procedure

Applicants must submit electronically to the Programme Secretariat, by email, their application dossier and the accompanying documents listed below:

- a) Application form, downloaded and completed from the Programme website, www.digitalarts.asfa.gr.
- b) Certified photocopy of an identity card.
- c) Certified copy of a degree from a Greek higher education institution or a recognized equivalent foreign university. If the degree was awarded by a foreign institution, it must bear the appropriate legal certification and be accompanied, as a single document, by an official translation and documentation certifying its recognition by DOATAP. Additional academic qualifications will be considered in conjunction with the applicant's statement of academic intentions. If the applicant holds more than one degree, the qualification most closely related to the Programme's subject matter will be taken into account for this criterion.
- d) Detailed curriculum vitae including information on the applicant's studies and artistic, research and/or professional activity, as well as any other work relevant to the Programme.
- e) Evidence of knowledge of at least one foreign language, preferably English. Language proficiency is demonstrated through a recognized certificate. If the applicant does not hold such a certificate, the Admissions Selection Committee may assess the applicant's language skills through an examination and award the corresponding score. Completed studies at an equivalent educational institution in another country constitute sufficient evidence of proficiency in the language in which the studies were conducted. International applicants are additionally required to demonstrate good and certified knowledge of Greek.
- f) Documents, where available, certifying knowledge of computer use, particularly image, video, audio, or 3D graphics software, programming languages, etc.
- g) Presentation of artistic work (portfolio) and/or other applied and/or research work relevant to the Programme, either online or as a PDF file. The digital portfolio must include a detailed presentation of artistic works/projects particularly relevant to the Programme's specialization, accompanied by audiovisual material and brief explanatory texts; a short statement documenting the applicant's artistic work/research; and a brief statement explaining the reasons for choosing the Programme (motivation

letter of up to 1,000 words). Detailed portfolio guidelines and instructions concerning the works submitted are provided on the Programme website.

h) Any theoretical or research papers in related fields produced by the applicant during first-cycle studies.

Evaluation and selection procedure

The selection procedure follows the stages described below.

A) The Assembly appoints the Programme's Candidate Evaluation Committee. The Committee consists of members of the academic and teaching staff of the Department of Fine Arts of ASFA and other members of the Programme's teaching staff. Members of the Department of Art Theory and History of ASFA may also participate.

Committee members are responsible for the detailed examination of application dossiers, conducting personal interviews, and the overall evaluation of applicants.

B) The Programme Secretariat receives applications and supporting documents electronically within the deadlines established in the call. Application dossiers must be complete. Supporting documents that are not included in the dossier (degrees, etc.) must be listed in a formal declaration by the applicant, together with an undertaking to submit them when requested. Such documents will be taken into account only if submitted by the date set by the Evaluation Committee.

The Secretariat verifies the validity and completeness of the supporting documents, prepares a detailed list of applicants, and forwards it to the Evaluation Committee.

C) Once it receives the list of applicants, the Evaluation Committee is responsible for their assessment according to the criteria established in this Regulation.

In Phase A of the evaluation, the Committee examines the contents of the application dossier in detail and verifies whether applicants meet the basic admission requirements. Applicants who do not satisfy these requirements are excluded from further assessment.

Phase A: After taking into consideration the formal and substantive qualifications and the particular characteristics of each applicant's artistic and research work in relation to the Programme's orientation, the Committee invites a limited number of applicants to an oral interview/examination (Phase B).

The codes of applicants invited to interview and the interview date are announced within a reasonable period following the application deadline on the Programme's website and the institution's website. Applicants invited to Phase B are also notified by email and/or telephone and are asked to confirm receipt of the notification.

Phase B: The Evaluation Committee is responsible for conducting the interviews. Interviews take place at the Programme's premises on Pireos Street, according to a published timetable and in the presence of all Committee members.

Following the interviews, the Committee assesses applicants on the basis of the submitted work, knowledge examined during the interview in fields relevant to the Programme, presentation of the statement of purpose, and the applicants' overall qualifications, and prepares a ranked evaluation table.

The Committee then prepares lists of successful applicants, reserve candidates, and rejected applicants, taking into account the number of places announced. These lists are ratified by the Departmental Assembly. The ratified list of successful and reserve candidates contains only the final score for each applicant and is ranked by order of merit.

In the event of a tie between two applicants, priority is given to the applicant with the higher score for artistic work.

The list of successful and reserve candidates, in alphabetical order, is posted on the Department's notice boards and electronically on the Department's and Programme's websites.

Successful applicants are notified to register within a specific period determined by the Coordinating Committee. An applicant who fails to register within that period loses the right to registration unless, by application to the Assembly, they invoke force majeure or serious illness. In such cases, the Assembly examines the reasons invoked and decides accordingly.

The Programme Secretariat keeps the applicants' evaluation table available and provides applicants with information concerning their individual performance. An appeal against the results may be lodged within ten (10) days of publication. The appeal must invoke specific grounds and is finally determined by the Assembly within a reasonable period following its submission, after a recommendation by the Evaluation Committee.

Applicants who hold scholarships from the State Scholarship Foundation (IKY) or other bodies, or who are members of the Department's Laboratory Teaching Staff, Special Educational Staff, or Special Technical Laboratory Staff, may be admitted in excess of the prescribed number following a decision and evaluation by the Candidate Evaluation Committee. The decision is likewise ratified by the Assembly.

Evaluation ranking – Selection criteria

Admission is determined by the Candidate Evaluation Committee, composed of members of the Programme's teaching staff. The Committee is constituted following a recommendation by the Coordinating Committee and a decision of the Assembly.

The Committee is responsible for applying the selection criteria, organizing and conducting the evaluation procedure properly, and supervising compliance with applicable legislation and these Regulations throughout the evaluation.

Each applicant is awarded a specified number of assessment points. The points awarded under the individual criteria are added together to produce the applicant's total score. The total score is expressed on a scale of 0–100 points. The minimum passing score is 50.

The criteria are:

- Particular relevance of the applicant's work to the Programme's academic fields and the overall quality of the artistic work: 50 points.
- Significant familiarity with contemporary audiovisual and computing technologies as expressive media in contemporary artistic creation and artistic applications: 10 points.
- Knowledge of at least one foreign language, English or another, demonstrated by certificates: 5 points for C2 level; 3 points for B2 level.
- Theoretical competence, broader education, intellectual cultivation and maturity, together with the presentation of the statement of purpose and all supporting elements of the application as demonstrated during the personal interview in Phase B: 30 points.
- First-cycle degree grade (minimum 6.5): Excellent = 5 points; Very Good = 3 points; Good = 1 point.

In assessing applicants, the Committee also considers their formal and substantive qualifications and individual profile, placing particular emphasis on the need for deeper study, specialization, and research into the use of new technological expressive media in contemporary artistic creation and artistic applications. This need should be adequately reflected in the artistic work or artistic proposals and any research work already undertaken and submitted for assessment.

ARTICLE 5. DURATION OF STUDIES

The minimum duration required for the award of the Master's Degree in "Digital Forms of Art" is four (4) academic semesters.

Extension of studies

At the end of the fourth regular semester, students who have not presented their thesis must explain in writing to the Coordinating Committee the reasons for exceeding the prescribed time limits and request an extension. The extension may not exceed two (2) additional teaching semesters.

The Coordinating Committee examines the reasons for the delay and the student's overall progress and decides whether to extend the period of study.

The total duration of studies may not exceed three (3) years. If this period is exceeded, the postgraduate student is removed from the Programme following a decision of the Departmental Assembly.

If the Programme is not offered again in the future for any reason, students who have not completed their studies, even if they have been granted an extension, will not graduate from the Programme.

Suspension of studies

Each postgraduate student has the right to request, once only and solely for demonstrably serious reasons (e.g. military service, illness, maternity, absence abroad for professional reasons, etc.), a temporary suspension of studies. A reasoned application must be submitted to the Programme Secretariat within the first two weeks of the current semester, either during the intermediate semesters of study or during preparation of the Master's Thesis.

The application must be accompanied by all relevant supporting documents issued by competent public authorities or organizations establishing the grounds for suspension. Student status is suspended during the period of interruption, and participation in any educational activity is not permitted.

Approval of suspension is decided by the Departmental Assembly following a recommendation by the Coordinating Committee and assessment of the grounds invoked. Suspension is granted for a whole number of semesters, only once, and may not normally exceed two (2) academic semesters. A suspension exceeding two academic semesters may be granted only to students performing military service or in cases of prolonged illness certified by a public hospital, following a recommendation by the Coordinating Committee to the Assembly.

Because the Programme admits new students every two years, i.e. after completion of each two-year cycle, students who suspend their studies can in practice resume them after two calendar years, when the teaching of the semesters they did not attend is repeated.

Postgraduate students on educational leave from their employment/service are not entitled to a suspension of studies.

Students who receive a suspension, when they resume their studies, remain subject to the study regulations applicable at the time of their original registration and must attend all courses in which they had not previously been successfully assessed.

The semesters of suspension and the necessary intervening period before resumption of studies in the semester in which they interrupted are not counted toward the maximum permitted period for completion of studies.

If the Programme is not offered again in the future for any reason, any student who has not completed their studies, even if they have suspended their studies, cannot graduate from the Programme.

Removal from the Programme

In exceptional circumstances and for very serious reasons, the Departmental Assembly may, following a recommendation by the Coordinating Committee, decide to remove a postgraduate student from the Programme. Such reasons include insufficient academic progress (e.g. failure to participate in educational or examination procedures), systematic failure to fulfill obligations, and conduct that violates rules of respect and academic ethics, including rules concerning plagiarism.

Withdrawal from studies

A postgraduate student who decides to discontinue their studies must notify the Director of the Programme in writing.

ARTICLE 6. CURRICULUM

The Programme begins in the winter semester of each academic year and has a minimum duration of four (4) semesters.

Classes begin during the second half of October. The winter semester is completed, including the examination period, at the end of February. The spring semester begins at the beginning of March and its examination period is completed by the end of June of the current academic year.

Courses are held weekly, last three hours, and run for thirteen (13) weeks. They take place either in the morning or afternoon. The remaining hours of the full-time Programme, apart from lecture/studio hours, include studio work at the Programme's premises, bibliographic research in the ASFA Library, and the provision of technical or organizational support to the Department and the institution.

Examination periods are normally scheduled immediately after those of the Department's undergraduate programme. By decision of the Coordinating Committee, following a recommendation by the Programme Director, the timing of examinations may be modified or postponed, or an additional examination period may be established for some or all courses, depending on educational needs and exceptional circumstances resulting in lost teaching weeks.

The language of instruction is Greek. The language of the Master's Thesis is Greek or, following a request to the Coordinating Committee, English.

Courses in each semester are prerequisites for attending courses in the following semester.

At the beginning of each academic semester, within the deadline announced by the Programme Secretariat, each postgraduate student registers in the Programme. Registration for compulsory courses is automatically entered by the Secretariat for all students during the first two semesters.

In the third semester, students register, in addition to the two compulsory courses, for two compulsory elective courses. In the fourth semester, students submit an application to prepare their Master's Thesis and select their supervisors in consultation with the teaching staff and, where considered necessary, the Academic Advisor.

The curriculum consists of studio-based and theoretical courses, as well as short seminars and intensive workshops on special topics. Attendance is compulsory, although submission of an assignment is not required for these activities. They are incorporated into the curriculum with the aim of broadening students' research, artistic, and techno-scientific horizons.

Close collaboration between students and teaching staff throughout the semesters is of particular importance, providing the necessary support at all stages of research, development, and realization of artistic projects.

A total of 120 ECTS credits is required for the Master's Degree. The credits are based on the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) and facilitate educational cooperation among European universities.

During their studies, postgraduate students are required to attend and successfully complete postgraduate courses, attend lectures by invited professors and seminars, engage in research, attend any workshops and/or tutorial exercises conducted as part of the curriculum, prepare artistic and theoretical assignments, and prepare, present, and defend the Master's Thesis.

The source regulation states that preparation of the thesis is carried out in the third semester and carries 30 ECTS; elsewhere in the same regulation the thesis is assigned to the fourth semester. This translation preserves the wording of the source document without attempting to reconcile this internal discrepancy.

During the first and second semesters, the Programme offers four to six compulsory courses in three core fields:

1. Audiovisual Media in Art;
2. Computational and Interactive Media in Art;
3. Theory.

In the third semester, in addition to the two compulsory courses, students select two specialization courses/studios as compulsory electives according to their specific areas of interest.

Attendance and assessment in the compulsory elective specialization courses/studios is mandatory for students who have selected them. Other students may attend them voluntarily and undertake assignments. If they attend and successfully complete the course, the additional course and grade are recorded in the Diploma Supplement accompanying the Master's Degree.

A third-semester elective course must be selected by at least four (4) students in order to be offered.

The curriculum and the allocation of courses among semesters may be modified by decisions of the competent bodies following a recommendation by the Coordinating Committee, provided that the structure, fields, and orientation of the curriculum are not substantially altered.

Teaching is conducted in person; however, distance-learning methods may also be used in accordance with applicable legislation and Article 7 of these Regulations.

CURRICULUM – COURSE STRUCTURE

1st Semester

- Video Art (time-based media) I — Course type: 5 ECTS
- Sound Processing – Music Technology I — Theory and studio / compulsory — 5 ECTS
- Contemporary Art, Internet Culture, Politics — Theory and studio / compulsory — 5 ECTS

- 3D Design I — Theory and practice / compulsory — 5 ECTS
- Interaction – Physical Computing I — Studio-based / compulsory — 5 ECTS
- Philosophy and Aesthetics of Media I — Studio-based / compulsory — 5 ECTS

Seminars or/and intensive workshops on special topics — structure determined each semester

2nd Semester

- Video Art (time-based media) II — Theory and studio / compulsory — 6 ECTS
- Sound Processing – Music Technology II — Theory and studio / compulsory — 6 ECTS
-
- 3D Design II — Theory and studio / compulsory — 6 ECTS
- Interaction – Physical Computing II — Theory and studio / compulsory — 6 ECTS

Field: Theory

- Philosophy and Aesthetics of Media II — Theoretical — 6 ECTS

Seminars or/and intensive workshops on special topics — structure determined each semester — compulsory.

3rd Semester

- • Artistic Studio: Artistic studio using combined and digital media — studio-based / compulsory — 11 ECTS
- Theories and Technologies of Aesthetic Perception — theoretical / compulsory — 9 ECTS

Specialization electives:

- 3D Design III – Special Topics — studio-based / elective — 5 ECTS
- Interaction – Physical Computing III – Special Topics — studio-based / elective — 5 ECTS
- Sound – Music Technology — studio-based / elective — 5 ECTS

More elective courses to be announced for Academic year 2026-27

Seminars or/and intensive workshops on special topics — structure determined each semester — compulsory.

4th semester

- • Preparation of the Master's Thesis — compulsory — 30 ECTS.

ARTICLE 7. DISTANCE EDUCATION

7.1 Synchronous distance education

The educational process of the Programme may also be conducted using synchronous distance-learning methods, at a percentage determined by the Coordinating Committee at the beginning of each academic year.

The organization of courses and other educational activities using synchronous distance-learning methods applies to courses and activities which, by their nature, can be supported through distance education and do not involve practical, studio-based, or clinical training requiring students' physical presence.

7.2 Asynchronous distance education

The educational process may be conducted using asynchronous distance-learning methods. ASFA maintains an electronic platform (<https://eclass.asfa.gr/>) accessible to Academic staff and registered students including students with disabilities, through which asynchronous distance-learning services are provided.

Educational material for each course may be posted on the electronic platform and may include notes, presentations, exercises, indicative solutions, and recorded lectures, provided that applicable personal-data protection legislation is observed.

All educational material is provided exclusively for students' educational use and is protected under Law 2121/1993 (Government Gazette A' 25), where the relevant conditions are met.

ARTICLE 8. EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT OF POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

8.1 The educational work of each academic year is organized into two semesters, winter and spring, each comprising at least thirteen (13) weeks of teaching and three (3) weeks for examination period.

Under the Programme's Internal Regulations, only one course from the winter and/or spring semester may be carried over and re-examined during the next examination period, including the September examination period. This is because courses in each semester constitute prerequisites for attending courses in the following semester.

8.2 If a course cannot be held as scheduled, a make-up session is provided. The date and time of the make-up session are posted on the Programme's website.

8.3 Attendance at courses, studios, etc. is compulsory. The number of permitted absences per course may not exceed three (3) justified absences.

8.4 Assessment of postgraduate students and their performance in compulsory courses is carried out through assignments throughout the semester (artistic and/or theoretical), intermediate progress examinations, studio exercises, or a combination of these. The method of assessment is determined by the instructor responsible for each course.

The presentation and oral defense of each assignment in the presence of the teaching team and students safeguard the integrity of the assessment process. Grades are awarded on a scale of 1–10. Examination results are announced by the instructor and submitted to the Programme Secretariat and the Department Secretariat within a maximum of four (4) weeks of the examination. If an instructor repeatedly exceeds this deadline, the Programme Director informs the Assembly of the School/Department.

8.5 The contribution of studio exercises and assignments to the final grade of each course is determined separately for each course by the instructor at the beginning of the course and is described in the course record.

8.6 In response to exceptional needs or circumstances arising from force majeure, alternative assessment methods may be applied, such as written or oral examinations using electronic means, provided that the integrity of the assessment process is ensured.

8.7 Alternative assessment methods may be applied for students with disabilities and special educational needs following a decision of the Coordinating Committee and a recommendation by the Department's

Disability Committee, taking into account the relevant guidance of the Accessibility Unit for Students with Disabilities.

8.8 In cases of illness or recovery from serious illness, instructors are encouraged to facilitate the student by any appropriate means they consider suitable, such as an oral distance examination. During oral examinations, the instructor must ensure that they are not alone with the student being examined.

8.9 A grade may be corrected where an obvious clerical error or arithmetical error has occurred, following a written statement by the responsible instructor and a decision of the Departmental Assembly.

8.10 For calculation of the degree grade, the weight of each course in the curriculum is taken into account and is expressed through the number of ECTS credits. The ECTS credits assigned to a course constitute its weighting coefficient.

To calculate the degree grade, the grade of each course is multiplied by the corresponding number of ECTS credits, and the sum of the products is divided by the total number of credits required for the degree.

The calculation is expressed by the following formula:

Degree grade = $\Sigma(\text{grade of course } k \times \text{ECTS of course } k) / \text{total required ECTS}$

where:

k = index referring to each course, k = 1, 2, ..., N;

N = number of courses required for the degree;

BM_k = grade of course k;

PM_k = ECTS credits of course k.

To obtain the Master's Degree, each postgraduate student must attend and successfully complete all compulsory courses and the required number of compulsory elective courses offered by the Programme and successfully complete the Master's Thesis, thereby accumulating 120 ECTS credits.

ARTICLE 9. REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF THE MASTER'S DEGREE

9.1 The student completes the requirements for the Master's Degree of Specialization by completing the minimum number of courses and ECTS credits required for the degree and by successfully defending the Master's Thesis.

ASFA follows a policy requiring the mandatory deposit of Master's Theses in the Institutional Repository, which is also a prerequisite for the award of the degree.

The Assembly verifies completion of the studies for the award of the Master's Degree of Specialization.

9.2 Upon completion of the above procedure, the postgraduate student is issued a certificate of completion of studies. Student status then ceases, as does participation in the University's collective governing bodies.

9.3 The Master's Degree certifies successful completion of the studies and records the final grade to two decimal places according to the following scale:

Excellent: 8.5–10;

Very Good: 7.5–8.49;

Good: 6–7.49.

9.4 The Programme awards a Master's Degree of Specialization MA in "Digital Art".

ARTICLE 10. OBLIGATIONS AND RIGHTS OF POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

10.1 Postgraduate students enjoy all rights and benefits provided to first-cycle students until the end of any extension of study granted, except for the right to receive free textbooks.

10.2 The institution ensures accessibility for students with disabilities and/or special educational needs to the prescribed study materials and teaching resources through <https://eclass.asfa.gr/>.

10.3 The ASFA Career and Liaison Office provides students with advisory support on study-related matters and professional career opportunities (<https://www.dasta.asfa.gr/>).

10.4 Postgraduate students are expected to participate in and attend research-group seminars, bibliographic update discussions, visits to laboratories, museums and exhibitions, conferences and symposia in fields related to the Programme, lectures, and other scientific events organized by the Programme.

10.5 Suspension of studies

Each postgraduate student may request, once only and solely for demonstrably serious reasons, temporary suspension of studies by submitting a reasoned application to the Programme Secretariat within the first two weeks of the semester. The same conditions and procedures set out in Article 5 apply.

10.6 Withdrawal from studies

A postgraduate student who decides to discontinue their studies must notify the Programme Director in writing.

10.7 Removal from the Programme

The Assembly of the Department of Fine Arts, following a recommendation by the Coordinating Committee, may decide to remove postgraduate students if:

- they exceed the maximum number of absences permitted for a course;
- they fail an examination in one or more courses and do not successfully complete the Programme in accordance with these Regulations;
- they exceed the maximum period of study;
- they violate applicable provisions concerning disciplinary offences;
- they violate rules of respect and academic ethics, including plagiarism; or
- they themselves submit an application for removal.

10.7 In the event that a postgraduate student is removed from the Programme, they may request a certificate for courses in which they have successfully completed examinations.

10.8 Students may participate in international student-exchange programmes, such as ERASMUS+, in accordance with applicable legislation. In such cases, the maximum number of ECTS credits that may be recognized is thirty (30). This opportunity is available from the third semester, provided students have successfully completed the courses of the first two semesters. Students must submit an application to the Coordinating Committee and comply with the terms of the relevant programme.

10.9 At the end of each semester, each course and each instructor is evaluated by the postgraduate students as provided for in these Regulations.

REGULATIONS FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE MASTER'S THESIS

The Regulations for the Preparation of Master's Theses of the Postgraduate Programme "Digital Forms of Art" constitute an integral part of the Programme's Operating Regulations.

The present text constitutes an extract of the Internal Operating Regulations and specifies the provisions concerning the preparation of Master's Theses as follows.

ARTICLE 11. MASTER'S THESIS

1. The Master's Thesis is assigned in the fourth semester of study after the student has attended all courses in the curriculum and successfully completed the relevant examinations.

2. The Master's Thesis in the Digital Arts Program is combined in nature and must include:

a) Artistic work: development, production, and presentation of an artistic work falling within the fields of artistic expression related to the Programme's subject matter, an educational application with an artistic orientation, or another techno-scientific project likewise incorporating an artistic orientation.

b) Theoretical thesis: preparation and submission of a written thesis documenting, supporting, and analyzing the artistic proposal, its theoretical references, and/or the techno-scientific research. The theoretical component is based on bibliographic and/or field research. Its purpose is to familiarize students with the research process and deepen their engagement with the Department's academic fields.

The content of the theoretical thesis may vary and may encompass a broad range of approaches, always in accordance with the student's specific theoretical interests. Such approaches may focus exclusively on the content, structure, and nature of the particular artistic work submitted, or on problematizing central scientific, historical-philosophical, and aesthetic aspects embedded in the work, which may constitute subjects for further conceptualization and investigation.

3. The Master's thesis must be individual, original, and research-oriented. Exceptionally, it may be undertaken jointly by up to two students, following the approval of the Coordinating Committee.

4. The Master's Thesis is assigned following submission by the students of an application at the end of the third semester to the Programme Secretariat and approval by the Programme Coordinating Committee. The Secretariat must inform the Committee immediately after submission.

The application for preparation of the thesis includes:

- the student's personal details;
- the provisional title;
- a brief description of the artistic proposal, theoretical research field, and technological orientation;
- acceptance of the proposed supervision arrangement by the three proposed supervisors.

5. The title of the thesis may be finalized following an application by the student and the agreement of the supervisor, submitted to the Programme Coordinating Committee. The application must include a brief justification for the change.

6. The language of the Master's Thesis is Greek. Exceptionally, following consultation with the supervisors and the Coordinating Committee, it may be written in English.

7. The supervisor and members of the three-member examination committee are appointed from the following categories of persons who have undertaken teaching in the Programme:

a) members of faculty and teaching/research staff, special educational staff, laboratory teaching staff,

and special technical laboratory staff of the Department or other ASFA departments or other higher education institutions, subject to the applicable legal conditions;

b) emeritus professors or retired faculty members of the Department or other university departments;

c) collaborating professors;

d) appointed lecturers;

e) visiting professors or visiting researchers;

f) researchers and specialized scientific staff of research and technological institutions and other research centers and institutes in Greece or abroad.

By decision of the Assembly, supervision of theses may also be assigned to faculty, special educational, special technical laboratory, or laboratory teaching staff of the Department who have not undertaken teaching in the Programme.

8. For the thesis to be approved, the student must publicly present and defend it before the three-member examination committee and an audience.

The Examination Committee may request:

(1) minor corrections, which the candidate must complete within twenty (20) days. If requested, the Committee submits the final grade to the Secretariat without a further public examination;

(2) major corrections, which the candidate must complete within forty-five (45) days. In this case, the corrected thesis is re-examined during the immediately following examination period. If the student does not successfully meet the requirements, they are removed from the Programme following a reasoned recommendation by the Examination Committee and a decision of the Assembly.

Final results of the Programme are ratified by the Coordinating Committee and the Assembly of the Department of Fine Arts of ASFA.

9. The thesis is prepared under the student's responsibility and is intended to develop sound scholarly and research initiatives. Mechanical application of supervisors' instructions without the student's critical consideration and analysis should be avoided.

The student consults with the supervisors of the artistic and theoretical components concerning the manner of collaboration and supervision.

Students are generally expected to devote substantial time to activities including organization and implementation of the artistic component, study of relevant Greek- and foreign-language bibliography and academic literature, identification and processing of other information relevant to the subject, and development and final writing of the theoretical component.

10. The Programme Regulations clearly specify the conditions for preparing the Master's Thesis. Before undertaking the thesis and declaring a topic, students are informed of these requirements at a specially organized meeting.

11. The theoretical component should be approximately 10,000 words in length, excluding bibliography and/or appendices, and should be structured according to the standards of scholarly monographs and academic studies.

More specifically, it should include:

- Table of contents
- Abstract in Greek and English (100–250 words)
- Keywords (up to 5)
- Introduction

- Main text
- Conclusions and proposals
- Bibliography
- Appendices, if applicable

Introduction:

The Introduction should orient the reader to the main points and purpose of the thesis and should include:

- a) the subject of the thesis and the academic field in which it is situated; reference to relevant previous work and research and a critical approach to that work, demonstrating both the reasons for selecting the topic and the need to undertake the specific study;
- b) the purpose and research questions/hypotheses;
- c) the methodology, e.g. bibliographic research and theoretical or other texts used as guides;
- d) the basic structure of the thesis and the individual subjects developed in the chapters comprising the main body.

Main text

The main body develops the subject through individual chapters. Their number and structure depend on the subject of the thesis. The chapters focus on specific points necessary for a complete and rigorous treatment of the topic.

The main body includes a literature review, critical analysis and synthesis of available theoretical and research data, analysis of the research methodology employed, and analysis of the data and evidence collected.

Conclusions – Proposals

This chapter summarizes the principal points and conclusions arising from the results presented in the main body. It may also formulate proposals for possible future work and supplementary research in the relevant thematic area.

Bibliography

The bibliography includes all works—books, studies, articles, conference papers, statistical reports, analyses in newspapers and periodicals, organizational documents, etc.—used in preparing the thesis. References must follow the bibliographic citation system specified by the Department.

Appendices, if applicable.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

The thesis (artwork and written) must be the product of the student's personal research and effort and must engage creatively with pre-existing literature relevant to the subject. References to printed or online sources must be clear and meticulous.

It is not permissible to reproduce, either verbatim or through paraphrase, ideas drawn from other studies or texts without attributing them to their source. Where this occurs, the thesis constitutes plagiarism. Plagiarism is not acceptable in academic life and constitutes a serious disciplinary offence for members of the academic community.

The Regulations cite the applicable provisions of the General Internal Operating Regulations of Higher Education Institutions and Law 4777/2021 concerning plagiarism and the concealment of the direct or indirect contribution of other persons to scientific research or academic work.

Plagiarism may be partial—such as copying part of a text, data, images, etc. without a clear reference to their origin—or total, involving the copying of the entire contents of a source.

Indicative forms of plagiarism include:

- copying part or all of another person's intellectual work and presenting it as the work of the creator/author;
- reproducing a text or part of it verbatim without quotation marks or an appropriate bibliographic reference;
- translating and appropriating foreign-language texts, paragraphs, or phrases into Greek;
- copying illustrations, drawings, images, photographs, music, or other audiovisual material without appropriate bibliographic attribution;
- self-plagiarism, i.e. recycling or reconstituting the author's previous work and presenting it as a new independent work; and
- appropriating another creator's work and presenting it as one's own.

It is emphasized that it is the individual responsibility of each student to comply with the rules of academic ethics in order to avoid practices that lead to plagiarism.

The above Regulations for the Preparation of the Master's Thesis also apply to academic assignments undertaken as part of the Programme's courses, with the necessary adjustments concerning the length of the assignment, which is determined by the instructor.

Approved Master's Theses are mandatorily deposited in ASFA's Digital Repository "Art-IA", in accordance with decisions of the ASFA Senate.

17. Where the Master's Thesis contains original unpublished results, the supervisor may, upon application co-signed by the postgraduate student, request that only the abstracts be published on the website and that the full text be published at a later date.

ARTICLE 12. STUDENT MOBILITY

ASFA has concluded numerous bilateral agreements through its ERASMUS+ Office, which it maintains actively in order to promote student mobility across all cycles of study at the institution.

Postgraduate students may participate in international student-exchange programmes, such as ERASMUS+, in accordance with applicable legislation. In such cases, the maximum number of ECTS credits that may be recognized is thirty (30).

This opportunity is available from the third semester of the Programme, provided that students have successfully completed all courses of the two preceding semesters.

Students must submit an application to the Coordinating Committee and provide the detailed curriculum of the host department for approval.

The postgraduate courses selected must collectively carry the same number of ECTS credits as the courses of the corresponding semester in the Programme, must include completion of research work and/or other assignments or exercises, and must be thematically related to the student's specialization.

ARTICLE 13. PRACTICAL TRAINING

The Postgraduate Programme “Digital Forms of Art” does not, by design, include practical training as part of its curriculum and has therefore not developed a separate regulation governing practical training.

The reason for not including practical training in the postgraduate studies of the Programme to date is the intensive pace of the studies, with a planned completion period of four academic semesters. The first three semesters concern course attendance and the third semester concerns preparation of the Master’s Thesis, with a workload of 30 ECTS per semester fully covered by the educational activities in question, leaving no additional workload capacity for the implementation of practical training.

It should nevertheless be noted that practical training remains an option for consideration in future revisions of the Programme’s design, with the aim of strengthening the connection between postgraduate studies and the labour market.