HÖGSKOLAN I BORÅS

Master Programme in Fashion and Textile Design
Konstnärligt masterprogram i mode- och textildesign
120 credits

Ladok Code: KMAMT
Version: 2.0
Level: Second cycle
Approved by: Artistic Research and Education Board 2014-11-14
Valid from: Autumn 2015
Valid for:

General Objectives

Second level education shall essentially build on the knowledge that students acquire in first level education or corresponding knowledge. Second level education shall involve a deepening of knowledge, skills and abilities relative to first level education and, in addition to what applies to first level education, shall

- further develop the students' ability to independently integrate and use knowledge,
- develop the students' ability to deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations, and
- develop the students' potential for professional activities that demand considerable independence or for research and development work.

(The Higher Educations Act, Chapter 1, Section 9)

Objectives

Aim

The Master Programme in Fashion and Textile Design aims to develop and extend students' competence as textile/fashion designer with regard to artistic, technical, theoretical and reflective ability. The programme offers in-depth practical studies in the form of projects that the student develops progressively from application project to final degree project.

Special weight is attached to the objectives that after graduation, students shall demonstrate excellence as a designer, demonstrate artistic skills and a high level of critical reflection regarding both of these components in the broad field of design.

Critical reflection is integrated into courses that link historical design analysis and design theory to a number of different applications, from projects that focus on individual work to projects done in collaboration with businesses, institutes and organisations. The programme aims to develop students' ability to identify, strategically handle and propose solutions to the challenges of interpretation. A central component of this is critical reflection which is generated in discussions and when problems and solutions are presented to peers and representatives from the design profession. After having gained knowledge about the field of design in general, the student is then trained during the programme to evaluate, contextualise and critically examine their own and others' work. In this way, individual artistic ability and technical skills are improved, the goal being to further educate designers so as to achieve excellence in their professional field and/or for postgraduate studies in practical design research.

As a foundation for artistic expression, the programme attaches great importance to developing students' understanding and knowledge of textile techniques and materials. An important part of this is extensive reflection on sustainable development issues. The work produced during the programme ranges from critical artistic work that proposes alternative design to prototypes that introduce new advanced techniques and materials.

As part of the bachelor's degree in the field of design, students choose to specialise in either textile design or fashion design with projects applied to given areas within these disciplines. Specific questions are attached to each specialization, on the basis of topical discourses.

The Master Programme focuses on a higher level of development and reflection. Here, the student shifts focus from individual design projects to a design programme that is exemplified and developed in different projects. A design programme is a

thematic, overarching programme outline that facilitates a focus on the design decisions that are essential when general design intentions are to be manifested in individual design projects. A design programme may identify an ideological bearing in a very general way or introduce the potential of new materials and/or techniques in a more specific way.

Learning outcomes
After completing the studies, students are expected to demonstrate excellence in design work, to master textile/fashion design in practice with regard to development and reflection and to presentation and discussion. Once the study programme has been passed, students should be able to:

1. Design
a) Demonstrate excellence in fashion/textile design with regard to professional and/or experimental work (artistic development work/practical design research).
b) Develop knowledge and understanding of design work and artistic issues at first cycle level.
c) Develop original ideas and apply them in a systematic way, transform concepts to concrete interpretation, develop them into researchable terms.

2. Design methods
a) Develop and reflect on design methods and design theory with regard to both experimental and professional work at first cycle level.
b) Independently investigate new and/or unknown fields, using a design-focused analysis with given prerequisites; develop projects that are characterised by problem-solving and reflection.
c) Develop an ability to do design work that contributes to the development of design practice in general.

3. Design discourse
a) Present, contextualise and critically discuss their own and others' design work and artistic approach with reference to a contemporary development of experimental and professional practice and practical design research.
b) Lead discussions on design practice and design products in public contexts; demonstrate an ability to communicate the intentions of their own and others' work at seminars and workshops etc.

4. Design aesthetics
a) Develop and reflect on composition methods, principles of form and expressions of design as an aesthetic base for practical design work.
b) Use and develop their own design practice and initiate suitable steps to develop design practice generally by the use of innovative expression.

5. Design ethics
a) Develop and reflect on work processes and design management with reference to cultural contexts and to issues on sustainable development as an ethical base for practical design work.
b) Demonstrate the ability to apply a holistic perspective to complex processes related to the interplay between design, production, marketing and profiling of products and service in relation to design practice and its social implications.
c) Argue for and against products and service in ambiguous contexts and/or ethical discourses.

6. Material and technique
a) Demonstrate in-depth knowledge and skills concerning textile techniques through experimental work.
b) Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of textile materials, their properties and potential forms of expression through experimental work.

Content

The Master Programme in fashion and textile design has two specializations: fashion design and textile design. Specialization is chosen at the time of applying to the programme.

The Master Programme combines individually planned studies in the form of four major design projects with joint courses in design methodology and artistic development, and joint design seminars that run parallel with the other courses throughout the programme. The individually planned study plan is based on the student's application project. A number of courses are offered as an introduction to workshop and laboratory work. To develop and improve students' understanding and skills as regards textile techniques and materials, individually planned course items are incorporated into the design projects.

The programme is conducted in a multi-disciplinary environment, bringing together teachers from many different disciplines. This is supplemented by guest teachers and external supervisors who contribute different forms of specialist expertise to the programme, thereby enabling students to build up professional networks even before graduation. The teaching methodology focuses strongly on supervision, seminars and workshops. To ensure continuity, all students have a main supervisor who stays with them for all the design projects. Moreover, all the design courses are part of a common framework: introduction, seminars and examinations that bring all the students together. The seminars are an important forum for discussions on ongoing projects

and to initiate critical analysis.

Documented reflection, in text, image etc., on results and process is included in all design projects. By working with both interpretation and documented reflection, students expand their knowledge and also have more opportunity to discuss a given piece of work.

Examination is based on the assessment of design work, oral and visual presentation and documented reflection in accordance with the given learning outcomes of each course. The opponents for the Master Programme's degree projects are professors and senior lecturers, primarily from design programmes in Scandinavia, or professional designers from the specific field chosen by the student.

Year 1, 60 credits

Aesthetic Theory – Design Methods, 7.5 credits

The course aims to give students a greater theoretical understanding of the principles and foundations of systematic design and develop their ability to design the design process by applying theoretical principles and foundations to practical work. The main focus of the course is on intended learning outcomes 1b-c and 2a-c.

Aesthetic Theory – Design Seminars I, 7.5 credits

The course aims to introduce students to research and professional development within textile and fashion design. The course also aims to give students practice in open, critical discussion of their own and others' work. The main focus of the course is on intended learning outcomes 3a-b.

Artistic Development – second cycle level, 7.5 credits

The course aims to develop students' individual artistic ability and give an insight into contemporary art and design through the study of contemporary trends. The main focus of the course is on intended learning outcomes 1a-c, 2a-c and 3a.

Design project - Application project, 7.5 credits

The course aims to prepare and develop the Master Programme's application project; to prepare, develop and decide a design programme for the application project that was the basis of the student's admission to the Master Programme. The main focus of the course is on intended learning outcomes 1a-c, 2a-b, 4a-b and 6a-b.

Design Project – Advanced Project, 15 credits

The course aims to give further training in design work: to improve and test a given design programme through a series of examples of design, e.g. in collaboration with a textile and/or fashion company and/or an organisation with regard to the student's choice of specialization. During the course, the student develops an individually chosen design project with a focus on concept development, taking environmental, technical, market and ethical aspects into account. The main focus of the course is on intended learning outcomes 1a-c, 2a-c, 3a-b, 4a-b, 5a-c and 6a-b.

Optional courses, 15

These options allow students to study introductory or advanced courses in textile techniques that aim to expand knowledge of and skills in different techniques, e.g. dyeing, textile print and preparation, canvas, tricot and knitwear, construction and the study of textile materials. The main focus of the courses is on intended learning outcomes 6a-b.

Year 2, 60 credits

Aesthetic Theory – Design Seminars II, 7.5 credits

(See Aesthetic Theory – Design Seminars I year 1) Design Seminars II includes design history, which aims to give in-depth reflection on and critical examination of the student's own work with regard to design history in terms of artefacts, people, movements and companies etc. The main focus of the course in on intended learning outcomes 3a-b.

Design Project – Research Project, 15 credits

The course aims to develop the student's artistic and creative ability through experimental work with materials, design and function in relation to fashion and textile. The course also aims to give an in-depth perspective on design methods and design concept through analysis, investigation and testing; to further develop a given design programme through experimental design work. The main focus of the course is on intended learning outcomes 1a-c, 2a-c, 3a-b, 4a-b and 6a-b.

Design Project - Degree Project, 30 credits

Through seminars and supervision, the course aims to prepare students for their final assignment which is expected to demonstrate excellence in textile and fashion design with regard to professional and/or experimental practice; to sum up and produce a final collection for display/exhibition. The main focus of the course is on intended learning outcomes 1a-c, 2a-c, 3a-b, 4a-b, 5c and 6a-b.

Optional courses, 7.5 credits

Students choose their own courses after consultation with the studies director.

Admission Requirements

Prerequisites, application and selection
The specific entry requirements for the programme are a bachelor's degree in Design, 180 credits, or the equivalent and a capacity for experimental, investigatory work and critical reflection. A qualification in English corresponding to English 6 is also required.
Applicants apply for a specialization, i.e. either textile design or fashion design. Application is done via the website antagning.se and with an uploaded portfolio with work samples, application project and CV. See the link below. The portfolio must demonstrate the applicant's competence and skills within the field of design and the application project must describe what the applicant wants to focus on during the Master programme within the framework of the programme's project courses. The assessment of eligibility and selection is done on artistic grounds and is based on work samples in the portfolio, application project and interview. At the first stage, the portfolio is assessed with regard to the applicant's capacity for artistic interpretation, experimental work, technical skills and ability to reflect. At the next stage, a number of applicants will be interviewed. Then, a final assessment of eligibility is done and the applicants are ranked for admission.
For instructions regarding the application portfolio, go to
www.hb.se/ths/masterdesign/apply

Degree

When the programme (120 credits) is completed, students graduate with a Master of Fine Arts in Fashion and Textile Design with specialization in Fashion Design or a Master of Fine Arts in Fashion and Textile Design with specialization in Textile Design.

Main subject area:

- Fashion and Textile Design

The following applies at the University of Borås:
A Master of Fine Arts requires at least 90 credits at second cycle level, of which at least 60 credits must be within the main subject area, and completed courses as stated in the programme syllabus.

Degree certificates are issued following application using a special form. More information is available at the University website.

Degree certificates are issued upon application on a special form. More information is available at www.hb.se.

Student Influence and Evaluation

Student democracy for students taking the programme is assured by means of a continuous dialogue between students, programme co-ordinators and teaching staff. Students evaluations and students opinions are used as the basis for continual revisions of the study programme. Once each term, the programme is evaluated in its entirety. The programme coordinators, director of studies and student representatives use student opinions and a review of how the programme is put together and run in order to continually improve the programme and keep it up-to-date.

For single-subject courses, the teacher responsible has the task of systematically and regularly gathering students opinions. The results of these course evaluations, both oral and written, are then used to influence the course structure and contents.

There is a Programme Council which is used by student representatives, teachers and people from trade and industry in order to discuss issues which affect the present and future aims of the programme. This gives students one further opportunity to influence the study programme.

Interested parties are otherwise asked to consult the universitys course evaluation policy and other documents issued by the director of studies and Departmental Board.

Miscellaneous

Parts of the programme may be located in another place.

Teaching will be conducted in English.

The language of instruction is English.