

Bauhaus-Universität Weimar
Faculty of Art and Design

**Examination regulations for the postgraduate degree programme
"Kunst im öffentlichen Raum und neue künstlerische Strategien/
Public Art and New Artistic Strategies"
Master of Fine Arts (MFA)**

In accordance with par. 3, sect. 1 in association with par. 33, sect. 1, no. 1 of the Thuringian Higher Education Act (ThürHG) effective 21 December 2006 (GVBl. pp. 601 ff.), the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar has issued the following examination regulations for the postgraduate degree programme "Kunst im öffentlichen Raum und neue künstlerische Strategien/Public Art and New Artistic Strategies" with the conferral of a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) degree. These regulations were approved by the Faculty Council on 28 May 2008 and went into effect on 11 August 2008 with the formal approval of the Rector of the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar.

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Supplement

Course and examination schedule

§ 1
Purpose of examination

The Master's degree programme concludes with the Master's examination. Students are expected to demonstrate the complex skills required for developing art in public space and applying new artistic strategies.

§ 2
University degree

With the successful completion of the Master's examination, students are awarded the university-level degree of professional qualification "Master of Fine Arts" (MFA).

§ 3
Scope and structure of study

- (1) The prescribed duration of study is 4 semesters.
- (2) The structure of the Master's degree programme is based on modules, totalling 120 credit points.
- (3) The study regulations and course plan are to be arranged in such a way to enable students to study abroad and complete their Master's examination within the prescribed duration of study.

§ 4
Examination structure and deadlines

- (1) Candidates are required to pass their Master's examination – comprised of a Master's thesis and presentation – by the end of their 6th presence semester. If a candidate fails to meet this requirement, s/he is barred from the examination, unless the failure to do so resulted through no fault of their own.
- (2) If a candidate misses the examination for health reasons and can provide a doctor's certificate attesting the illness, s/he is required to take the examination at the next possible session.

§ 5
Examination committee

- (1) An examination committee, comprised of members of the faculty, is formed to ensure compliance with these examination regulations. The committee is comprised of three professors, one member of the academic staff and one student. The chairperson, his/her deputy and additional members of the examination committee are appointed by the Faculty Council. As a rule, the members of the committee are appointed for a two-year term and the student member for one year.
- (2) The examination committee passes resolutions based on the majority vote. In the event of a tie, the committee's chairperson is responsible for deciding the matter. The quorum of the committee is met when the majority of the members are present, including the chairperson or his/her deputy. The sessions of the examination committee are not open to the public. The committee members are subject to professional discretion. If they are not a civil servant, they are nonetheless obliged to professional discretion by the chairperson or his/her deputy.
- (3) The examination committee ensures that candidates comply with the rules put forth in the examination regulations. The committee reports on the progress of the examinations and study duration to the Faculty Council on a regular basis. Furthermore, it can recommend changes to the study regulations,

course plan and examination regulations.

(4) The members of the examination committee have the right to be present at the examination sessions.

§ 6

Examiners and observers

(1) The examination committee appoints the examiners and observers. The examiners must be members or employees of the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar (or, in exceptional cases, from another university), who, as a professor, lecturer or part-time lecturer, are or were authorized to independently teach the subject of examination. This also applies if the examiner was authorized to independently teach a subject that comprises only one area of the examined subject. The purpose and special character of an examination may necessitate the appointment of a practicing professional to be examiner. In such cases, the individual must have acquired experience in professional training and praxis and have at least passed the examination in question or achieved an equivalent level of professional qualification.

The examination results are generally assessed by three examiners, one of whom should have professorial status. As a rule, the mentor is the first examiner.

The examination panel also includes an instructor of the Master's degree programme. The theoretical treatment in the Master's thesis is supervised and assessed by an instructor from the theoretical disciplines.

(2) The chairperson of the examination committee ensures that the candidate is notified of the names of the examiners in advance. The examiners are appointed by the examination committee.

(3) The examiners and observers are subject to professional discretion.

§ 7

Recognition of periods of study, course work and examinations

(1) The university automatically recognizes periods of study, course work and examinations in an equivalent degree programme. Degree programmes undergo a single assessment by the faculty. This rule applies only when requested.

(2) Periods of study, course work and examinations in other degree programmes are recognized if they are deemed equivalent to those of the degree programme in question. Periods of study, course work and examinations are deemed equivalent if the student's former degree programme corresponds to that of the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar in terms of content, scope and requirements. This assessment is not based on a schematic comparison, but an overall review and evaluation. If the university recognizes periods of study, course work and examinations completed at institutions not subject to the Framework Act for Higher Education, it must ensure that these comply with the equivalence agreements made by the Standing Conference of Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs, as well as contractual agreements as established in the terms of university partnerships.

(3) Students must attain a minimum of 90 credit points at the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar to be eligible for the Master's examination (3 projects, 3 postgraduate seminars and three "professionalization" modules). During their studies abroad, students must also achieve comparable credit for a project (practical artistic work) and postgraduate seminar (theory seminar at postgraduate level).

(4) If the course work and examination results are recognized and the grading systems are equivalent, the student's grades are then compiled to form a final grade. If the grading systems are not equivalent, completed courses are then designated as "passed". Such recognition may be marked accordingly on the certificate.

(5) If a candidate fulfils the requirements outlined in sections 1 and 2, s/he is legally entitled to have his/her periods of study, course work and examinations recognized. The candidate is responsible for

submitting all documentation necessary for determining the recognition thereof.

§ 8

Assessment of course work and examinations

(1) The grades of each examination are determined by the corresponding examiner. The following grade scheme is used for grading a candidate's examination:

1.0–1.5	<i>Very good</i>	excellent
1.6–2.5	<i>Good</i>	significantly above-average mark
2.6–3.5	<i>Satisfactory</i>	average
3.6–4.0	<i>Sufficient</i>	meets the requirements despite some faults
> 4.0	<i>Insufficient</i>	Fails to meet the requirements as a result of too many faults

(2) If a module examination is comprised of several parts, the final grade is calculated by averaging the grades of all parts of the examination.

(3) The examiner calculates the final grade to only one decimal place. All additional decimal places are neither considered nor rounded.

(4) The candidate receives a total grade for the Master's examination, calculated by averaging all the grades of the module examinations and the Master's thesis.

In the case of outstanding achievement, the examination committee may also append the title "with honours". This entails that the student passed the Master's degree module with a 1.0 and the majority of the module examinations with a 1.0, and received no grade for an examination below 2.0.

(5) The German grades are supplemented by the ECTS grades, based on the following grading scheme:

ECTS grade	Students, who receive the following grades, are among:
A	the top 10 %
B	the next 25 %
C	the next 30 %
D	the next 25 %
E	the next 10 %
F	failed examination

The credit points required to complete the Master's degree programme are listed in the supplement.

§ 9

Absence, withdrawal, deception, violation of regulations

(1) A candidate automatically receives a grade of "insufficient" (5.0), if s/he does not show up for the examination without good reason or backs out of the examination for no good reason after it has commenced. The same applies if a written examination is not completed within the time allotted.

(2) If the candidate fails to attend or withdraws from an examination, s/he must notify the examination committee or examiner of the reasons and substantiate them in writing immediately. In the case of sickness or an accident, the candidate must submit a doctor's certificate, and in substantiated cases, certification from a medical officer attesting the candidate's inability to be examined. Should the reason for failure to attend or withdrawal be recognized, the examination is rescheduled, usually for the next regular examination session. All previously attained examination results remain valid.

(3) If the candidate attempts to influence the outcome of his/her examination through deception or by means of impermissible aids, the candidate automatically receives a grade of "insufficient" (5.0) for the examination. The examiner or invigilator has the right to remove a candidate from an examination session if the candidate violates the rules of the examination. In such cases, the candidate receives a grade of "insufficient" (5.0) for the examination. In especially severe cases, the examination committee may bar the candidate from taking any further examinations.

(4) Following notification of the examination results, the candidate has four weeks to contest the assessment and have the decision reviewed by the examination committee in accordance with sect. 3, nos. 1 and 2.

§ 10

Admission to the Master's examination

(1) To be admitted to the Master's examination, students must attain 90 credit points in preliminary course work:

3 project modules - 54 credit points

3 graduate seminar modules - 18 credit points

3 "professionalization" modules - 18 credit points

(2) At the beginning of each course, the lecturer determines the type of examination the students must complete. All completed course work is certified by certificates of achievement.

§ 11

Master's examination

(1) The Master's examination, comprised of the Master's thesis and its presentation, should demonstrate the candidate's personal artistic development and, in particular, reveal the candidate's skills in applying artistic strategies to public space. Candidates are allotted twelve weeks to complete their Master's thesis. In exceptional cases and upon written request, the examination committee may grant a candidate an extension if it deems it necessary for thematically related reasons. Furthermore, the examination committee may also grant an extension if the candidate cannot complete the Master's thesis in time as a result of circumstances over which s/he has no control.

(2) The Master's thesis contains a practical/artistic part and a theoretical part. The practical part requires the candidate to create an artistic work in public space. The work should have a connection to the city of Weimar, and, if it does not, it must be presented in an appropriate way in Weimar. The candidate is expected to develop a new project for the Master's thesis.

The written portion of the Master's thesis must be at least 20 pages long (DIN A4 format) and written in English. The candidate should focus on the theoretical background of the practical/artistic work and make reference to contemporary developments in art in the public realm. The candidate should also provide details about his/her artistic working strategies.

(3) Following an interview with the candidate, the first examiner, who also supervises the Master's thesis, approves the topic of the Master's examination and informs the examination committee of the topic of the thesis and the date of its presentation. The candidate's admission to the Master's examination must be documented in writing.

(4) The candidate and supervisor should meet for at least two consultations during the time allotted for the completion of the thesis. The candidate should also meet with the instructor responsible for the supervision of his/her theoretical discourse.

(5) The topic of the Master's thesis may only be discarded once and only within the first four weeks of the time allotted for the completion of the thesis.

(6) A Master's thesis in the form of a group work is permissible as long as the candidate's achievement can be clearly distinguished from that of the other members and individually assessed, and fulfils the requirements stipulated in sect. 1.

(7) The candidate must apply in writing to the examination committee for permission to begin the Master's thesis. The application must include:

1. Certificates of completion of course work and courses completed abroad, if such a period of study abroad is required in accordance with par. 4, sect. 2, no. 1
2. Concept regarding the topic of the Master's thesis and its presentation
3. Proposal of an advisor and two examiners

(8) The candidate must submit the theoretical part of the thesis, as well as a description and visualization of the practical/artistic part by the fixed deadline. The candidate must also provide documentation of the artistic work as soon as it is available. The written part of the Master's thesis must also be submitted in digital form.

(9) Upon submission of the Master's thesis, the candidate must provide written assurance that his/her work – if a group work, then his/her portion of the thesis – was completed independently and no other sources or aids were used other than those explicitly cited.

(10) One copy of the documentation of the Master's thesis (including its digital form) becomes property of the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar and can be destroyed two years after the conclusion of the examination process. The Bauhaus-Universität Weimar reserves the right to use and/or publish the Master's thesis (with due credit given to the author) in part or whole for purposes of instruction and research. This stipulation does not infringe on the author's copyrights.

§ 12

Submission and evaluation of the Master's thesis

(1) The Master's thesis must be submitted to the advisor by the deadline. The advisor must officially set the submission deadline in writing. The examiners are required to evaluate the Master's thesis within three months following the submission deadline.

(2) The Master's thesis must be evaluated by three examiners in accordance with par. 6, sect. 1. The candidate must hold the presentation of the thesis in English.

(3) The final grade is calculated by averaging the individual grades determined by the examiners. If one of the examiners deems the Master's thesis as "insufficient", the examination committee appoints a third examiner. The candidate receives a passing grade if two examiners assess it as being at least "sufficient".

(4) The candidate must present the thesis to the examiners of his/her Master's thesis. As a rule, the candidate is allotted sixty minutes for the thesis presentation, the results of which are documented in a written protocol.

§ 13

Passing the Master's examination, calculation of final grade

(1) The final grade of the Master's examination is comprised of the grade for the theoretical part of the Master's thesis (20 %), the grade for the practical/artistic part of the thesis and its presentation (50 %) and the average of all examination grades received during the Master's degree programme (30 %).

(2) The final grade of the Master's examination is calculated as follows:

Average from 1.0 to 1.5	very good
Average from 1.6 to 2.5	good
Average from 2.6 to 3.5	satisfactory
Average from 3.6 to 4.0	sufficient

(3) The candidate passes the Master's examination if the Master's thesis and its presentation receive a grade of no less than "sufficient" (4.0).

(4) In cases of outstanding achievement, the examination committee can confer the title "with honours".

§ 14 Invalidity of examination

(1) If the candidate influences his examination results through dishonest methods, or if such is discovered after the certificate has been issued, the examination committee is permitted to retroactively correct or render those results invalid which the candidate had dishonestly influenced.

(2) If the requirements for admission to the examination were not fulfilled and the candidate had no intention of deceiving the committee, and if this fact is discovered after the certificate is issued, a passing grade on the examination automatically rectifies the mistake. However, if the candidate consciously deceived the committee to be admitted to the examination, then the examination committee must decide on a punitive course of action.

(3) Before the examination committee decides on the matter, the candidate is allowed to make a statement in his/her defence.

(4) The incorrect certificate must be retracted and replaced, if necessary, with a new one. If the examination is marked as "failed" for reasons of deception, then both the incorrect certificate and diploma must be retracted. In accordance with sect. 1 and sect. 2, no. 2, decisions on such matters may only be made within a period of five years from the date on the examination certificate.

§ 15 Repetition of examination

(1) If the candidate's work is deemed insufficient, the Master's thesis and its presentation may be repeated once.

(2) The candidate is not permitted to repeat the Master's examination or any of its parts.

§ 16 Examination certificate

(1) The certificate is issued in English and German, and includes the grades, the topic of the Master's thesis and the total credit points received.

The certificate bears the date marking the completion of the last examination. It is signed by the Dean of the Faculty and the chairperson of the examination committee, and authenticated with the university seal. The certificate is issued together with the Diploma Supplement, a document in English and German that describes the contents of the Master's degree programme.

§ 17 Diploma

(1) Along with the certificate, the candidate also receives his/her Master's degree diploma in both English and German versions, bearing the date of the certificate. The diploma certifies the conferral of the degree. Certificates and diplomas are issued in English and German.

(2) The diploma is signed by the Dean of the Faculty and the chairperson of the examination committee, and authenticated with the university seal.

§ 18

Reviewing the examination documents

The candidate may review (on prior request) his/her written examination documents, the corresponding assessments by the examiners and the examination protocols within one year following the conclusion of the examination process.

§ 19

Contesting the examination results

(1) If a candidate is assessed unfavourably, based on these examination regulations, s/he must be notified of the decision in writing together with its justification. The candidate is allowed to formally contest the decision with the examination committee within a period of one month after receiving notification.

(2) Following a hearing of the examiners, the examination committee is responsible for deciding on the contested assessment.

(3) If the candidate contests the assessment of one of the examiners, the examination committee forwards the matter to the examiner in question for re-evaluation. Should the examiner decide to change his/her assessment, the examination committee redresses the contested decision.

Otherwise, the examination committee reviews whether the assessment:

1. was made based on incorrect assumptions or irrelevant considerations,
2. violated generally recognized principles of assessment standards,
3. violated legal provisions, or
4. violated general principles of life experience.

If the committee determines that any of these occurred, it issues an "objection notice".

(4) If the candidate contests a decision made by the examination committee, the Dean holds a hearing with the committee, and, if the committee refuses to redress the decision, the Dean is responsible for settling the matter.

(5) Section 3 also applies to a contested assessment made by more than one examiner.

(6) Contested decisions must be addressed at the soonest possible date. If the decision is not redressed, the candidate must be notified of why and receive instruction on his/her rights of appeal. The "objection notice" must be served on the contestant.

§ 20

Equal treatment clause

Terms of status and function as applied in these regulations pertain to both sexes to an equal degree.

§ 21
Statement of effect

These examination regulations entered into effect on the first day of the month following their public announcement by the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar. First-semester students beginning in the winter semester 2008/09 are the first to which these regulations apply.

Approved by resolution of the Faculty Council on 28 May 2008.

Prof. Herbert Wentscher
Dean

The statutes are approvable.

Dipl.-Jur. Rainer Junghanß
Legal Advisor

Approved on 11 August 2008

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Gerd Zimmermann
Rector

Supplement: Course and examination schedule

	Credit points	Type of examination
1st semester		
1 project module	18	interim examination
1 graduate seminar module	6	interim examination
1 "professionalization" module	6	interim examination
Total credits in 1st semester	30	
2nd semester		
1 project module	18	interim examination
1 graduate seminar module	6	interim examination
1 "professionalization" module	6	interim examination
Total credits in 2nd semester	30	
3rd semester		
1 project module	18	interim examination
1 graduate seminar module	6	interim examination
1 "professionalization" module	6	interim examination
Total credits in 3rd semester	30	
Total credits in first 3 semesters	90	
4th semester		
Master's thesis and presentation	30	Master's examination
Total credits in 4th semester	30	
Total credits in 4 semesters	120	