



VALAND ACADEMY

VCUR01 Commissioning and Curating Contemporary Public Art, 30 credits

Att beställa och curera samtidskonst i det offentliga rummet, 30 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Valand Academy on 2016-06-14 and was last revised on 2018-10-19 to be valid from 2018-10-19, autumn semester of 2018.

Field of education: Fine Arts 100%

Department: Valand Academy

Position in the educational system

The course is given as a free standing course.

Main field of studies

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Specialization

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

Bachelor's degree or equivalent knowledge.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

Introduction to different practices and debates in contemporary public art

- explain debates and areas of contention within contemporary public art
- explain legal and financial aspects of contemporary public art projects

Case studies in the commissioning and curating of contemporary public art

- present different ways of working with public participation and aspects of local democracy in conjunction with the commissioning or curating of contemporary public art
- give examples of curatorial challenges in the work with contemporary public art

Project work in commissioning and curating of contemporary public art

- formulate a project description accounting for the student's intentions and point of departure in the commissioning or curating of contemporary public art
- perform an intelligence assessment based on the student's own degree project

Competence and skills

Introduction to different practices and debates in contemporary public art

- identify and define a public space based on different methods (artistic, anthropological, etc.)
- discuss contemporary public art using relevant terms and concepts

Case studies in the commissioning and curating of contemporary public art

- give examples of conflicts and suggest how these could be used constructively in the curating of contemporary public art
- contextualise different projects and reflect on their implementation in relation to various interest groups

Project work in the commissioning and curating of contemporary public art

- develop independent solutions to problems that arise in the commissioning or curating of contemporary public art
- independently evaluate and make qualified assessments of financial and legal terms based on the student's own project

Judgement and approach

Introduction to different practices and debates in contemporary public art

- assess the capacity of contemporary public art to initiate and participate in critical discussions on contemporary issues

Case studies in the commissioning and curating of contemporary public art

- reflect on contemporary public art in relation to other disciplines that claim public space
- reflect on the contentious situations that may arise in the commissioning or curating of contemporary public art

Project work in the commissioning and curating of contemporary public art

- analyse and critically reflect on the development, process and presentation format of the project
- analyse and critically reflect on how the project relates to contemporary curatorial practices and relevant theories

- analyse and critically reflect on the development, process and presentation format of the project and how it relates to society in general

Course content

Commissioning and Curating of Contemporary Public Art is one of two courses offered at the Valand Academy within the theme of public arts. The course aims to develop the student's knowledge and skills within the commissioning, curating and production of contemporary public art. This is done through lectures, seminars, site visits, group projects, case studies and individual supervision. The course consists of three modules:

Sub-courses

1. Introduction to Contemporary Public Art Practices and Debates (*Introduktion till olika praktiker och debatter i offentlig samtidskonst*), 7.5 credits

Grading scale: Pass (G) and Fail (U)

Examples of current projects and debates are used to introduce practical and theoretical issues within the subject. The course looks at curatorial challenges in public art. Introductions are given to artistic, anthropological and other interdisciplinary methods of defining a public space, along with strategies for how to engage an audience. The course gives an introduction to the Fundamental Law on Freedom of Expression, the Public Procurement Act, financing and budget strategies and artist payment models. The student is trained in how to formulate contracts as well as funding applications.

2. Case Studies in Commissioning and Curating Contemporary Art in Public Space (*Fallstudier i beställning och curatering av samtidskonst i det offentliga rummet*), 7.5 credits

Grading scale: Pass (G) and Fail (U)

Detailed case studies are used to look at practical and theoretical aspects of the commissioning and curating of contemporary art in public spaces. The course highlights contentious opinions on the public space and public culture, as well as different models for artistic activities and activity programmes. Some case studies highlight different forms of interdisciplinary work (city planning, architecture, social science, environmental science), which are activated in the commissioning and curating of contemporary public art. Other case studies focus on public participation, local democracy aspects and decision-making processes in municipalities in relation to the commissioning and curating of public art. Students are trained in identifying points of contention and in using these constructively in their work.

their work.

3. Project Work in Commissioning and Curating Contemporary Art in Public

(Projektarbete i beställning eller curatering av offentlig samtidskonst), 15 credits

Grading scale: Pass (G) and Fail (U)

The module consists of a project referencing different aspects of the production of contemporary art in public spaces. The project assignment is chosen and defined by the student, and is to examine questions relating to the commissioning or curating of contemporary art in public spaces. It may take the form of a plan of action for the work with contemporary public art in a municipality, a curatorial project proposal on contemporary public art or an evaluation of an already completed production. The project work allows the student to deepen and develop their knowledge within a specific area, and to work with a problem, continue developing a method and investigate the dialogue between their own project and society in general.

Form of teaching

The course consists of lectures, seminars, site visits, group work, case studies and individual supervision. Teaching is conducted through campus and distance education (mixed learning environments).

Language of instruction: Swedish and English

Assessment

The course is examined through written work, oral presentation and visual presentation.

Introduction to Contemporary Public Art Practices and Debates

Written presentation and oral in the workshop

Case Studies in Commissioning and Curating Contemporary Art in Public Space

Written presentation and oral in the workshop

Project Work in Commissioning and Curating Contemporary Art in Public

Written through a project description and oral presentation in connection with the final report of the project.

If a student, who has failed the same examined component twice, wishes to change examiner before the next examination, a written application shall be sent to the department responsible for the course and shall be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

In cases where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the student shall normally be guaranteed at least three examination occasions (including the ordinary examination) during a period of at least one year from the last time the course was given.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass (G) and Fail (U).

Course evaluation

Students participate in an oral evaluation of the course. They are also asked to complete an anonymous online evaluation. The results of and possible changes to the course will be shared with students who participated in the evaluation and students who are starting the course.

Additional information

The student will pay any costs incurred for completing the courses project work.