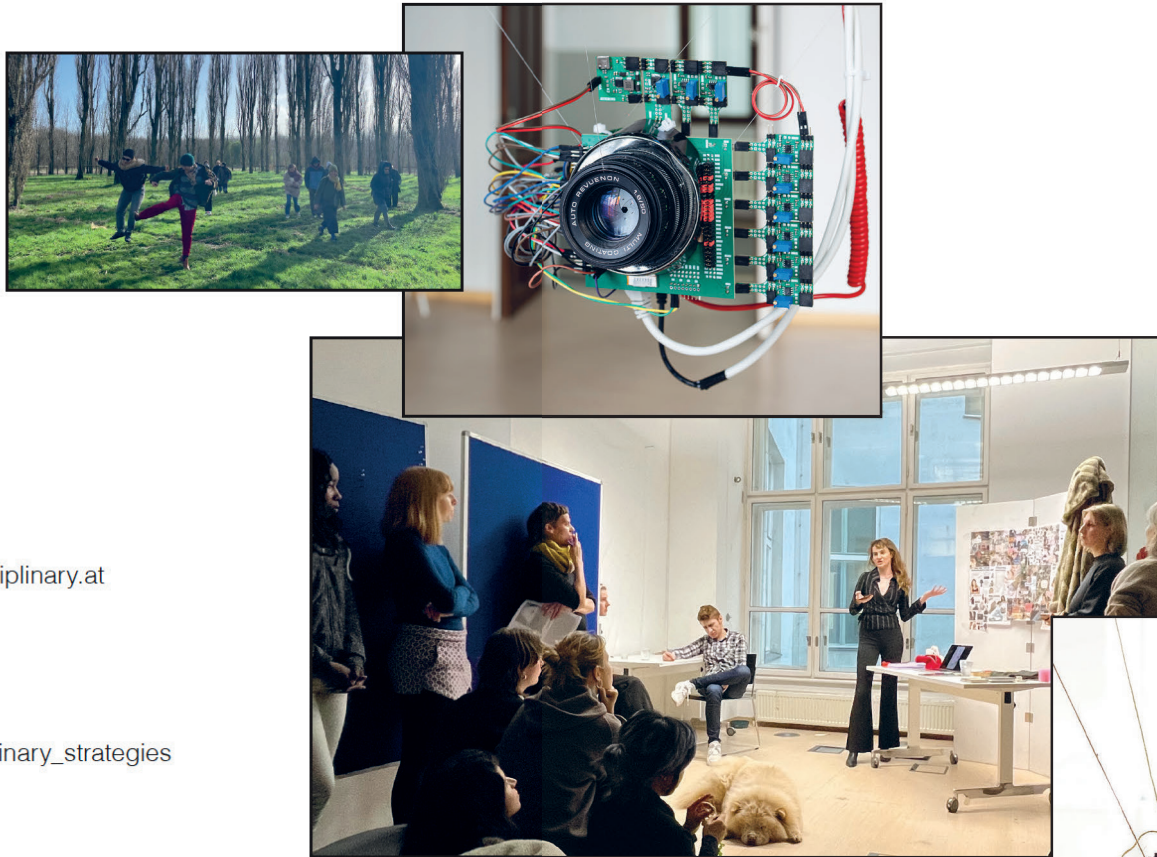


BACHELOR

CROSS- DISCIPLINARY STRATEGIES



www.crossdisciplinary.at



Instagram:
[@cross_disciplinary_strategies](https://www.instagram.com/cross_disciplinary_strategies)



Images:

- Excursion to the Netherlands, 2025, photo: Yona Schreyer
- Final BA project work by Jaro Habiger, 2025, photo: Jorit Aust
- In-class presentation, BA Application Lab, photo: Yona Schreyer
- Final BA project work by Ronja Janu, 2023, photo: Jorit Aust, University of Applied Arts Vienna

What is the CDS BA program?

The Bachelor program in Cross-Disciplinary Strategies: Applied Studies in Art, Science, Philosophy and Global Challenges (CDS) is offered by the University of Applied Arts Vienna since 2017.

The aim of the four-year program is to prepare students for a critical engagement with major scientific, technological, social and political issues arising in an interconnected global world.

The program progresses in three phases:

In the 'introductory phase', students acquire basic skills and capabilities necessary for cross-disciplinary work.

In the 'application phase', three main areas are explored:

- artistic strategies and approaches to art;
- science and technology;
- economics and politics.

Together with additional fields, these areas are inte-

grated by means of project work dedicated to a specific annual topic. The main site for this is the CDC Lab – an experimental and collaborative project space where students work together across a range of materials, perspectives, techniques and configurations.

In the 'finalist phase', students focus on their BA thesis, which consists of a practical project together with a written paper.



What can I learn at CDS?

CDS offers cross-disciplinary teaching modules including seminars, team teaching, peer presentations, excursions, project development, as well as the possibility of internships and international exchange programs. Students benefit from mentoring by faculty and lecturers, as well as frequent workshops and guest lectures.

CDS aims to prepare students for a critical reflection of globally challenging problems in today's interconnected societies. The program is guided by annual topics that focus on pressing debates about migration, work, human rights, environmental concerns, economic developments, AI, and many others issues.

What can I do with a degree in CDS?

The program is designed for students wishing to develop critical competences and collaborative skills in relation to wide-ranging global challenges.

While some BA students continue to pursue a master's degree, others find career opportunities in a range of fields including political, scientific, artistic, non-governmental and/or international institutions where complex problems demand cross-disciplinary approaches.

8 semesters, 240 ECTS
Degree: Bachelor of Arts (BA)

HOW TO APPLY?

What is the entrance exam?

The entrance exam offers potential students the opportunity to demonstrate their willingness and capacity to work in a cross-disciplinary field spanning the arts, sciences and humanities. Applicants must demonstrate their qualification as well as visual, technical and linguistic competence to complete the program.

All submitted certificates will be examined by the Office of Student and Academic Affairs after applicants have passed the entrance exam. An Austrian Higher School Certificate (Maturazeugnis) or an equivalent from another country is the precondition for admission to the CDS program. All CDS courses are held in English; B2 level (CEFR) is required.

The entrance examination consists of two phases. Each phase requires a positive assessment in order to move on to the next one.

MORE INFORMATION

www.dieangewandte.at/application



Phase 1

Registration and submission

Register for the online application process under <https://application.uni-ak.ac.at> and upload all requested documents in one single PDF file (max. 50 MB) between **8 and 22 January 2026, 13:00 MEZ.**

The PDF shall be named:
'LastName_FirstName_BA_Application'

The requested documents are:

- a) Curriculum Vitae, including contact information (telephone, e-mail)
- b) Letter of Motivation (600 words)
Please address the following questions:
 - What is your understanding of cross-disciplinary work?
 - What visions, skills and ideas do you bring to the program?
 - What projects would you like to focus on?

Phase 2

Practical task and interview

If you have successfully passed phase 1, you will be invited to participate in a practical assignment, followed by a face-to-face interview by the admission committee between **23 February and 6 March 2026.**

Results

Publication of results by 13 March 2026

Studies commence in the winter semester following the entrance exam.