MASTER

CROSS-DISCIPLINARY STRATEGIES

What is the CDS MA program?
The Master 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 2021.

The program gives students the opportunity to critically engage with global societal challenges by developing individual and collective projects using a wide range of tools and formats tailored towards these very challenges.

Courses offered in CDS are organized around three main study areas:
– artistic strategies and approaches to art,
– science and technology,
– economics and politics.

The curriculum also includes courses in philosophy, transcultural studies as well as communication and cooperation strategies. Through this extended framework, students are particularly sensitized to the larger epistemological foundations of today's extensive knowledge systems. Efforts toward a socially and ecologically sustainable future are explicitly encouraged and supported within the specific course of studies.

www.crossdisciplinary.at

Instagram:
@cross_disciplinary_strategies

Images:
– Excursion to Sicily (Erasmus program 'Bodies of Water'), 2025, photo: Elisabetta Carrubba
– Final MA project work by Luca Hierzenberger, 2025, photo: Jorit Aust
– 'After Confusion', MA students' exhibition at Angewandte Festival 2025, photo: Safia El Maataoui
– Final MA project works by Samo Zeichen and Paula Bracker, 2025, photo: kunst-dokumentation.com

CROSS-DISCIPLINARY STRATEGIES

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Universität für angewandte Kunst Wien
University of Applied Arts Vienna

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What can I learn at CDS?
MA students learn to engage in cross-disciplinary projects through research conducted across various areas, implemented both in individual work and collective processes. This practice-oriented approach issues in students' final projects, which comprises a practical part and a written thesis. Through seminars, excursions, workshops, guest lectures and close mentorship, the MA program aims to prepare graduates for critical work within global interest groups combining different specialist backgrounds.

4 semesters, 120 ECTS
Degree: Master of Arts (MA)

HOW TO APPLY?

In order to apply, you have to submit a written application. After your application materials have been reviewed by the admission committee, candidates will be invited to fulfill a practical test, which will be followed by an interview held in Vienna.

Phase 1

Registration and submission
Register for the online application process between **7 and 21 January 2027, 13:00 MEZ** under https://application.uni-ak.ac.at and upload all documents in one single PDF file (max. 50 MB) named: 'LastName_FirstName_MA_Application'

The requested documents are:
a) Copy of degree certificate(s)
b) Curriculum Vitae (CV)
c) Portfolio (max. 20 pages): documentation of academic, artistic and/or practical work; documentation of your bachelor's project.
d) Project draft (max. 500 words): your idea for a Master's thesis, taking into account the specific cross-disciplinary character of such an endeavor. You are not obliged to implement the idea you present here.
e) Motivation letter (max. 500 words), which should include:
   – information about your previous studies of art and other academic subjects;
   – project experience and collaborative work within and beyond your previous degree program;
   – your expectations of the CDS Master's program.

Phase 2

Practical task and interview
Applicants who have passed phase 1 of the admission process will be invited for a personal interview conducted by the admission committee. Interviews will be held in Vienna on 24th and 25th of February 2027. They are based on the submitted documents and a practical task preceding the interview.

Results

Results will be published in due time.

Studies commence in the winter semester following the entrance exam.

Evidence of English proficiency at level B2 (CEFR) is required and will be checked by the Office for Student and Academic Affairs after you have passed the entrance exam.

MORE INFORMATION

www.dieangewandte.at/application