



Cirkusutbildningen, 180 hp/ Program in Circus, 180 HE Credits/ 180 ECTS

Konstnärlig kandidatexamen i cirkus, 180 hp/ Educational Program of Bachelor of Arts in Circus, 180 HE Credits/180 ECTS

Determined by the Board of the University College of Dance for Artistic Research and Development and Education, 24 April 2009. Revised by the Board of the University of Dance and Circus for Artistic Research and Development and Education, 24 September 2010.

This plan applies to new students starting to study from the autumn term of 2009.

Introduction

Description of Main Field of Study

The educational program takes the artistic traditions and technique of circus as its starting point in order to ensure the acquisition of a high level of technical and artistic competence. Through the encounter with various forms of bodily expression, students are enabled to explore their chosen discipline while also developing their personal idiom. The teaching of bodily control, how to plan training, of anatomy and health together with self-knowledge equips students with the means to enhance their individual technical skills.

The main educational program also encompasses knowledge and understanding of artistic expression within the many forms of circus art so that, on completion of the Educational program, students can make their own aesthetic choices and contribute to the development of circus as an art form. The program aims to provide students with the tools to develop their artistic practice on two levels. They should, on the one hand, be able to collaborate as part of a group while helping to create a place of their own within a shared vision and organisation. At the same time students also need to be equipped to create their own numbers and shows. They are therefore expected to acquire skills in choreography, directing and artistic processes. Students are provided with the opportunity to work on portrayal, character work, interpretation, improvisation and encountering the audience. The various aspects of creative stage work are studied in greater depth by continually exploring, creating, rehearsing and presenting artistic projects on the large and small scale.

As part of the educational program in circus, students are expected to be able to relate their own activities to a historical, artistic and social context. This involves work, for example, on the history of the circus arts and their position in the cultural landscape,



knowledge of other artistic fields, and of the social implications of the body, culture and art. Students are given the means to be able to reflect on their own practice as both performer and artist and the capacity to locate the work they do in a historical and artistic context. Students are expected to train and develop the ability to verbalise and communicate their artistic ideas and practice.

Description of the Educational program

The circus artist functions both as an entrepreneur and an employee on the international labour market. The Educational program prepares students for this reality.

Recognised and certified expertise underpins all the education provided, as do the principles of artistic and scientific rigour.

Students attending courses provided by the University of Dance and Circus are expected to take personal responsibility for their studies, the development of their capacities and awareness, and for the acquisition of knowledge. The quality of education is an issue shared by students and teachers.

Education within the Educational program complies with the general goals for higher education set out in the Higher Education Act (SFS 1992:1434 1 chap. 8 §. Rev. 2001:1263 (Law 2006:173)), and with the requirements for Bachelor of Arts Educational programs laid down in the Higher Education Ordinance, Appendix 2.

The circus Educational program aims to train students in an awareness of the human being in imaginative movement, and the skills and capacities to realise this. The educational program provides students with the means to develop into independent and aware stage artists with the skills and proficiencies required to operate in the various arenas of the contemporary performing arts, within both the independent sector and institutional bodies, at the national and international level. A variety of assignments and encounters with professionally active choreographers and performers within the contemporary art field allow students to expand their professional knowledge and the way they view their work.

Providing students with time and space for personal development, for maturing as individuals and as professional circus performers, is one of the fundamental goals of the educational program. Great emphasis is placed on developing the individual creative abilities of students and on stimulating the acquisition of an open and independent approach in their work. Students are expected to develop and acquire an intimate knowledge of artistic processes. The program aims to provide a place in which students are able to put together the capacities, knowledge and awareness required in order to integrate an artistic perspective with the practical skills of their craft.

In parallel with all the course options on offer, time is made for process-oriented work - individually and in groups. The study of process is comprehensively focused on the



profession and throughout the educational program, students work on reflection and documentation of the artistic process both at the personal level and as part of a group.

As part of the course schedule, particular course units may be shared with students studying choreography, dance pedagogy and/or dance. The aim here is to provide both insight into and mutual understanding of the various actors in the artistic process.

In all the educational programs an emphasis is placed on a positive ethical stance, the capacity to reflect on knowledge and awareness and a respect for democratic values. Discussions are continually held concerning values and judgements concerning equality and equal opportunities, integration and diversity, democracy and ethics and students are encouraged to reflect on these issues.

Intended Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

On completion of the educational program

- Students will have acquired the knowledge and skills required to solve by themselves the stage tasks with which they are faced.
- Students will have acquired a good foundation for continued development as a creative artist, working both on an individual basis and as part of a group.
- Students will be thoroughly informed about the complex professional role of the circus performer and about the conditions and opportunities of the labour market.
- Students will have an extensive body of knowledge of and profound insight into the working methods which can promote their personal development as circus performers.
- Students will be well versed in bodily and mental health and an understanding of what is required to lead a healthy and positive professional life in terms of training, diet, mental discipline and the prevention of injuries.
- Students will be able to formulate their ideas and explain their approach to circus as a form of artistic expression and one which meets a social need.

Skills and Abilities

On completion of the educational program

- Students will have acquired an excellent ability to express themselves at an advanced level in at least one circus discipline.
- Students will be able to create an advanced stage performance as well as being equipped to work with a variety of forms of stage work.
- Students will have the skills required to continue developing their physical and creative capacities in the field of circus.
- Students will be able to create small-scale circus performances and to take part in creative processes directed by others.



Judgement and Approach

On completion of the educational program

- Students will be able to work on an independent basis.
- Students will have developed an awareness of the body's signals, both concerning the artistic process and relating to physical and mental health
- Students will be aware of and informed about the role and legitimacy of the circus in social life as a whole and able also to explain and present their views.
- Students will have learnt to reflect on issues concerning democracy, diversity, equal treatment, equality and equal opportunities and understand that everyone has equal value.
- Students will understand group-dynamic processes and be able to work in an open and independent fashion as part of a group.
- Students will be able to approach the tasks they face with an ability to reflect on them using informed and critical judgment.

The Bachelor Program

The Bachelor Program in Circus comprises three years of full-time study and amounts to 180 higher education credits (HE)/180 ECTS at university level.

Course Unit Program

Circus Discipline, 45 HE /45 ECTS

Artistic Work Within the Discipline, 22.5 HE /22.5 ECTS

Circus as a Performing Art, 22.5 HE /22.5 ECTS

Stage Acting, 15 HE /15 ECTS

Dance and Music, 22.5 HE /22.5 ECTS

Art, Body and Culture, 15 HE /15 ECTS

The Circus Performer's Health, 7.5 HE /7.5 ECTS

Career Management, 7.5 HE /7.5 ECTS

Artistic Research Methods, 7.5 HE/7.5 ECTS

Educational program Project - Artistic Exam Work, 15

HE/15 ECTS

The content of individual course units is briefly described in the Description of Course Units provided at the end of this document.

Language of Instruction

Teaching and examination are primarily conducted in Swedish. Some sections of the course are also conducted in English.



Examination

Unless otherwise stated in the syllabus, grades are awarded for every course unit completed. The following grades are awarded; Fail, Pass and Pass with Distinction. Certain course units only award failing or passing grades.

Documentation of Process

Students are expected to maintain a journal throughout their studies of their working process. The journal provides a basis for tutorials and for discussions of the links between the various courses that make up the educational program.

Eligibility

- Applicants must meet the basic admission requirements for higher education.
- Particular admission requirements: a minimum passing grade in Svenska B/Svenska 2 B (Swedish), Engelska A (English), Historia A (History), or corresponding grades if the applicant is from outside Sweden - in which case a special language requirement applies.
- The applicant should be in good physical condition with regular training in at least one of the circus disciplines or some other artistic/physical field.

Admission

The initial selection of eligible applicants takes place on the basis of application documents + Video/DVD and subsequently by admission test.
(For additional regulations governing admission see: Dans och cirkushögskolans Antagningsordning).

Rules Governing the Continuation of the Course of Study

In order to continue on to study in the following year of the educational program course, students need to pass educational program course units worth at least 45 ECTS or - by agreement with the teacher concerned - other courses provided by the University of Dance and Circus. In order to proceed to study in the second year of the Educational program course, a grade of Pass in the Discipline concerned is required for the first year of study, in order to proceed to the third year of study, a grade of Pass in the Discipline concerned is required for the second year of study.

Students are expected to be able to describe and review the content of their studies on a continual basis.



Dissuasion

See the particular document concerned.

Description of Course Units

Circus discipline, 45 HE/ 45 ECTS

This course covers both basic skills in the disciplines of acrobatics, balancing, juggling and aerials and advanced proficiency in one or two of these disciplines. Thematically-based exercises and presentations which integrate circus technique with dance, voice, stage performance and music.

Training in rigging and safety issues, together with strength and flexibility forms part of this course.

Artistic Work Within the Discipline, 22.5 HE /22.5 ECTS

This program combines practical work related to individual composition with theoretical reflections on the discipline of circus. Practical work is carried out through exercises, discussions and assignments in order to integrate individual artistic vision within the chosen circus discipline.

Circus as a Performing Art, 22.5 HE/ 22.5 ECTS

This course unit consists of separate practical exercises which are continually presented in solo form, small groups and as ensemble performance. The student is expected to assist at a performance or at a combination of one or more of the following fields of art: circus, dance or theatre.

Stage Acting, 15 HE/15 ECTS

A practical and theoretical course in which students explore various methods of dramaturgy, direction, clowning and role creation through lectures, practical exercises and presentations in the form of solo work and ensemble projects.

Dance and Music, 22.5 HE/22.5 ECTS

Dance training adapted to circus together with improvisation and interpretation.

Rhythmics. Singing and instrumental exercises. Music-making in ensembles.

Orientation in the relationship between stage acting and music.

The Circus Performer's Health, 7.5 HE/7.5 ECTS

Instruction in training and diet, first aid, various training techniques for mind and body.

Art, Body and Culture, 15 HE/15 ECTS

This course unit consists of lectures and seminars on various themes concerning the history and development of the circus. It includes encounters with various art forms which are then dramatised using the individual body.

Career Management, 7.5 HE/7.5 ECTS

This unit provides an orientation in the terms and conditions of self-employment, employment law and regulations, marketing, etc.

Artistic Research Methods, 7.5 HE/7.5 ECTS

The course deals with the methods of artistic creation and serves as preparation for the student's exam work.

Educational program Project - Artistic Exam Work, 15 HE/15 ECTS

Students complete a piece of artistic exam work which is presented in practical terms. Also includes a written or other chosen method of documentation.

Course Units		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total HE Credits/ECTS
Circus Discipline	<i>Parallel courses in: acrobatics, balancing and aerials</i>	15	15	15	45
Artistic Work Within the Discipline		7.5	7.5	7.5	22.5
Circus as a Performing Art		7.5	7.5	7.5	22.5
Dance and Music		7.5	7.5	7.5	22.5
Stage Acting		7.5	7.5		15
Art, Body and Culture		7.5	7.5		15
The Circus Performer's Health		7.5			7.5
Career Management			4	3.5	7.5
Artistic Research Methods			3.5	4	7.5
Educational program Project - Artistic Exam Work				15	15
Total		60	60	60	180