

STUDY PLAN
for the Master's Degree Programme
Voice
at the Anton Bruckner Private University Linz

Anton Bruckner Privatuniversität
Hagenstraße 57
A-4040 Linz

1. Name of the Degree Programme

Voice (KMA)

2. Degree Programme Objectives

The master's programme Voice serves to deepen the skills acquired in the bachelor's programme. The goal of the study programme Voice is the development of independent artistic personalities with individual possibilities of expression, who can exist as a professional singer in various fields (e.g. opera, concert). The study programme is intended to create the basis for an independent artistic activity and to contribute to the development and opening up of the arts through critical examination of artistic, pedagogical and other scientific questions.

The Master's programme Voice adds to the qualifications acquired in the Bachelor's programme content expansion and deepening in the artistic field of study through ZKF "Lied and Oratorio" and ZKF "Scenic Work" and through the Master's focal points skills and knowledge to be selected. Possible occupational fields for graduates of the Voice programme are in the areas of musical theater (soloists and choir), radio and concert choirs, and the independent concert scene.

3. Degree Profile

- ABPU is committed to fostering innovation as well as maintaining traditions in the context of the various instruments that may be chosen as a core artistic subject in the Voice programme.
- The ABPU sets itself the goal of maintaining its structure in terms of optimal networking of this degree programme with other artistic and musical educational focuses.
- The master's programme Voice promotes artistic exchange with regional, national, European and non-European educational and cultural institutions.
- The master's programme Voice provides qualifications and impulses for the interpretation and reflection of traditional and contemporary music.
- The programme sees itself as part of a network of artistic and academic study programmes that is to be constantly expanded beyond the strong existing relationships with the goal of more intensive international connections.
- The master's programme Voice is committed to the promotion of young talent and continuing education in the sense of lifelong learning, in addition to its university mission.
- The programme is based on the fundamental ideas of the Bologna Process and strives for innovative study structures that are tailored to the requirements of the labor market and are constantly reviewed with regard to their topicality.
- The Voice programme ensures consistently high quality in study, teaching, artistic practice, and research.
- The degree programme is embedded in an evaluation and quality management system that is in exchange with other quality assurance institutions.
- The degree programme is committed to the principle of equal treatment in its social integration.

4. Admission requirements/conditions

- (1) Prerequisite for admission to the master's programme is a positively completed bachelor's degree in Voice with the same central artistic subject, as well as an admission examination consisting of an artistic audition. This admission examination serves to determine the knowledge and skills acquired so far in the central artistic subject area, the suitability for the chosen study programme, and allocation of the available study places.
- (2) The applicant must have an outstanding general musical education, artistic expression, creativity, and a developed, open personality with social competence. Flexibility and versatility as well as a willingness to engage in intensive artistic-scholarly activities are also important prerequisites for Voice at the Anton Bruckner Private University.

- (3) For foreign language candidates:
- (4) If proof of practical command of the German language at level B1 (of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages - GER) cannot be provided at the time of the entrance examination, the candidate must submit a B1 certificate of proficiency in German no later than prior to the notification of continuation of studies for the third semester.
- (5) At the applicant's request, a completed bachelor's degree in the same field of study may be replaced by an equivalent degree in the same or a closely related field of study completed at a domestic or foreign university, college, or conservatory. The chairperson of the Study Commission decides on the equivalence in consultation with the Dean of Studies.
- (6) If the recognized bachelor's programme differs in essential parts from the bachelor's programme offered at Anton Bruckner Private University, the chairperson of the Study Commission may link the admission to the master's programme to the requirement to complete individual courses that go beyond the curriculum of the master's programme. These additionally prescribed courses are determined at the beginning of the master's programme; their extent may not exceed 15% of the bachelor's programme offered at Anton Bruckner Private University. The ABPU may set a deadline for the student to positively complete these courses. If a deadline is set, these courses must be completed, at the latest, by the time the student graduates.
- (7) Detailed implementation regulations on the respective current examination contents and modalities are issued by the Study Commission.

5. Duration and Scope of the Degree Programme

- (1) The Voice programme is divided into an 8-semester bachelor's programme and a 4-semester master's programme that builds on the bachelor's programme.
- (2) The master's programme is completed with the master's examination, which, in addition to the artistic part of the examination, also requires the submission of an academically oriented master's thesis.
- (3) The Voice can only be completed as face-to-face studies.

6. Courses

The courses of the master's programme Voice are grouped into study areas and master's concentrations, from which at least one must be selected depending on the field of study. The areas of study and courses are tabulated. ABPU reserves the right to offer a more limited number of electives or specialization courses than specified in the curriculum if this appears to be justified. The decision on this is made by the deans of studies in consultation with the executive board. Each student is free to take courses offered at the Anton Bruckner Private University as optional courses beyond the compulsory subjects. There is, however, no entitlement to admission to these courses; the allocation is made according to the possibilities.

7. Master's Examination

- (1) The master's programme is completed with the master's examination.
- (2) Admission to the Master's Examination can only be granted if all courses prescribed in the curriculum have been positively completed.
- (3) The Master's Examination is composed of the following examination sections:
 - a. Final internal artistic performance
 - b. Final public artistic performance
 - c. Master's thesis including a defense (for the different formats of the master's thesis see point 7.2., paragraph 5).
- (4) When registering for the Master's examination, the examination programme for the final artistic performance, signed by the teacher of the central artistic subject, must be submitted, indicating which works will be performed internally and publicly.

The topic of the master's thesis and the names of the supervisor and the co-supervisor must be provided within a specified period of time.
- (5) The registration, submission and examination deadlines as well as any detailed implementation regulations are determined by the Study Commission.

7.1. Artistic Part of the Master's Examination

The detailed implementation regulations of the final artistic performance are determined by the individual institutes after approval by the study commission.

The composition of the examination board, as well as further details on the procedure and repeatability of the artistic part are specified in the study and examination regulations.

7.2. Master's Thesis

The master's thesis is to be written in the course "Master's Thesis Colloquium". The lecturer of this course is the supervisor or co-supervisor of the thesis. The supervisor or co-supervisor must be a Univ.Prof, or a ao.Univ.Prof with a habilitation in music pedagogy or musicology, or hold a doctorate.

- (1) The student agrees on the topic of his/her master's thesis with his/her supervisor and the co-supervisor.
- (2) The choice of topic as well as the choice of the supervisor and the co-supervisor must be approved by the Dean of Studies.
- (3) The written master's thesis is to be assessed by the supervisor and the co-supervisor. In the case of different assessments, the Dean of Studies will reach a uniform assessment.
- (4) An oral examination is conducted by a commission on the material of the written MA thesis.
- (5) A choice can be made between the following formats of the master's thesis:
 - a) scientific paper
 - b) lecture recital
 - c) CD or multimedia production
- (6) The master's thesis is generally to be written in German but can also be submitted in English if the supervisor and the co-supervisor agree. The provisions of the Copyright Act (Urheberrechtsgesetz idgF) must be observed. The oral examination of the Bachelor thesis can, with the consent of the supervisor and the co-supervisor, as well as the approval of the Dean of Studies, may also be conducted in the language in which the thesis is written.

7.3. Master's: Overall Assessment

Further details on grading can be found in the study and examination regulations.

8. Examination Regulations

The provisions of the study and examination regulations of Anton Bruckner Private University apply. The requirements specific to the course of study that go beyond this concern the admission examination and the master's examination.

The examination regulations can be found in the appendices.

9. Conferring of the academic degree "Master of Arts" (MA)

- (1) The Dean of the university shall confer the academic degree "Master of Arts" on the graduates promptly after the positive assessment of all examinations and theses prescribed in the curriculum. This will occur no later than one month after the fulfillment of all requirements.
- (2) To support the international mobility of students, a Diploma Supplement will be attached to the award certificate.
- (3) Should the requirements for the academic degree "Master of Arts" be fulfilled more than once, this academic degree shall also be awarded more than once.

10. Diploma Supplement

The Diploma Supplement is attached in the Examination Regulations.

11. International Comparability of the Degree Programme

The master's programme "Voice" is comparable to study programmes of the Voice at other music universities in Austria and essentially corresponds to most comparable European and non-European study structures of the departments containing the respective central artistic subjects. The available master's concentrations allow for an additional individual focus according to the students' environment and interests. The joint use of these master's concentrations within the framework of several degree programmes ensures the networking of the study programmes and promotes the willingness to engage in dialogue and the exchange of artistic ideas within the university.

The special attractiveness of studying voice at the Anton Bruckner Privatuniversität Linz lies above all in the principle of team teaching. As early as the bachelor's programme, the voice students in the subjects Fundamentals of Song Interpretation and Fundamentals of Dramatic Design are regularly tutored by the lecturers of the master's programmes in addition to the main subject lessons in the central artistic subject. This results in a broad spectrum of teaching content and an average of 6 hours of supervision per week in the central artistic subject. Another principle is the practice of synergy with professional music theater companies on the free market. The Institute for Singing cooperates with various festivals in Upper Austria, as well as with the Linz Landestheater, with which it runs a joint international opera studio. Contrary to the usual demarcations, opera and operetta are given equal attention. The students are offered the opportunity to deepen their knowledge and skills in smaller roles (with appropriate audition also

quite leading roles) with renowned directors in these productions and to practice a smooth transition between study and profession.

12. Persons responsible for the degree programme

Responsible for the programme are the Dean of Studies of the Artistic Study Area in conjunction with the Institute Director of VOC.

13. Staff

Regarding the artistic and academic staffing, cf. point 7.1.1 of the reaccreditation application and Annex 7.1, in Annex Volume 3.

14. Research

The master's programme Voice aims primarily at the development of an independent artistic personality. The elaboration of individual interpretative approaches by the students and their implementation in concert practice is in any case to be seen as a contribution to the development and opening up of the arts. Critical comparisons of interpretation and literary studies are integrated into the study programme. Workshops with internationally renowned artists are part of the ABPU's permanent offerings beyond the compulsory events anchored in the curriculum. These workshops convey not only artistic but also scholarly approaches to contemporary music interpretation and represent important contacts to the international concert scene in the encounter with the artistic personalities of the workshop lecturers.

The regular participation of teachers and students of the Voice programme in inter-institutional projects ensures the desired openness of thinking in the sense of a networking of disciplines and institutes, and requires a high degree of reflective handling of artistic-scholarly materials, depending on the occasion and orientation of the project.

15. Quality Assurance in the Programme of Study

Institute evaluations, general evaluations as well as evaluations of the courses take place in the study programme. Both students and faculty are surveyed in separate evaluations about the conditions of teaching and accessing the arts at ABPU. The study conditions in the relevant ABPU institute are part of a corresponding institute evaluation.

The scheduled semester-by-semester assessment of student success in the ZKFs is carried out in accordance with the provisions of the study and examination regulations.

16. Number of places in the programme of study

The number of places is subject to fluctuations resulting from the qualifications of the students demonstrated in the entrance examination, as well as from the required allocation or the respective orientation according to the branches of study.

17. Student Fees

The amount of tuition fees is set by the executive board after approval by the university council.

18. Space and equipment

Regarding space and equipment, cf. vol. 3, annex 9.5 of the reaccreditation application.

