

Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague

Vysoká škola uměleckoprůmyslová v Praze

Abbreviation in Czech: VŠUP

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- History**
- The Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague (AAAD) was founded in 1885 as the first and only state school of art in the Czech lands. Built in neo-renaissance style, it is located in the very heart of the Old Town, surrounded by remarkable historical monuments. During its history, AAAD has gradually built a complex educational structure, including studio classes and lectures on art history and theory. When selecting students from the many candidates applying each year for our school, it is not only their talent and practical skills but also their willingness and resolution to understand artistic creativity on the background of diverse historical and cultural issues that counts the most.

- Structure of the Institution**
- The key pedagogic unit of the Academy is the Studio. Studios with related specializations and educational programs form five departments. The sixth is the Department of Art History and Aesthetics, which provides courses in history and theory of visual arts.

Department of Architecture

- Architecture I
- Architecture II
- Architecture III
- Architecture IV

Department of Design

- Product Design I (Zlín)
- Product Design II (Zlín)
- Product design III (Prague)

Department of Fine Arts

- Sculpture
- Painting
- Intermedia Art
- Supermedia

Department of Applied Arts

- Glass
- Ceramic and Porcelain
- K.O.V. Concept-Object-Meaning
- Fashion Art
- Fashion and Footwear Design
- Textile Arts

Department of Graphics

- Illustration and Graphics
- Typography
- Graphic Design and Visual Communication
- Film and TV Graphics
- Photography
- Graphic Design and New Media

Interdisciplinary Studio Visual Arts

Department of Art History and Aesthetics

Organization of Studies

■ **Six-year Full-time Master Studies**

Students can study in one of the 23 AAAD studios. Each studio has approximately 18–20 students. The core studio education is accompanied by a wide range of courses and lectures on art history and aesthetics. After six years of studies and producing their MA thesis, students take a state final examination comprising an oral presentation and defense of their thesis and an examination in art history and aesthetics. Successful graduates are awarded the academic degree Master of Arts/MgA. Detailed information on the content, admission conditions, etc. for individual courses can be found on www.vsup.cz.

The bachelor-master structure will be introduced at AAAD starting from 2009/2010.

Follow-up master Studies of History and Theory of Design and New Media have been introduced since 2005/2006. These two-year study programmes are available to graduates with a bachelor or master degree from a college or university focused on the arts and humanities, or in some cases technical sciences (e.g. architecture). The basis of the study program lies in adopting knowledge from the history, philosophy, and aesthetics of design and new media and in applying this knowledge practically, especially in the fields of museology, curatorship and art

criticism. The studies are completed by a state examination in art history and aesthetics, and an oral presentation and defense of a written diploma work. Graduates are awarded the academic degree Master/Mgr.

Doctoral studies lead to independent activity (which can be creative, scientific or research-based) in four study fields – Architecture and Design, Graphics and Visual Communication, Fine and Applied Arts, and Curator and Critic of Design and Intermedia. Doctoral studies continue for three years and can be full-time or part-time, according to the graduate's individual study plan. This type of study is aimed at master graduates who have specialized in a similar or related field. Graduates are awarded the academic degree Ph.D.

A follow-up Master Program in Visual Arts, taught in English, is designed for graduates possessing at least a bachelor degree from any Art School anywhere in the world. The program was launched in the 2006/2007 academic year. This two-year study programme emphasizes a balanced proportion of theory, practice, and interdisciplinarity; it combines core disciplines with practical courses on art history. After two years of studies, students are required to submit a diploma work consisting of a thesis and a diploma project defence. Successful programme graduates are awarded an internationally acknowledged academic degree Master of Arts/MgA together with a Diploma Supplement containing information about subjects taken at AAAD.

Non-degree studies

There are three forms of life-long education at AAAD – external studies for Czech speaking students, courses for the public, and courses for foreigners. Since the students are not regular AAAD students, a fee is charged for all the courses. The content of the study programmes and the fees payable are specified in an agreement between the participant in the course and the Academy.

Basic Statistical Data in Academic Year 2007/2008

Total number of students	503
Number of students of the master study programme	448
Number of students of the follow-up master study programme	28
Number of students of the doctoral study programme	16
Number of students of the Visual Arts programme	11
Number of foreign students	64
Total number of graduates in 2007	57
Total number of academic staff	121