

Guidelines for the Bergen School of Architecture programme.

These guidelines are a supplement to the Regulations for the Master's Programme at Bergen School of Architecture. They cover programme delivery, assessments and exams. They do not provide information about admissions, learning outcomes or programme structure. These issues are covered in the regulations / programme description.

Regulations adopted by the board of Bergen School of Architecture 6 February 2013, entry into force 6 February 2013. The supplementary guidelines have been revised and adopted by the academic quality committee.

Completion and assessment

Hours

The Master in Architecture is a full-time programme, and students should expect to be working a minimum of 37.5 hours a week.

Attendance

All courses are obligatory. Introductions, lectures, reviews and tutorials are obligatory. The students should also be spending at least 50% of their time working in the studio. The students are themselves responsible for their own attendance and learning.

Non-attendance

The student must submit a self-certification note / sick note if they are unable to attend due to sickness. Courses that have not been completed due to illness or a valid exemption may be compensated for if practically possible by agreement with the main teacher / class teacher. Unauthorised non-attendance and missed learning outcomes may disqualify the student from taking the exam.

Special arrangements

Students with documented special needs may apply for special arrangements to be made.

Special arrangements do not exempt the student from the academic criteria.

Examples of special arrangements include physical adaptation, interpretation, exam format or deferred submission/exam. The student must co-operate, and doctor's notes / sick notes / medical reviews are important documents in allowing the school to make a decision on special arrangements.

Recognition and exemption of qualifications

Students who have completed courses at another institution may have their qualifications recognised/exempted by BAS. Recognition/exemptions may be granted:

when enrolling for Advanced Level, for a Bachelor in Architecture or individual theory subjects or when going on an exchange at a different institution.

Documentation

All projects should be documented as a general rule. Students must be able to produce all their past work at the exam. Ensure that you have digital documentation in case of unforeseen events.

You are not required to keep your works after you have passed the exam with the exception of Year 1. Nor is there space at the school for storing works after the exam. Students should create their own portfolio for all courses at Advanced Level. It is an absolute requirement to be able to present the portfolio to the examiners in paper format at the diploma exam.

Completion and assessment of individual courses at Foundation Level

The students take a number of courses of varying lengths at Foundation Level. The students will receive an assessment/feedback for each course.

The feedback relates to the respective courses and is an internal and formative assessment.

Feedback is given verbally during the final review. The students are encouraged to write down the feedback they receive. They will receive written feedback on longer courses.

The criteria for assessment and passing a course cover knowledge and acquired professional experience, methodical work and insights, and the student's attitude towards the subject. The assessment is based on participation, submitted individual and group exercises and presentation thereof.

The student should be expressly informed at the final review if they have not passed the course. The student should be clearly informed that they must carry out supplementary work on the course and of the deadline for submitting this work.

If there are "critical" cases, i.e. the class teacher feels that a student is not following the expected progression, the teacher must notify the student to that effect during the course. In the event of unsatisfactory progression/effort/level of attainment/participation, the student must carry out supplementary work or retake the course or part/all of the semester. The school may stop a student from proceeding with their studies in the event of unsatisfactory progression/effort/participation.

An appraisal of each student should be held during the Foundation Level programme. The topic of the appraisal could be progression/effort/level of attainment/participation/learning environment and well-being. The student, teacher or school can also request an appraisal during the academic year.

Completion and assessment of courses at Advanced Level

Advanced Level, Years 4 and 5, lasts two years.

Every semester the school offers a range of semester courses. The students choose their courses in order of priority. If possible, the students will be enrolled on their preferred courses. If there are more registered students than there are places, the students in Year 5 will be given priority. Any remaining places will be allocated to students in Year 4 by drawing of lots.

The school offers courses on the following subjects:

1. Restructuring of urban structures/buildings.
2. Restructuring of rural structures/buildings.
3. Developing countries / Architecture in different cultures.
4. Construction based on architectural design.
5. Complex buildings.
6. Exchanges / X-factor unknown.

The courses last one full semester and highlight a range of perspectives through workshops and longer units. During the courses there will be internal reviews and submissions combined with independent work and periods of group work. Active participation is required on group-based courses. On Advanced Level courses there is a joint, obligatory half-way review, and the semesters

conclude with a final assessment / exam. The students are assessed on the basis of course attendance, effort and process in addition to the final project.

If there are “critical” cases, i.e. the class teacher feels that a student is not following the expected progression, the teacher must notify the student to that effect during the course. The school may stop a student from presenting themselves for the final assessment / exam in the event of unsatisfactory progression/effort/level of attainment/participation. Students should create their own portfolio for all courses at Advanced Level.

Exchanges

Advanced Level students can apply for an exchange lasting up to 2 semesters at a different institution. The following criteria must be met for the exchange to be recognised as part of their BAS degree:

They must have passed the courses on the exchange.

The tuition fees for the semester(s) for which the student is seeking an exemption/recognition must have been paid.

At least 90 ECTS credits must have been acquired at BAS.

Course evaluations

All courses must be evaluated retrospectively by both students and teachers. Evaluation forms part of the school’s quality management programme.

EXAMS

General exam information

The overall formal assessment takes place during the exam. At Foundation Level BAS conducts formal assessments after every year. Each semester course at Advanced Level concludes with an exam. An exam pass qualifies the student for further study at BAS. The last semester, the diploma semester, concludes with an examination on an own-choice project.

Upon passing the diploma exam the candidate will be awarded the title of Master in Architecture.

Students who have not paid their tuition fees are not entitled to study or take exams at BAS.

Satisfactory progression/effort/level of attainment/participation is required in order to take exams.

External examiners ensure that the candidates’ knowledge and skills are tested and assessed in an impartial and appropriate manner. Unless otherwise stated, exams will be conducted in English.

Exams are an overall assessment of the student’s attitude, effort, progression and level of attainment subject to the following three assessment criteria:

1. *Knowledge* – the student’s demonstrated knowledge
2. *Skills* – The student’s approach to the tasks and methodologies through independent systematic and critical reasoning
3. *General competencies* – The student’s academic attitude and approach to architecture and the architect’s practice in society

Exams are graded as follows: *Pass/Fail*.

The students may request grade transcripts of exams passed during the programme at any time. A diploma is awarded after passing the diploma exam.

In exceptional circumstances, a student may be granted a deferred submission/exam in the event of documented illness, other compelling reason for absence or supplementary work.

Students who are legitimately absent from an ordinary exam have the right to sit a new exam. The new exam shall be held at the same time as next year's ordinary exams or in connection with an equivalent exam.

Candidates at BAS may only attempt an exam twice unless dispensation is granted. Re-examination in the event of an appeal does not count as an attempt.

Theory exams

BAS students must complete and pass various theoretical subjects as an integral part of the programme. These subjects are obligatory and must be passed by the stipulated deadline. Students may apply for recognition/exemption of equivalent subjects taken at other educational institutions.

If a student lacks a theoretical subject, they may apply for dispensation to take the exam. They must then apply for leave from the programme in order to acquire the necessary qualifications required to proceed with their studies.

Year 1 exam

Students must pass Year 1 before they can proceed to Year 2. The **overall** formal assessment of work carried out during the year forms the basis for passing Year 1.

The assessment should determine whether the student maintains the minimum academic standard for commencing Year 2.

The basis for the assessment is the process throughout the year in terms of the student's attendance, dedication to the task (effort) and exploratory approach (process).

Participation: All tuition, group work and collective work are mandatory

Effort: Leading up to the submission, the students must dedicate themselves to the task on every obligatory course.

Process: The students should take an investigative and exploratory approach to the task.

The assessment is carried out by two examiners, preferably the class teachers for Years 1 and 2. Students may be instructed to carry out supplementary work before a grade is given. Candidates ordered to carry out supplementary work will be invited to a meeting to discuss the work. Any supplementary submissions must be completed by the given deadline and approved by the examiners. Students may not start Year 2 until their supplementary work has been passed.

Students with significant shortcomings in terms of progression/participation/effort during the year cannot be assessed. This will be communicated to the students as early as possible in the academic year. All material from Year 1 must be made available for the Year 2 exam.

Year 2 exam

Students must pass Year 2 before they can proceed to Year 3. The **overall** formal assessment of the students' work is made at the exam and results in a pass or a fail.

The assessment should determine whether the student maintains the minimum academic standard for commencing Year 3.

The assessment is carried out on the basis of a presentation of the student's work, models and drawings, drafts and preliminary work / collective work.

Exam exhibition

The Year 2 class exam is an exhibition/presentation of work carried out in Years 1 and 2.

All material from the two years must be made available at the exam, although only a selection of works will be exhibited. Work from all modules should be exhibited and demonstrate the personal development (profile) of each student.

The presentation should also provide an understanding of the school's working and teaching methods, didactic methods and alternative approach. The examiners will be informed that the school places particular emphasis on the students' approach to the subject and their attitude to wider society (accountability).

Work on the exhibition begins no later than 7 days before the exam and under supervision. Attendance is mandatory for the duration of the period. The last day before the exam is a mandatory rest day. The students will be notified of the format of the annual exhibition at the start of the exhibition period.

A selected main teacher and the class's teaching assistant (teacher III) will advise the students on the layout and structure of the exhibition.

Examiners

The students present their works to a group of three external examiners:

2 architects (1 with an overseas practice)
1 artist

Criteria:

The assessment is carried out on the basis of the presentation of the student's work, models and drawings, drafts and preliminary work / collective work.

An overall assessment is made of the student's attitude, effort, participation, progression and result in accordance with the following three assessment criteria:

1. KNOWLEDGE – The student's demonstrated knowledge
2. SKILLS – The student's approach to the tasks and methodologies through independent, systematic and critical reasoning
3. GENERAL COMPETENCIES – The student's academic attitude and approach to architecture and the architect's practice in society

Examination

In the exam each candidate will be given 45 minutes for their presentation. The student should prepare a presentation lasting 20 minutes. The remaining time is allocated to questions and feedback

from the examiners. The examiners may also ask questions during the student's presentation. One representative of the school is present at every exam.

Results

The final assessment/grade is decided in a closed meeting / assessment meeting on the last day of the exams. The meeting is attended by the examiners together with teachers and the rector/pro-rector.

The student will be informed of their grade on the last day of the exams.

A pass means the candidate is ready to start Year 3.

A fail means the student is not ready to start Year 3.

In the event of a fail, the candidate must repeat Year 2 or at least 1 semester (spring semester) of Year 2. A decision will be made by the school in consultation with the examiners.

In the event of a fail, the candidate is entitled to expert advice on the exam result and further study.

The student may appeal against the exam result / procedural errors under the Universities and University Colleges Act in the event of a fail. The student has 3 weeks to appeal and must exhibit the same materials in the event of a new assessment. Appeals guidelines can be found at www.bas.org

The candidate should receive a written statement from the examiners before starting Year 3. The examiners' feedback addresses the student's level of attainment, strengths/weaknesses and what they should focus on in their further studies.

Year 3 exam

Students must pass Year 3 before they can proceed to Advanced Level. The **overall** assessment of the students' work is made at the exam and results in a pass or a fail for that year.

The assessment should determine whether the student maintains the minimum academic standard for commencing Advanced Level.

The assessment is carried out on the basis of a presentation of the student's work, models and drawings, drafts and preliminary work / collective work.

The student must have completed all APP courses in order to take the exam in June.

Exam exhibition

The Year 3 exam is an exhibition/presentation of the student's works from the autumn and spring semesters in Year 3.

The presentation should also provide an understanding of the school's working and teaching methods, didactic methods and alternative approach. The examiners will be informed that the school places particular emphasis on the students' approach to the subject and their attitude to wider society (accountability).

Work on the exhibition begins 8 days before the exam and under supervision. Attendance is mandatory for the duration of the period. The last day before the exam is a mandatory rest day.

A **joint exhibition** of all works in all modules will be held: APP, DAV and TTA. Attendance is mandatory for the duration of the exhibition period.

A selected main teacher and the class's teaching assistant (teacher III) will advise the students on the layout and structure of the exhibition.

Examiners

The students present their works to a group of three external examiners:

- 2 architects (1 with an overseas practice)
- 1 artist

Criteria

The assessment is carried out on the basis of the presentation of the student's work, models and drawings, drafts and preliminary work / collective work. Please note that candidates may refer to the works of other students during the exam in order to elucidate their own interpretations. The students should work on the themes in order to highlight both content (social context) and individual understanding and interpretation. All exhibition and portfolio materials will form part of the assessment.

The overall assessment addresses the student's attitude, effort, participation, progression and level of attainment subject to the following three assessment criteria:

1. KNOWLEDGE – The student's demonstrated knowledge
2. SKILLS – The student's approach to the tasks and methodologies through independent, systematic and critical reasoning
3. GENERAL COMPETENCIES – The student's academic attitude and approach to architecture and the architect's practice in society

Examination

In the exam each candidate will be given 45 minutes for their presentation. The student should prepare a presentation lasting 20 minutes. The remaining time is allocated to questions and feedback from the examiners. The examiners may also ask questions during the student's presentation. One representative of the school is present at every exam.

Results

The final assessment/grade is decided in a closed meeting / assessment meeting on the last day of the exams. The meeting is attended by the examiners together with teachers and the rector/pro-rector.

The student will be informed of their grade on the last day of the exams.
A pass means the candidate is ready to proceed to Advanced Level.

The examiners may award a distinction for especially good projects. Distinctions are issued as an appendix to the grade transcript.

A fail means the student is not ready to proceed to Advanced Level.

In the event of a fail, the candidate must repeat year 3. Exemption from courses can be made on individual basis. A decision will be made by the school in consultation with the examiners.

In the event of a fail, the candidate is entitled to expert advice on the exam result and further study.

The student may appeal against the exam result / procedural errors under the Universities and University Colleges Act in the event of a fail. The student has 3 weeks to appeal and must exhibit the same materials in the event of a new assessment. Appeals guidelines can be found at www.bas.org

The candidate should receive a written statement from the examiners before proceeding to Advanced Level. The examiners' feedback addresses the student's level of attainment, strengths/weaknesses and what they should focus on in their further studies.

Advanced Level course exams

The students must attend and pass 3 semester courses before they can commence the final diploma semester.

The students are assessed on the basis of course attendance, effort and process in addition to the final project. Specific submission criteria and assessment criteria are given in the course descriptions.

There is a joint, mandatory half-way review during every Advanced Level course. The semesters conclude with a final assessment / exam.

The school may stop a student from presenting themselves for the final assessment / exam in the event of unsatisfactory progression/effort/level of attainment/participation.

Examiners

The examination panel should include the main teacher and at least one external examiner.

Criteria

The assessment is carried out on the basis of the presentation of the student's work, models and drawings, drafts and preliminary work / collective work.

The overall assessment addresses the student's attitude, effort, participation, progression and level of attainment subject to the following three assessment criteria:

1. KNOWLEDGE – The student's demonstrated knowledge
2. SKILLS – The student's approach to the tasks and methodologies through independent, systematic and critical reasoning
3. GENERAL COMPETENCIES – The student's academic attitude and approach to architecture and the architect's practice in society

Result

The students will be informed of their results at the final review.

Students may be instructed to carry out supplementary work before a grade is given. Any supplementary submissions must be completed by the given deadline and approved by the examiners. Failing the supplementary work means failing the course.

In the event of a fail, the student must retake the semester course. The main teacher should issue a written evaluation to the student describing their effort, work, attitude, understanding etc. The evaluation should make clear any shortcomings in the student's work etc.

GUIDELINES FOR DIPLOMA PROJECT AT BAS

Revised every year after the SKU diploma evaluation meeting

Last revision November 2023

A diploma project at BAS is entirely self-formulated, both in terms of theme and ways of working. As a student you are asked to situate yourself and your project by articulating a problem or concern as well as exploring its architectural answer. Both research and architectural propositions serve to clarify the problem in question, and to develop expressions that have descriptive, investigative and communicative qualities.

The working process is guided by individual tutoring, common lectures, workshops, and reviews, some of which are mandatory while others are optional to attend. However, we encourage you to participate in as many as possible since they will inform and support your work in a significant way.

The diploma project is presented and assessed through a final exhibition collecting all relevant material, clearly communicating the project's aim, working process and outcome.

WORKING PERIOD

6 months – in the period 1. January – 30. June

The exhibition shall be completed 24. June, followed by exam / evaluation 27-30. June.

Candidate will be told if they have passed the exam on 30. June, but will have to come back to BAS in the middle of August for the public exhibition and diploma ceremony.

TUTORING CONDITIONS

All candidates have their personal APP tutor with 10 hours tutoring

Tutoring DAV, 5 hours

Tutoring TTA (construction): 2 hours

Tutoring Sustainability: 2 hours

Other consultants to be subjugated by the main tutor and in agreement with adm.

If two candidates are working together with one project, they will have the same hours of tutoring as a single candidate, since it is counted per project.

DIPLOMA PROJECT DELIVERABLES

All diploma candidates shall deliver a program (one preliminary and one final), an essay, and present their research, artistic explorations and architectural propositions in a final exhibition at BAS.

CREATIVE WRITING: PROGRAM & ESSAY

Parallel to the architectural explorations that constitutes the main part of your diploma project, you will also engage in written investigations and methodologies from disciplines connected to architecture. The aim of the writings is to help articulate the scope, intentions and relevance of your project, as well as to situate it in relation to other meaningful references; textual, architectural, artistic, etc. References will encourage a critical and reflective approach towards developing your position within the expanded field of architecture.

Program

The program situates the overall objectives of your project together with its modes of engagement. Simply put, it should give an understanding of what the project is dealing with, where it is situated, why this is meaningful and how you are going to approach the project. The program is a live document, a continuous re-articulation of scope, intentions and relevance. Thus, it will expand during the semester and gain an increased precision, both in descriptions and reflections around your work.

Throughout the semester a series of workshops will help develop writing as both a design tool and as a means of an ongoing articulation and reflection upon the themes explored in the essay and your evolving studio research.

There are two formal deliveries for the program: the clearance meeting and the final presentation.

For the *clearance meeting* the program represents an attempt at describing something you aim to do and why you aim to do it, where the discussion at the clearance meeting will help to narrow down, broaden, or suggest shifts in scope and ways of working. Despite being a draft, we already at this point ask of you to articulate a position within the field of architecture by listing important references; projects and practices that you relate to and find supportive of your own way of dealing with architecture.

For the *final presentation* the program forms an important introduction to your project for the assessors. It creates an optic through which your work will be understood and discussed as part of the assessment. The final program should therefore not only articulate the scope, intentions, content and relevance of your project. It needs also to position the work, and yourself as an architect in relation to relevant references, as well as reflect upon the outcomes of your project.

Essay

The word 'essay' comes from the French *essais*, meaning 'attempt' or 'try'. As a piece of writing, the essay refers to a text exploring a single subject from various positions in a personal yet analytical approach. This implies a freedom of form or format of writing which we encourage you to explore. However, an academic context also demands critical rigour grounded in other theoretical and scholarly work.

The role of the essay is to further situate and position your project by focusing on a relevant aspect or a possible implication of your scope and intentions. It could involve an exploration of a concept, a way of working, as well as an architectural or artistic work.

In terms of disciplinary approach the essay is written from the realm of architecture but should be supported by writings and modes of working belonging other academic disciplines. They will give perspectives on, and tools to deal with architecture that will expand and broaden your understanding of not only your own particular project, but also what architecture is and can be in a wider humanistic context. In the diploma essay an emphasis will be put on social science approaches, and in particular from anthropology as it shares the situatedness of architecture but brings another optic on how to understand and makes sense of everyday life and its material, spatial, and cultural expressions.

Lectures and tutorials in anthropology and social science begin from November, giving a basic introduction to the field and its methodological approaches. This, and an ongoing reading list relevant to the concerns of your diplomas, will form the basis of your written work. Following the clearance meeting, input from social sciences will continue, further informing the essay towards its presentation in late January. A brief individual supervision will be provided in connection with the choice of topic. However, we strongly recommend making the choice in concurrence with the weeks of reading, before the spring semester starts.

Formal requirements:

You must use a minimum of 3 of the texts in the reading list or other social science texts approved by the diploma coordinators, to show that you have a wider understanding in your essay. Length: around 2500 words

You may choose to write the essay in English or Norwegian. Preferably English since we have an international student mass as well as tutors. This is especially recommended if your tutors do not speak Norwegian.

The essay must include:

Front-page which contains Title, Author and Year.

List of illustrations (where appropriate)

List of references (title of book, surname, first name, reference to pages, publisher and year)

As for the structure, it is important that there is a distinct question being dealt with in a reasoned way, where the argumentation is anchored in the references you have chosen. Ensure that the text enables the reader to follow your line of thought. This can be supported by structuring the text through additional subtitles that guide the reader through the discussion.

Presentation and reading of essays

The essays will be discussed at a seminar where you present the topic and findings of your essay together with ideas on how to act on this as part of your diploma project.

The seminars will be conducted in the smaller groups you are following through the diploma semester. You are expected to read all the other essays within the group, but you will also be assigned one particular essay and prepare a reflection that could guide the discussion after the presentation.

The distribution of essays will be decided upon close to the final delivery of the essay.

Please note: All essays will be checked for plagiarism through a dedicated software program.

Any case of plagiarism will be sent to the committee for students matters at BAS, which decides on consequences due to cheating – as in plagiarism. Consequences for plagiarism is annulment of the exam and up to a year suspension from BAS and all higher educational institutions.

For more information on legal actions regarding plagiarism see *Regulations for Master Studies at BAS*: <https://lovdata.no/dokument/SF/forskrift/2019-03-04-179>. For a more thorough review on what plagiarism is, and how to avoid it, go to 'Søk & Skriv' <https://www.sokogskriv.no/kjeldebruk/>. That site is both in Norwegian and English.

It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the rules that apply to the use of sources and references, and what support material or aids you are allowed to use.

ARTISTIC EXPLORATIONS AND ARCHITECTURAL PROPOSITIONS

Architectural and artistic explorations will form the main part of the diploma project. While the program, essay and creative writing support an increased precision in articulating the scope and relevance of your project, it is equally important that you carry this through into architectural propositions where intentions can be acted upon, tested and questioned. We encourage you to work in ways where the analyses and registration phase is interlinked with spatial explorations where multiple options are explored, rejected and developed in a continuous process throughout the entire diploma semester. It is important to develop a dynamic and overlapping relationship between all your investigations in order for them to inform each other.

DAV exploration

DAV or "The Other World" is intentionally ambiguous and can be variously employed; in formulating and expressing a concept, developing parallel perspectives, experimenting, imagining, reflecting, and maintaining an interpretive, meaningful exploration of the topic.

1:1

Studies in full scale (1:1) can encompass social participation as well as spatial and material realisations. It is a way of coping with a situation and to communicate important elements of a spatial expression. In many projects there may also be direct in-situ interaction, in order to reach out to the people involved.

Final exhibition

The final exhibition should be a curated collection of the material produced during the process and framed to clearly communicate the scope, intentions, and outcomes of the project. Models, drawings and images, both formal and sketches, should demonstrate a variety of thinking, approaches and media. Sketches are significant in a BAS diploma project and will be given special attention in our exam, as will the social and cultural aspects of the architectural propositions.

EXAMINATION

Each project will be evaluated by an assessor team consisting of one architect residing in Norway, one architect residing outside of Norway, and one artist. One of the diploma coordinators will be present throughout the entire assessment processes of each project. Candidates can ask to have one of their tutors present at the presentation, and as far as possible BAS will try to organize it. The presentation is open for others to attend, unless the candidate asks BAS to have a closed one.

Assessment process:

- Presentation, discussion and evaluation of each project in the exhibition.
- Final evaluation in a closed meeting with assessors, tutors and rector. The final decision is made by the external assessors.
- Right after the final evaluation meeting the candidates will be told if they have passed their exam.
- Public review where a representative from each assessor team will give an account of each project. They will also announce possible distinctions and their motivation. The public review takes place in August on the day of the diploma ceremony. All candidates are present, together with tutors, teachers, other students and rector.
- Public exhibition. All projects are to be part of the one-week public exhibition that opens with the public review.

The diploma exam has the following evaluations: **PASS or FAIL**

Fail means that the candidate must retake the entire diploma semester of 6 months.

The project /topic must be approved by the school before you start your new diploma work. In close dialogue with BAS only, it can be possible to continue on the same topic. The candidate should be aware that this is not always recommended, and BAS does not guarantee for a successful outcome the following year. Diploma is only carried through in the spring term, from 1. January till 30. June.

You will receive feedback from your tutors and coordinators throughout the diploma term. Even if you do not receive a clear recommendation to withdraw or the school does not express a concern, you can still fail the exam which will be conducted by external assessors.

It is important to note that in case of a fail on the exam, the candidate has - according to the Act for Universities and Colleges - the right to appeal the result. The student has 3 weeks to file an appeal, and will then be evaluated again by a new censor group. The same material must be exhibited. There is also a paragraph about formal errors at the exam. <https://lovdata.no/dokument/NL/lov/2005-04-01-15>

Guidelines for appeals can be found in our webpage. www.bas.org

Candidates for the diploma exam at BAS are allowed two attempts to take the exam. A new assessment after an appeal will not count as an attempt. A third attempt may be possible after an application.

After having completed the diploma work with the result PASS, the candidate will have the academic title MASTER IN ARCHITECTURE.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA AND GRADES

The school demands an engagement in society, and a reflected and critical conception of the architect's tasks and responsibilities. In addition, each project should be evaluated by the following criteria:

- **Knowledge and understanding:** awareness of relevant historical and contextual references, establishment of critical framework and appropriate tools
- **Competence and skills:** the candidate's working methods through independent, systematic and critical reasoning
- **Judgement and approach:** the candidate's attitude and approach towards architecture and the practice of the architect in society

Grades and distinction

At BAS there are only two grades, PASS or FAIL. In addition to passing, assessors can award a project with a distinction for outstanding quality. A Diploma distinction at BAS is not a grade. It is a recognition agreed upon by the external assessors to acknowledge an extraordinary body of work in a chosen assignment. The distinction is beyond pass and fail and should not merely point to a superior project. It should rather applaud the critical/reflective mind-set, the explorative/innovative, in proposals with a high level of commitment and precision in content, method and/or execution.

ILLNESS AND SPECIAL NEEDS

Sick-leave

The diploma is a self-programmed term. BAS provides an offer for tutorials, workshops, seminars etc. The 3 presentations (essay review, review with all tutors and review with externals) are the only things that are mandatory to attend to, but other than that we expect the candidates to be very independent and take responsibility for their own process and end result.

The semester is flexible, and if a candidate gets sick in the period January-May, normally it will be possible to adjust the work and effort to catch up. If a candidate is sick for very long periods of time, the candidate must closely consider to withdraw from the exam before 1. June and to continue next year. This

is not counted as an attempt for the exam, and you will not have to pay tuition fee again the next year. You will have your remaining hours of tutorials transferred to next year.

Facilitation

If you are a student with special needs and will need facilitation during the diploma term or at the exam, you must contact us before 1. December and inform us about this. It is required to have documentation for your diagnosis in order to have facilitation. If you have had a process with this earlier in your study, you nevertheless have to contact adm. to inform and agree upon the needs for facilitation for the upcoming diploma semester.

Postponed examination

If a candidate is unable to work due to serious illness for a longer period after 1. June when the examination period formally begins, the candidate should contact the administration immediately. This is the only reason that could be the reason for a postponed examination, but it will be judged in every case based upon our regulations. [https://lovdata.no/dokument/LTI/forskrift/2013-02-06-362 S](https://lovdata.no/dokument/LTI/forskrift/2013-02-06-362_S)
A proper sick-note from the doctor is required. You must be unable to work for minimum 5 days in this period in order to be considered for a postponed delivery of your project and exam. A postponed examination will take place in August. The new date for delivery of your project will be according to the dates in your sick-note and in close dialogue with the school.