**OSLO NATIONAL ACADEMY OF THE ARTS - KUNSTHØGSKOLEN I OSLO
PHD PROGRAMME**

**Guidelines midterm evaluation (updated 31.03.2025)**

# **Introduction**

Midterm evaluation is an important pedagogical tool in the implementation of the PhD programme. The candidate is given the opportunity to summarize the work that has been done so far, concretize plans for further process towards the completion of the Artistic doctoral result and final assessment, as well as to think through the whole of the research project in dialogue with an external opponent who sees the project “with fresh eyes”.

Midterm evaluation provides the candidate and supervisors with input for further work. If significant weaknesses are discovered in the doctoral work, measures must be implemented to correct the situation. These can be measures that the research fellow and supervisors see a need to follow up, but it can also include measures and facilitation from the department and institution.

Midterm evaluation also contributes to the sharing of artistic research at the institution.

# **Purpose /Aim**

The purpose of the midterm evaluation is for the candidate to present the Artistic PhD project and discuss it with the opponent and other colleagues within the field. The midterm evaluation will help the research fellow to summarize the ongoing work, develop forms of display and discussion, and develop reflection and dissemination of the project in relation to the research context. Midterm evaluation will help the candidate and supervisors to concretize the further work with the doctoral project towards final assessment.

The main supervisor and second supervisor are normally present during the midterm evaluation.

# **Time and venue**

Midterm evaluation is usually carried out in the third or forth semester.

Midterm evaluation must take place during the study semester. Research fellow and supervisors discuss continuously when it is appropriate to carry out a midterm evaluation in relation to the planned arrangements for evaluation. The time for the event should be determined in discussion with the dean.

Midterm evaluation should ideally take place within the ordinary working hours, ie weekdays during the day. Midterm evaluation is normally carried out at Oslo National Academy of the Arts, but it can also be done elsewhere if the research fellow, supervisor and dean find it appropriate for the doctoral project.

# **Midterm evaluation framework**

The framework for the midterm evaluation is planned in dialogue between candidate and main supervisor based on the individual research project. The candidate chooses how the Artistic doctoral project is presented. Encounters with artistic practice, processes and results are encouraged, and that examples from work with reflection are also provided.

The presentation must have a format that allows for critical examination and discussion of the project.

The design and plan are determined in dialogue between the candidate and supervisors, and it must be anchored in the department's professional environment.

 The midterm evaluation must contain at least:

* The candidate`s presentation of the project, approx. 45 minutes
* Discussion of the project with an opponent who leads a critical discussion with the candidate by asking questions about the candidate`s project (minimum 45 min). The discussion takes place in accordance with the requirements of the regulations and the learning outcomes for the doctoral program and is based on the material the opponent has been given access to beforehand as well as the candidate's presentation.
* An open discussion based on the material the opponent has had access to in advance, as well as the candidate`s presentation.
* An open discussion of the project (minimum 30 min.), where the candidate answers questions from the audience.

The schedule may vary somewhat, but as a starting point, the evaluation is expected to last approx 2-3 hours.

# **Availability of material**

The main supervisor must ensure that the opponent receives information, schedule (time and venue), as well as material (text, links to works and projects) for preparation well in advance (2 weeks) of the midterm evaluation. If the candidate wishes to focus on a specific topic or part of the project, the opponent should be informed of this.

The relationship between the material that the opponent gets access to beforehand and the presentation that the candidate gives in the midterm evaluation can vary. At a minimum, the opponent should have access to:

- Timetable and program for how the midterm evaluation is planned to be carried out

- Project description

- Other material (completed or work-in-progress) from the doctoral project. This material should normally include both documentation of artistic practice and examples of how the work with the reflection in the project will make it possible for others to take part in the working methods and insights that the artistic research will generate. If a lot of artistic material is presented in the midterm evaluation, time must be set aside for the opponent to study this in advance (no later than 2 weeks before the midterm evaluation).

# **Moderator**

The main supervisor, or second supervisor, is the moderator for the midterm evaluation and wishes welcome, introduces the participants, goes through the schedule for the midterm, as well as keeps time and moderates the discussion.

**Opponent**

The opponent must have artistic competence in at least associate professor level, or undoubtedly equivalent competence, within the relevant field. The opponent must not have previously been involved in the project as a supervisor or resource person. The opponent is approved by the head of the doctorate program based on the proposal from the main supervisor. It is the main supervisor's responsibility to contact and inquire about the opponent in due time.

The opponent should go through material sent by the supervisor beforehand to be familiar with the doctoral project, in order to conduct a critical and constructive discussion with the candidate. The purpose of the conversation is to help the candidate articulate, clarify and develop the doctoral project.

In addition to material from the candidate, the Kuf-administration must send the opponent these guidelines with the relevant paragraphs from the regulations and learning outcomes from the study plan for the doctoral programme. It is the opponent's task to be aware of whether the doctoral project has such a development that it will be able to lead to an approved final assessment. If this is not the case, the opponent should address this, either in the evaluation or in the subsequent report.

# **Communication**

The candidate, with the assistance of the main supervisor, must ensure that the midterm evaluation is communicated to the department, the relevant professional field and peers. The candidate must contact communications at Oslo National Academy of the Arts in advance so that they can communicate the midterm event in the newsletter, on the website and on social media.

# **Economy**

Potential production expenses are covered from the candidate's project budget.

Travel for the opponent and main supervisor is covered from the doctoral budget, and is not charged to the candidate's production budget.

**Evaluation report**

Immediately after the midterm evaluation, the opponent writes a short evaluation report. If the opponent reports on significant weaknesses in the doctoral project, the main supervisor and dean shall implement measures to correct the situation.