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Zürcher Hochschule der Künste  
Zurich University of the Arts

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# **CURATING**

**Certificate of Advanced Studies**

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**The Postgraduate Programme in Curating at Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK) is a discursive platform focusing on key areas of contemporary exhibition-making and curating. It has a strong practical orientation – combined with reading and discussing critical theory. Taught modules, group activities, seminars, excursions and lectures delivered by a team of acclaimed international guest lecturers serve to build essential knowledge and skills in the field of curating. Coursework also involves research and the development of individual and group projects from start to finish.**

## In short

### Start

Beginning of October

### Duration

Two semesters (200 contact hours and approx. 200 hours of independent study)

### Certificates

Certificate of Advanced Studies in Curating  
37.5 ECTS

### Course language

Due to growing international demand, the CAS is offered in English. Candidates may submit seminar papers in either German or English.

### Course times

Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings  
(10 hours per week)

### Course Venue

Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK), Switzerland

### Course Director

Prof. Dr. Dorothee Richter  
art scholar, curator, author; Reading/Zurich  
dorothee.richter@zhdk.ch

Ronald Kolb

designer, lecturer, curator, researcher; Stuttgart/Zurich  
ronald.kolb@zhdk.ch

### Distance Learning environment

All courses are held hybrid. All material and course sessions are accessible online.

### Project supervision

Project work requires a certain amount of flexibility.

### Tuition fee

CHF 9000.– (two terms)/CHF 4500.– per semester  
(subject to alteration/exclusive of course materials)

### Application fee

CHF 200.–

### Subject to modifications

For further courses, course details, deadlines, locations, application form, and faculty information, please see:  
[zhdk.ch/cas-curating](http://zhdk.ch/cas-curating)



## Programme

The Postgraduate Programme in Curating focuses less on the notion of the exhibition maker as a “genius” or self-sufficient individual author – a highly controversial issue since the 1990s – than on cooperative, interdisciplinary working methods, used, for example, in film productions or by non-governmental organisations. Here, at Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK), exhibition-making and curating mean the creation of innovative structures for the presentation of cultural artefacts through interdisciplinary collaboration. Here, art, digital media, design, and architecture intermesh in new ways. The working methods adopted by curators, artists, architects, designers, museum educationalists, and writers have become increasingly mixed, bringing about new forms of communication, lounges, archives, reading rooms, and new virtual forums – along with new means of access and forms of interpretation.

At the same time, we are witnessing a shift in the organisation of work processes throughout society. Individual spheres of action are merging on new meta-levels, resulting in increasingly dynamic networks and know-how transfer. Our Postgraduate Programme in Curating responds to these manifold changes in the production of cultural meaning. The course creates a model situation in which students can gain first-hand, practical experience of curating and practise critical reflection. Modular structure ensures that our programme is constantly up-to-date and innovative.

The language of all lectures is English, papers can be delivered either in English or in German.

The programme is delivered in a blended learning environment.

### Programme Aim

The aim of the Postgraduate Programme in Curating is to examine changes in current cultural practices and to develop innovative forms of display within that context. Particularly suited to participants from the fields of art, architecture, culture, design, and media, our programme opens up new perspectives in the professional field. Our international faculty and our internationally oriented projects help build and maintain affiliations worldwide.

### Faculty/Visiting Lecturers

We are in contact with some of the most interesting curators, artists, and theorists in contemporary curating. Each semester we invite a range of people to give talks, weekly presentations, and workshops. These events are often organised in conjunction with galleries, museums, or project spaces.

### Target Audience

The Postgraduate Programme in Curating is designed for:

- Persons working in art, culture, and media
- Graduates of arts universities and universities of applied art and sciences (we welcome applications from individuals holding degrees in art, architecture, design, interior decoration and design, installation, photography, theatre, scenography, and music)
- University graduates in the fields of art history, cultural studies, literary studies

### Admissions Requirements

- University degree or a comparable qualification from a higher vocational college or school
- Work experience
- Positive examination result or assessment of individual aptitude.
- Portfolio admissions are possible in well-founded cases, without candidates being required to satisfy the above conditions.

## Course Structure and Methods

The CAS in Curating has a strong practical orientation. Participants will deepen their knowledge of the field through workshops, seminars, and project work. They will work on a range of themes and issues in close conjunction with the course director and our international faculty.

### Possible Projects

- Exhibitions and exhibition architecture
- Symposia
- Production of books and catalogues
- Installations
- Digital projects
- Art in public spaces
- Art education projects/communication projects

### CAS-Modules

- 1 Project Work
- 2 Recent Art History
- 3 Theory of Aesthetics, Cultural Theory
- 4 Exhibition Design
- 5 Digital Media
- 6 Fine Arts Administration
- 7 Re-interpreting Collections
- 8 Plenary Sessions and Excursions
- 9 Cultural English



## **Kontakt**

Zurich University of the Arts  
Office Continuing Education  
Toni-Areal, Pfingstweidstrasse 96, 8005 Zurich

### **Opening Hours**

Mo–Tue, Thu–Fr, 1–4.30 pm  
Room 5.K02 (5th floor)

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zhdk.ch/en/continuingeducation

### **Consultation**

#### **CAS Curating**

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