

NM NoVA

Nordic Master in Visual Studies and Art Education

Welcome to Nordic Master in Visual Studies and Art Education!

We warmly welcome you to study at the Nordic Master in Visual Studies and Art Education (NoVA) program at Aalto University Department of Art and Media and Aalborg University Department of Communication and Psychology! Nordic Master in Visual Studies and Art Education is a double degree program in which students achieve a comprehensive understanding of Nordic practices and traditions in art education, visual culture, and cultural work. Your MA double-degree consists of major studies, and a Master's thesis.

We are very excited to start our academic year with an excellent group of new students. We aim to offer you an inspiring and stimulating collaborative learning environment and a supportive community of fellow students and professionals. Our priority is for you to develop your skills and knowledge in the best possible ways. Studying at Aalto and Aalborg also will provide you with excellent opportunities for building networks in both countries and internationally.

Both universities have their own schedules for orientation. *It is very important for you to attend the orientation in person* as the structure and courses of your program will be unpacked in more details, you will meet the team that will support you throughout the two-year study program of the NoVA program, and you will make important connections with your fellow students.

At **Aalto University**, orientation week takes place from Monday 24th to Friday 28th of August 2026. During the orientation week you will learn about the practicalities of being a student here and you will get to know about the variety of study and leisure related opportunities you have as a student at Aalto University. NoVA has separate introduction days on Wednesday August 26th and Friday 28th. You will find the updated schedule for the orientation week and other useful information about the start of your studies from the study guide: <https://www.aalto.fi/en/programmes/nordic-master-programme-in-visual-studies-and-art-education>. For general information regarding beginning of your studies, please visit <https://www.aalto.fi/en/new-students/international-joint-masters-programmes>.

At **Aalborg University**, *international students* should attend an online pre-arrival webinar on Thursday August 6th from 1:30 - 3:30 PM **or** Thursday August 13th from 12:00-2:00 PM (Copenhagen time) and attend the International Welcome Day on campus in person on Monday 31st August from 11:00–3:30 PM (Copenhagen time). *All students* should attend in person the Study Start Day that takes place on Tuesday September 1st. The Study Start Day is primarily focused on the study content of your specific programme and socializing with your classmates. NoVA has separate introduction days on Tuesday September 1st and Wednesday September 3rd. See <https://www.newstudents.aau.dk/master#arrival-and-welcome> for more information about the orientation schedules (please make sure you choose Copenhagen campus!). You will find more information about the program at <https://www.en.aau.dk/education/master/visual-studies-and-art-education>.

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Our studies begin right after the orientation. The whole NoVA community meets on hybrid sessions on September 3rd and 4th, followed by an in-person, **mandatory** symposium at Aalto University the following week.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS STARTING THEIR STUDIES AT AALBORG UNIVERSITY

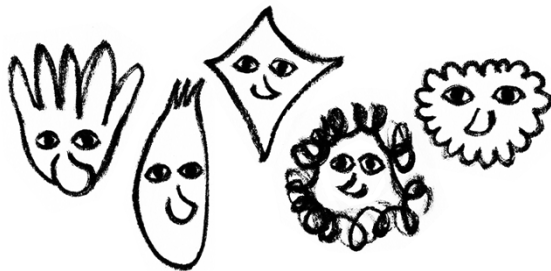
The program organizes a week-long, **mandatory** symposium at Aalto University from Monday September 7th to Friday 11th. Your travel and accommodation will be covered and arranged by the program. You will receive more information about the travel arrangements and practicalities separately.

During the summer months please expect more detailed information via e-mail about starting your studies and the orientation schedule. Please remember to check your e-mail from time to time for our important messages. You can also revisit NoVA's homepage <https://www.nmnova.com/>.

We encourage you to re/locate yourself in the region of Helsinki/Espoo or Copenhagen on time to attend the orientation week and the start of your NoVA program.

Looking forward to meeting you all!

Sincerely,



Juuso Tervo
Assistant Professor, Arts-Based Research and Pedagogy
Aalto University

Mie Buhl
Professor, Visual Culture, IT and Learning Design
Aalborg University