

**European Graduate School EGS  
Arts, Health & Society Division**

**Doctoral Program in Expressive Arts – Handbook**

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## **1. Introduction**

The Doctoral Program in Expressive Arts is designed to further training and research in the therapeutic, consultative and educational use of the arts and in the relationship of the arts to social change. The program encourages students to take seriously the traditions and disciplines of the arts as they have evolved over the course of human history. In all societies up to the present, the arts have played an essential role in enabling human beings to make sense of their world, to respond to suffering or to live with it when necessary, and to be able to celebrate the joy of life. The arts have also played a role in struggles for freedom and have served as a voice of protest against illegitimate authority.

Aristotle speaks of three kinds of knowing:

Theoria, knowing by observing,  
Praxis, knowing by doing,  
and Poiesis, knowing by making.

The Doctoral Program in Expressive Arts seeks to restore confidence in Poiesis, the knowing that comes from the human capacity to shape both self and world. Training and research at the European Graduate School EGS are based on that capacity and encourage students to take responsibility for shaping their development as learners.

## **2. Admission requirements**

Applicants to the CAGS/Ph.D. Program must give evidence of a graduate degree on the Masters level or higher from an accredited university or graduate school with a concentration in or related to the field of Expressive Arts. Experienced professionals with a graduate degree

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in another field will also be considered, depending on their qualifications. The candidate may be asked to perform some additional tasks or take courses that allow him or her to understand in greater depth the Expressive Arts. All applicants must have an admissions interview, in person, by phone or by Skype, with the Program Director .

Students admitted into the CAGS Program will be considered to be in the Qualifying Phase of doctoral studies. It is also possible to pursue studies for the CAGS and to apply for Doctoral Candidacy at a later date.

### **3. Structure of the program**

The Doctoral Program in Expressive Arts combines two summer school residential trainings at EGS in Saas-Fee, leading to the CAGS (Certificate of Advanced Post-Graduate Studies), with individualized Dissertation Research done in the student's home country. Additionally, the dissertation candidate participates in a colloquium, held at EGS in Malta or another designated place. The findings and results of the dissertation research will be presented to the EGS community.

All EGS seminars, workshops and colloquia are conducted in English; Dissertations can be written in English, but also in German, French or Spanish if suitable doctoral Supervisors can be found.

The degree of Doctor of Philosophy given by EGS is accredited by The National Commission for Further and Higher Education in Malta.

The normal time required to achieve the Ph.D. degree is four years, one year for the Qualifying Phase (Part One) and three years for the Candidacy Phase (Part Two).

Overview of the CAGS / Ph.D. program:

- ❖ Qualifying phase (preparatory courses and homework) : certificate of advanced graduate studies in expressive arts (CAGS)
- ❖ Candidacy phase I and II (dissertation proposal and dissertation research leading to the dissertation defense) : Ph.D. in expressive arts

#### **Part One**

Part One is the **Qualifying Phase**, in which the student completes the CAGS and puts his doctorate committee together.

#### **CAGS (Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies)**

The CAGS consists of two intensive seminars: Intensive Master Seminar 1 (IMC 1) and Intensive Master Seminar 2 (IMC 2), of 22 days each, that are given in periods 1 and 2 respectively during the Summer School. Although students can take them in any order, we recommend starting with IMC 1. Normally students will do the summer schools in consecutive years, but under special circumstances, they can both be taken in the same year.

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The CAGS takes place on our Swiss campus in Saas Fee. The program includes courses, lectures, educational excursions, artistic presentations, community art, etc. In the CAGS, students and teachers from different parts of the world work together, sharing their experiences in relation to the work of the expressive arts in their respective contexts.

### **IMC–Courses**

#### **IMC 1**

##### **Core Seminar in Intermodal Expressive Arts /advisory group**

The seminar meets regularly during the Intensive Master Seminar and trains students in group process through the expressive arts, developing themes and integrating the material from the special subject courses. The seminar works with intermodal expressive arts, responds to advisory questions and trains in the method of decentering.

##### **Philosophical discourse on themes related to expressive arts**

An introduction to philosophical discourse relevant to the Expressive Arts with an emphasis on the phenomenological tradition. Basic concepts and principles of expressive arts are introduced, and students are encouraged to develop their own perspectives on the field.

##### **Didactics of Community Art**

This course will focus on the principles and practice of Community Art. To be able to work with communities, as well as individuals, is an essential skill for Expressive Arts training. There will also be an opportunity for students to practice community art in the course of the summer school.

##### **Comparative Research Methodology adequate to the Expressive Arts**

A seminar focusing on the research that is indigenous to the Arts. Phenomenology as a research method is discussed, and research within an arts-based studio framework as well as other research models will be explored. Students are encouraged to develop their own research methods.

##### **Expressive Arts-based Supervisory Skills for Trainers**

Art-oriented and art-analogue supervision will be used to review students on-going work as therapists, educators and consultants and to explore central themes for future work.

#### **IMC-2**

##### **The Art of Leadership: The Responsive Voice**

The power of leadership depends on preparation and presence. We will examine our leadership skills and provide coaching opportunities to improve them. Focus will be on becoming aware of one's own use of voice, speech, gesture, posture, movement and musical skill, acquiring an understanding of their meaning in order to improve teaching and training.

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### **Creative Project Design and Implementation**

This course will focus on helping students to envision and design projects using the practice and the methods of expressive arts. We will generate project ideas, collaborating together to shape and design these ideas into projects that could be implemented in various settings.

### **Philosophy of Expressive Arts**

Emphasis will be on helping students to further investigate fundamental principles and concepts in the field through phenomenological and arts-based methodology. Students will be asked to develop their own philosophical framework

### **Expressive Arts Research Colloquium, Presentation and Critique**

This seminar focuses on the methodologies of research that are relevant for our field, including arts-based research, and for the development of critical thinking towards other perspectives, in order to prepare students for dissertation research. Students will prepare and discuss preliminary outlines of their proposed dissertation work.

### **Requirements for completion of the CAGS Program**

Students must complete the following tasks with the support of an advisor. The advisor is assigned by the program director, with the agreement of the student. Students will have meetings in person, via phone or Skype throughout the year, between one summer school and the other. In this way, the student can have individualized advising that will allow him or her to fulfill the tasks according to his or her learning objectives and professional development.

Successful completion of the following CAGS Field Projects is required:

#### **Auditing a Seminar given by a Leader in Expressive Arts**

It is important to study a role model in practice. The seminar should be at least a weekend long.

After the seminar the student should have a one-and-a-half hour interview with the faculty on his or her teaching philosophy and methods. Preparation through the study of the publications of the teacher is required. The seminar leader will receive an honorarium of CHF 200 from EGS for the interview. After the seminar, the student should send a report to their faculty advisor.

#### **Essay in Expressive Arts Research and Philosophy**

During the Research and Philosophy seminars, students have the opportunity to present possible research ideas as well as to develop the philosophical foundations that are at the basis of their work.

In the essay, the students should reflect on their past and future work in the field and their future plans for research while deepening and developing the ideas presented during the seminars. The essay should total no less than 10 and no more than 20 typewritten pages.

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### Teaching Internship with Supervision

Teaching an Expressive Arts course or courses for at least 36 hours. Supervision of the internship is mandatory and should preferably be taken from a Supervisor who is an Expressive Arts Supervisor, Therapist, Educator or Consultant. The minimum requirement of supervision is three sessions.

### Public Presentation of a Paper on Expressive Arts

It is important to represent the field of the Expressive Arts eloquently in public to enhance one's own ability as a teacher. We also consider an in-service presentation as public. The lecture text has to be sent to the EGS faculty advisor after presentation. The quality of the discourse is important in fulfilling the requirement.

### Time-Frames for the CAGS Program

One month before summer school IMC 2, the student must show documented evidence to his/her advisor of having completed the CAGS requirements, if they are to be assured of receiving the certificate at graduation.

The completed requirements will be presented at the next summer school during the core seminar.

If students do not complete the CAGS requirements before the second session, they may still attend the second session. In such a case, the tasks should be completed within the following year. Beyond that timeframe, a fee of CHF 500. will be charged per year for maintaining status. All requirements must be completed within 2 years after completing IMC 2.

Once these requirements have been completed, the student can proceed to Part Two, the Candidacy Phase.

### Part Two

Part Two is the **Candidacy Phase**, in which the student completes the dissertation: Candidacy phase one C-1 includes the dissertation proposal, candidacy phase two C-2 includes the dissertation research and dissertation defense.

### Structure of the Candidacy Phase

1. During the first part of the Candidacy Phase (Phase C-1), the student, with the help of the program director establishes the Doctoral Committee (DC) and writes the Dissertation Proposal. The student has the right to participate in the "Arts-based Writing and Research colloquium". The student can choose when to attend the colloquium (more information in our website). The committee, comprised of the Supervisor and a Second Reader, can also include a third reader and a peer. After presentation of and approval by the Doctoral Committee (DC) the student can proceed with the Dissertation Research and write the Dissertation.

2. Phase C-2 is dedicated to the Dissertation Work, and is completed when the Dissertation is accepted by the Dissertation Committee DC, and the Doctoral Program Council (DPC) approves advancement to the Doctoral Examination and Defense.

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When the Dissertation is completed and accepted by the DC, the Doctoral Examination and Defense will take place. Upon successful completion of the Doctoral Defense, the student will be awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.).

The degree will be formally conferred in Saas-Fee during the Summer School subsequently to the completion of the Defense. Students are encouraged to attend the ceremony of conferral of the degree and to celebrate the occasion.

### 4. The Dissertation Proposal

The purpose of the Dissertation Proposal is to demonstrate the relevance of the Dissertation Topic and the student's competence to undertake the research. The Dissertation Proposal must be approved by the Supervisor and the other members of the Dissertation Committee before the student can commence Dissertation Research. The dissertation proposal may be presented at a research colloquium in Malta or a designated place.

The Dissertation Proposal should have the following form:

-**Introduction:** presentation of the topic to be worked on, personal motivation, relevance of the topic on a personal, academic and professional level. Importance of the subject in relation to the Expressive Arts.

-**General question and specific questions.**

-**Methodology:** description of the type of methodology to be used and the steps to follow.

-**Theory:** mention authors (books, research, journals, web pages etc) that talk about the research topic

-**Proposal of the structure** that the dissertation will have (chapters, sub-chapters, etc.) with some narrative about possible contents.

-Projected timeline

-Sample bibliography

Upon approval by the Dissertation Committee, a copy of the Dissertation Proposal must be sent to the Program Director of the Doctoral Program, who will forward it for approval to the Chair of the **Doctoral Program Council (DPC)**.

### 5. The Dissertation Research

EGS AHS promotes research from a phenomenological and arts-based research perspective, using methodologies that are related to Expressive Arts. The research that is undertaken can have a theoretical focus or be based on projects that the students have an interest in undertaking.

To download the "EGS Research ethics – guidelines" please click **here**.

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### **5.1 Completion of the Dissertation Proposal (Phase C-1) to start Candidacy Phase two**

The request for the start of Candidacy Phase C-2 must be directed to the Program Director in writing and be approved by the Chairperson of the Doctoral Program Council DPC. It must include:

- A resume in outline form; the Dissertation Proposal, including a preliminary title of the Dissertation; a recommendation by the Supervisor that indicates his or her approval to the Doctoral Committee and addresses the progress of the Doctoral Studies
- If relevant, a declaration about former attempts to complete Doctoral Studies and the reason for interruption.
- The chairperson of the Doctoral Program Council can ask the DPC to review the Proposal, if it is not complete, if there are questions about the academic prerequisites, or if the Supervisor or Program Director asks for such a review.

### **5.2 Completion of the Dissertation (Phase C-2)**

The Supervisor asks the chairperson of the Doctoral Program Council to initiate the examination procedure. The following documentation must be available:

- Two copies of the final Dissertation
- An affidavit attesting: That the work was done independently; that the text does not infringe on copyright laws and is free of any plagiarism; that editorial and other personal help is mentioned by name.
- The suggested members of the Examination Committee must be approved by the Program Director of the Doctoral Program.

After a review, the Chair of the DPC will ask the council members via email to approve the Examination Committee. The email should include the Abstract of the Dissertation. If a council member wants to read the Dissertation, it can be ordered through the EGS office (as electronic data).

## **6. Supervisors, Dissertation Readers, Doctoral Committee, Examination Committee and Doctoral Program Council**

### **6.1 The Doctoral Program Council**

The Executive Board of EGS appoints the Doctoral Program Council (DPC). The DPC responds to all questions connected to the Doctoral Program at EGS. The DPC consists of 5 members. The members are the Deans of EGS, the program director of the AHS Ph.D. program and a member by the Board of Trustees. Two members must have had Supervisor status in other accredited Doctoral Programs. All of them must have PhD or equivalent degree and teaching experience in higher education. They are elected for 4 years. Reelection is possible. Decisions are made by a simple majority.

### **6.2 The Doctoral Committee**

A Doctoral Committee (DC) serves the student as an advisory board during Phase II. The DC

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consists of a Supervisor and one or two members. The DC has at least three members including the student. The Supervisor is responsible for the advising and is the Academic Chair of the Committee, while the student convenes the meetings.

### **6.3 Supervisors**

Supervisors are faculty members of EGS who have experience as Supervisor in other accredited Doctoral Programs or have a terminal degree and extensive experience as faculty members in accredited Graduate Schools and on Doctoral Committees.

### **6.4 Dissertation Readers**

The Supervisor is also the First Reader of the Dissertation. The Second Reader must meet the same criteria as a Supervisor. Second Readers may be from a university other than EGS. The Supervisor or Doctoral Student may request a Third Reader who may be a professional who does not meet the criteria of a Supervisor but has expertise in the field of study. The Supervisor, after consultation with the Doctoral Student, makes a recommendation for the one or two additional readers. The Doctoral Program Council must approve the readers.

### **6.5 Evaluation and Acceptance of the Dissertation for the Doctoral Examination**

The Dissertation Readers give a written evaluation of the Dissertation and a grade:

- Summa cum laude (excellent)
- Magna cum laude (very good)
- Cum laude (good)
- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory

The Dissertation has to be of exceptional quality to be evaluated as "summa cum laude". A Dissertation is accepted if all evaluations are at least satisfactory. The Doctoral Program Council will intervene if one reader (not the Supervisor) has judged the Dissertation to be unsatisfactory.

If the dispute cannot be resolved after such an intervention, the council will follow the suggestions of the Supervisor for another reader and then form an average of all submitted grades. The Dissertation may also be returned to the candidate for revisions if all readers agree to such a procedure. The suggestions for the revision, however, must be concise and clear. If two readers have judged the Dissertation to be unsatisfactory, the Dissertation will be rejected and the examination cannot be taken.

### **6.6 The Examination Committee**

For each Doctoral Examination, an Examination Committee (EC) will be elected. The EC consists of the readers and an additional member approved by the Dean or Program Director of the Doctoral Program who represents EGS. The Doctoral Candidate may submit suggestions for the additional member. The Doctoral Program Council (DPC) will, whenever possible, follow the suggestions and make the final decision. The DPC will also designate one of the readers as the Chair, usually the Supervisor. The Examination Committee will be responsible for the Defense Meeting and will evaluate the outcome. The EC will make the final decision on the grade, taking the readers' evaluations of the Dissertation into account. The decision

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of the EC is final and will be presented to the Doctoral Program Council for referral of the degree to the Provost of EGS.

### **6.7 The Defense**

The Chairperson of the DPC will announce to the candidate the date of the defense after the Dissertation is accepted. The date is determined in consultation with the candidate. The defense must focus on the Dissertation and the questions that arise from Dissertation-related research.

The defense session will start with a short presentation by the Candidate that introduces the Dissertation Research, Content and Results. The defense is convened by the Chairperson of the Examination Committee, who also designates the taker of the minutes. The session will normally not last longer than two hours, and the presentation by the candidate must be within a time-frame of 20 minutes. The defense is public.

### **6.8 Examination Results**

The Examination Committee will decide the outcome immediately after the defense in a non-public meeting. The EC will also decide the final qualification. Compared to the defense, the evaluation of the Dissertation will have double weight in determining the final qualification. The defense must be judged to be satisfactory at least. The defense may be repeated if the grade is unsatisfactory and must happen, at the earliest, within three months and, at the latest, by two years after the first attempt. A third attempt is not possible.

The EC will announce the result to the Doctoral Program Council for approval. The Provost will then send a letter of completion to the candidate that includes the final grade.

### **6.9 Publication of the Dissertation**

The Dissertation must be available to the public. To confirm this, the candidate will deliver a PDF document or a USB stick. In addition the candidate has to demonstrate that an Abstract (approved by the Senior Advisor) has been sent to the relevant publications data-base. An abstract for the EGS database - a one paragraph (130 words) academic description of the Dissertation content, a 'summary of the summary' - must be provided as well.

EGS will only accept your Dissertation-file in Microsoft Word format, either WinWord 95 (or higher) for Windows or MacWord 5 (or higher) for Mac. Students should submit the Dissertation in a single file. Students may choose between a minimal "text version" only or a "complete version including scans of pictures". Students also may include their address on the title page and offer a complete illustrated thesis for sale or loan.

EGS plans to store the electronic Dissertation File in a Dissertation Database, which will be accessible to the public. For copyright reasons, students will have to give EGS permission to do that. The Dissertation should include the following: "I hereby give EGS the right to send the Dissertation file to people who are interested in my Dissertation and to download it on the EGS website."

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### **6.10 Conferral of the Ph.D. Degree**

After the conditions under 6.9 Publication are met, the degree will be conferred by the Chair of the Executive Board of EGS. The Doctoral Diploma will show the degree title and the evaluation. The diploma will be signed by the Chair of the Executive Board and the President of the EGS Foundation (Stiftungsrat).

## **7. Fees and Regulations**

### **7.1 Tuition, Fees and Payment Schedule**

Tuition and Fees for the Ph.D. Program in Expressive Arts, including payment schedule, are periodically reviewed and published annually in the EGS AHS academic program as well as in the website.

Please visit this website for up-to-date information.

### **7.2 Late Payment of Fees and Tuition**

Students whose payments are in arrears will first be sent a letter of reminder. If the fees are still not paid within a thirty-day period, the student will be suspended from the Program and must formally reapply. There will be a fee of CHF 500.— for re-application. In addition, there will be a fee of CHF 500.— for each calendar year or part thereof during which the student is formally suspended. Students should be aware that re-admission is not automatic but will depend upon an examination of the circumstances in each individual case. Students may apply for leaves of absence for compelling personal reasons. If granted a leave of absence (not to exceed one year), the student may suspend tuition payment until the following year. However, the student must pay a maintaining status fee of CHF 500.— for that year. Students who wish to leave the Program for longer than one year must formally apply for re-admission after that period. During leaves of absence or suspension for nonpayment of fees, the resources of EGS, including communication with the student's Supervisor, will normally not be available. If there are compelling reasons, the school will entertain individual payment plans that differ from the payment schedule outlined in the EGS Website

### **7.3 Time limit for the completion of the Ph.D.**

Students are expected to finish the Ph.D. at the latest within a three year period after approval of the Dissertation Proposal. Upon application to the Program Director, a candidate may be granted an extension after that period. A fee of CHF 500.— will be charged for each year.

### **7.4 Change in Doctoral Supervisors**

A student may in exceptional circumstances and for compelling reasons apply for a change of the Doctoral Supervisor. Regulations concerning change in Doctoral Advisors:

- The first Supervisor has to agree with the change.

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- The new Supervisor has to agree to take over the student's Dissertation Proposal.
- The tuition is based on one Supervisor and three years of studies. In the case of a change of Supervisors, the full fee of the tuition of CHF 11'900.— will have to be charged for the new Supervisor. The tuition for the period with the first Supervisor will be calculated pro rata. If the student did not use the travel reimbursement quota (CHF 1600.—), it will be transferred to the next Supervisor. That may reduce the tuition due for the period passed, depending on the amount paid.
- The change must be approved by the Doctoral Program Council. After the student has approval from the second Supervisor, a request for change of Supervisors must be written to the Council by the student.  
The tuition that is charged for the period passed up to the change will be calculated by the EGS office.
- A change will be effective only after the tuition up to the change is paid and the first prorated amount of tuition is received according to the payment schedule in the Catalog.

### **8. CAGS Faculty and Dissertation Supervisors**

Paul Antze, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Social Science, York University, Toronto, Canada

Sally Atkins, Ed.D., Professor of Human Development & Psychological Counseling,  
Appalachian State University, USA

José Miguel Calderón, MSc, Ph.D. Program Director CAGS/Ph.D. Program at EGS. Co-founder of TAE Perú and TAE Barcelona.

Judith Greer Essex, Ph.D, LMFT, REAT, Director of Expressive Arts Institute, San Diego, USA.

Margo N. Fuchs-Knill, Ph.D., Professor, Dean of Masters Studies, Division of Arts, Health and Society, EGS, Switzerland

Tatjana Jansen, Ph.D, DVATI, RCAT., Executive Director, Vancouver Art Therapy Institute.

Ellen Levine, MSW., Ph.D., ATR-BC, REAT, Co-founder of and faculty at The CREATE Institute in Toronto, Professor and Core Faculty at EGS.

Stephen K. Levine, Ph.D., D.S.Sc., Paul Celan Professor of Philosophy and Poetics, Division of Arts, Health and Society at EGS; Professor Emeritus, York University, Toronto, Canada.

Melinda Meyer, Ph.D. researcher at the Norwegian Centre for Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies (NKVTS) and the Director and Co-founder of the Norwegian Institute for Expressive

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Art and Communication (NIKUT).

Harold McKinney Ph.D., D.A., Professor Emeritus, Appalachian State University.

Thomas McLaughlin, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus from the English Department, Appalachian State University.

Michael Siegell, Ph.D., Core Faculty, Chair of Undergraduate Psychology, Cambridge College.

Sabine Silberberg, PhD RCC RCAT SEP., Expressive Arts Therapist, Registered Art Therapist and Clinical Counsellor in Vancouver, BC.

Jacques Stitelmann, Ph.D., FSP, ASP Director, L'Atelier, Switzerland.

Mónica Sorín, Ph.D., Professor and Co-Director of the Program in Transdisciplinary Art Therapy and Human Development, Barcelona, Spain

Peter Wanzenried, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Pädagogische Hochschule Zürich, Inartes Switzerland

### **Teaching Internships**

Teaching Internships

EGS offers a teaching internship for selected CAGS graduates. The purpose of the internship is to help train graduates for teaching in the field. The terms of the internship are as follows:

Applicants must be EGS CAGS graduates.

A letter of application should be sent to EGS by April 1 of the year the student applies for. Interns will be selected according to their suitability and the needs of the Program. Only a limited number of internships are available.

The role of the intern is to be an observer and assistant to one of the core group leaders. Interns will receive feedback on their work and will have an opportunity to discuss teaching principles and practices with the core group leader, depending on the demands of the latter's schedule.

Interns are responsible for their own transportation, room and board and other costs.

The amounts of tuition and fees mentioned in this document are subject to change.