INFORMATION SHEET

Diploma Degree Programme in Drama
with the majors of
Acting and
Drama Directing

Registration deadline for the admissions examination in February 2019 (Acting)
for the academic year of 2019/20:
25. January 2019

Registration deadline for the admissions examination in July 2019 (Acting)
for the academic year of 2019/20:
24. May 2019

Registration deadline for the admissions examination in April 2019 (Drama Directing)
for the academic year of 2019/20:
22. March 2019

Online registration for the admissions examination at:
www.mdw.ac.at → Quicklinks → admission for entrance exam
The Max Reinhardt Seminar

The Max Reinhardt Seminar offers four-year degree programmes in acting and drama directing. The objective—as originally called for by founder Max Reinhardt himself—is comprehensive training in which technical skill and artistic creativity are mutually dependent.

A special feature of the Max Reinhardt Seminar is the fact that, in numerous areas, acting and directing students are taught as a single group. The perspective of both study programmes lies in text-based creative work either as or together with an ensemble, and it is here where both the common and the distinct requirements of these two professions can be found. The linkage of acting and directing studies corresponds to an idea of theatre that is at once real and utopian, at the centre of which stand the actors and actresses themselves.

Training for professional theatre in all of its constantly changing possibilities entails gathering practical theatrical experience on a professional level. This end is served by the Max Reinhardt Seminar’s own theatre productions, which are an integral element of these courses of study. The loaded relationship between theory and practice is a constant focus of the overall programme—a focus that can facilitate the discovery of perspectives for a type of theatre that is not strictly self-contained, but much rather oriented toward a critical view of both history and the present.

Studies

The regular duration of study is 8 semesters. The first semester is designed to cover fundamentals and is identical for students of both the acting and the directing programmes. The second semester then sees students separate according to their degree programmes, although they do still attend numerous classes together. The fourth year of study emphasises role coaching but also includes a strong focus on actual on-stage work. The Max Reinhardt Seminar offers students a broad range of subjects and artistic methods, as well as intense contact with diverse personalities from the theatre world. And the curriculum also includes courses having to do with film work.

Both degree programmes conclude with the academic degree “Magister / Magistra artium”.

Details on rules pertaining to both examinations and studies can be found in the Austrian Universities Act (UG) as well as in the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna’s curriculum for the diploma degree programme in drama with the majors of Acting and Drama directing.
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### Compulsory subjects

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### Electives

- Ästhetik
- Arbeit vor der Kamera
- Körperliche Aufbauarbeit
- Theaterorganisation/-recht
- Übungen zur Dramaturgie
Admissions

Admission as a full-time degree student requires successful completion of the admissions examination. The admissions examination serves to document one’s talent for this programme. Mastery of the German language is a prerequisite for admission.

Prospective drama directing majors must additionally document their fundamental qualification for university studies with either an Austrian certificate of eligibility for university study (Matura) or an equivalent document.

Admissions Examination

When taking the admissions examination for the drama programme, candidates must complete several steps, each of which contains different tasks:

**ACTING:**

a) Staged presentation of two role excerpts (of the four that must be prepared)
b) Staged presentation of the remaining two excerpts
c) Completion of various on-stage, physical, musical and theoretical tests

**DRAMA DIRECTING:**

d) Discussion of staging concepts (analysis of dramas, staging solutions) for one of the two plays to be prepared; test on the candidate’s theoretical and historical knowledge in the fields of theatre, literature and culture
e) A similar discussion on the second play
f) Completion of various tests containing staging-related tasks

For candidates who intend to major in acting following the introductory semester, steps a), b) and c) are omitted.
For candidates who intend to major in drama directing following the introductory semester, steps d), e) and f) are omitted.

In all these steps of the examination, it is possible to work with the candidates on further tasks; such tasks are announced either prior to or during the examination. A prerequisite for taking step b) of the exam is having passed step a), and to take step c), one must have passed step b). A prerequisite for taking step e) of the exam is having passed step d), and to take step f), one must have passed step d).
Explanatory notes on the admissions exam for ACTING:

Applicants must prepare four audition texts, which should be chosen so as to give the commission of examiners an impression of how broad their talents are. Here, what is important is not how well the text is recited, but rather the effort made to recognisably shape the respective characters being played in accordance with the dramatic situation at hand. The selection of the texts, which must be taken from four plays (two classical and two modern, with 1930 being the border), is up to the applicant.

Self-authored play texts, prose, poems, ballads, songs, chansons, etc. do not qualify.

Applicants can, should they consider it necessary, bring along props and costume elements to the examination. For parts of the examination that are listed under step c), we recommend bringing along gymnastics clothing.

Explanatory notes on the admissions exam for DRAMA DIRECTING:

Applicants must discuss their staging concepts for the plays that they have indicated.

The third stage of the examination consists of improvisations and of various tests. General knowledge of art history and good familiarity with both dramatic literature and standard theoretical works on modern theatre are expected.

Pieces to prepare for the entrance exam for Drama Directing for 2018/19:

Group I:

*In preparation*

Group II:

*In preparation*
**Application**

The Dates of the entrance exams are:

**Acting**

25 to 27. February 2019  
Deadline: 25. January 2019  
Deadline for the receipt of the security deposit respectively the cancellation: 01. February 2019

01 to 05. July 2019  
Deadline: 24. May 2019  
Deadline for the receipt of the security deposit respectively the cancellation: 03. June 2019

The entrance exam starts for all candidates at the first day at **07:30 o´clock** in Schlosstheater Schönbrunn.

**Drama Directing**

23 to 26. April 2019  
Deadline: 22. March 2019  
Deadline for the receipt of the security deposit respectively the cancellation: 29. March 2019

The entrance exam starts for all candidates at the first day at **08:00 o´clock** in the Max Reinhardt Seminar.
Security deposit – Acting and Drama Directing

Please note: to register for the entrance examination you need to pay a security deposit in the amount of €55,-

The payment of the security deposit must arrive „free of expense for the recipient“ on the banking account of the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna – mdw. Caution: Your registration to the admission examination is only valid if the deposit arrives within the agreed time (please add full details mentioned below!)

Recipient: „Univ.f.Musik u.darst.Kunst Wien“ (at Bank Austria)
IBAN: AT08 1200 0506 6201 4308
BIC/SWIFT: BKAUATWW
Reference: „Kaution Schauspiel or Regie“

Should the referring person not be identical with the registered applicant it is mandatory to mention the applicant’s name in the transfer order!

You will receive your deposit back if you

- participate in the entrance examination
or
- cancel your registration per mail in due time under zp-abmeldung@mdw.ac.at
or
- should be indisposed on short notice because of serious causes (e.g. sickness, third-party negligence as flight cancellation, acts of nature beyond control). These causes require documentary proof (medical report, adequate written confirmation).

In all causes mentioned above your deposit will be retransferred to your account approximately 2 months after the admission examination.

In case of your absence without previous cancellation or missing documentary proof of a serious cause your deposit will be withheld.

Deadlines:

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Deadline for the receipt of the security deposit respectively the cancellation: 01. February 2019

For the entrance examination in July 2019
Deadline for the receipt of the security deposit respectively the cancellation: 03. June 2019

For the entrance examination in April 2019 (Drama Directing)
Deadline for the receipt of the security deposit respectively the cancellation: 29. March 2019