

# Classical Music programme

Guide for new students that obtained credits elsewhere  
Programme comparison - exemptions

New students who have already followed higher art education elsewhere may need to make a (partial) programme comparison and take some courses in a bridging or preparatory programme.  
As a new student who obtained previous credits, you may also want to use these credits from previous higher education programmes to applying for exemptions. This guide will help you!

## 1. Which diploma have you already obtained?

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### 1 I have already obtained a degree in higher education:

#### A Professional Bachelor Netherlands

-> Official connection programme + Master subjects

#### B Is my degree equivalent to an *official* bachelor's degree (EQF 6)?

-> Check on this [website](#) by selecting your country.

**The RCA secretariat will also check your diploma**

Yes -> Apply for exemptions for these specific courses **is mandatory:**

- Research 1,2,3
- Practical harmony and improvisation (for pianists)
- Physical awareness 1
- Introduction to arts and humanities 1+2

Use the document: "Doc to prepare comparison when you obtained a bachelor abroad"  
If you do not receive the requested exemptions you will have to follow these courses in a preparatory program.

No -> Apply for exemptions for all subjects in the Bachelor program.

#### C Master (EQF 7)

-> You can start a second master's and you can apply for exemptions for **non-artistic** subjects.

- Entrepreneurship
- Electives
- Art Philosophy
- (Subsidiary) instrument (for conducting and composition)
- Music history 4+5 (for composer)

### 2 I have not yet obtained a higher education diploma:

#### A I have obtained a (secondary) diploma abroad which gives me access to higher education (EQF 4)

-> You can register for Bachelor 1

#### B I have already completed a number of courses within a Bachelor's programme.

-> You can ask for exemptions for the courses that match.

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### 2. Procedure preparation request for exemptions - 5 steps

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- 1) Students that previously studied abroad, first need to attend an **information session**, preferably before coming to the study counseling.
- 2) Next they arrange for a **personal meeting with their section coordinator** and discuss the preferred study programme, the programme comparison and the requested exemptions.

Who is your section coordinator?

Roland Broux: guitar, harp

-> appointment via [roland.broux@ap.be](mailto:roland.broux@ap.be)

Luc Anthonis: voice, conductors

-> appointment via [luc.anthonis@ap.be](mailto:luc.anthonis@ap.be)

Koen Wilmaers: percussion and marimba

-> appointment via [koen.wilmaers@ap.be](mailto:koen.wilmaers@ap.be)

Alain Craens: composition

-> appointment via [alain.craens@ap.be](mailto:alain.craens@ap.be)

Aäron Wajnberg: key instruments (piano, harpsichord, organ, pianoforte, accordeon)

-> appointment via [aaron.wajnberg@ap.be](mailto:aaron.wajnberg@ap.be)

Guido De Neve: violin

-> appointment via [guido.deneve@ap.be](mailto:guido.deneve@ap.be)

Leo De Neve: viola, cello, double bass

-> appointment via [leo.deneve@ap.be](mailto:leo.deneve@ap.be)

Jeroen Billiet: woodwinds

-> appointment via [Jeroen.billiet@ap.be](mailto:Jeroen.billiet@ap.be)

Jeroen Billiet: brass

-> appointment via [jeroen.billiet@ap.be](mailto:jeroen.billiet@ap.be)

- 3) The student prepares the **Programme comparison/exemptions** him/herself based on the guidelines in this guide.

A if you want to apply for a **limited number of exemptions** you can do this directly in the VA-module in iBamaflex by following the manual you find here. You need to prepare the material you need for this yourself: a scan of the obtained diplomas and certificates + the detailed overview of previously obtained credits in the diploma supplement or transcript of records + the content of the course you use for the exemption.

B an **extended request for multiple exemptions**.

- The templates for the extended programme comparisons can be found [here](#) under the heading 'Individual programme and transfer of credits Classical Music'. If you need help to prepare this document please contact [vrijstellingen.kca@ap.be](mailto:vrijstellingen.kca@ap.be).  
At the top, the student records his/her name and the country in which the student previously studied, the diplomas and certificates obtained and the name of the institution. The student also

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needs to prepare a short official description of the content and the objectives of the course, based on official study guide information from the previous university of applied sciences or university.

- Scan of the obtained diploma's and certificates + the previously obtained credits on the basis of the diploma supplement.
- 4) Based on the preparation in the programme comparison the student can apply for exemptions in the online VA-module in iBamaflex for which you find the manual [here](#) under the topic "Individual programme and transfer of credits Classical Music".
- 5) The requested exemptions are then examined. If the file is complete and valid, it is sent to the **Admissions Committee**. If (part of) the requested exemptions are refused, the study counsellors will return to the student and, if necessary, an appointment will be made.

### 3. Content and goals of the courses of the music programme at the Royal Conservatoire of Antwerp.

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Can be consulted in the online study guide: <http://ects.ap.be/en>  
(first select programme, specialisation and option, and then click through to the various course units for each level)

#### KCA course units for which you may not find a corresponding course:

- **Introduction to the Arts and Humanities, Research, Music History 3.** The Music programme at the Royal Conservatory Antwerp (RCA) is an academic Master programme. This means that - apart from your skills and knowledge with respect to your major discipline and a thorough general musical education - solid academic formation is required for holding a RCA Master degree. In previous years we have noticed that this academic formation is lacking in some foreign programmes.
- **Physical awareness:** this course prepares the student for the physical strain which they will endure as musicians. The course Physical awareness works on injury prevention, condition training and offers specific exercises for warming up and stretching.
- **Practical Harmony & improvisation:** in this course theoretical and analytical insight in music is linked to performance practice. In doing so we dip into the wide range of methodologies that is on offer.
- **Artist in Society:** in a series of lectures and meetings with hands-on experts from the broad cultural field, we inform the young musician on (and confront him with) the reality of the professional field in the perspective of the socio-cultural context. If young musicians want to create a place and make a living for themselves in the professional world, a thorough reflection on how to be a musician is far from a frivolous matter.

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- **Study of literature:** the literature course wants to offer instrument-players a solid background and provide them with specific tools from the tradition of their major instruments. In this way they can build up support for the instrumental skills and the personal repertoire they have acquired in their individual classes, so that they can improve their abilities to situate themselves in their domains and make well-founded choices in the development of their careers as instrument players.
- **Arts Entrepreneurship:** in this course students gain insight in the value of their art by learning the basics of strategic entrepreneurship. They develop fundamental marketing and management skills that can be applied for promotion of their own projects and the development of their career. They also build practical experience by organising and producing an event in group.
- **Creative project:** Creative Projects bring music students in closer contact with the professional practice. Students are asked to contribute on both the artistic level as on the production, business or organisational level of a student project or student production, which prepares the student to take the leading role in a personal project. The evaluation focuses on the production, business and organisational skill of the student (except for the Masters Exam Final Creative project).
- **Art Philosophy:** in this course the students learn how to formulate a personal and well-founded answer on the basic questions in art philosophy. The students obtain insight in the significance and interplay of the various arts. Here the application of theory in practice plays an important role.

If RCA is in doubt about your obtained level or final competencies in a particular course, you can be asked to take a level test. It is to everybody's benefit that your training at RCA is complementary to the training you have taken elsewhere and that you are given the very best preparation for an academic Master exam.

### Important

- the student first attends an information session before coming to the study advice
- if the student wishes to apply for exemptions, he/she assembles the necessary evidence.
- the student with a more extended request for exemptions prepares the program comparison individually and uses this as a base to apply for exemptions in the online module.

If you need help to prepare and enter the exemptions please contact [exemptions.kca@ap.be](mailto:exemptions.kca@ap.be)