Koninklijk Conservatorium Antwerpen

AP HOGESCHOOL ANTWERPEN

Classical Music programme

Guide for new students that obtained credits elsewhere
Programme comparison and 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?

1 I have already obtained a degree in higher education:

A Professional Bachelor in the Netherlands

-> Official connection/bridging programme + Master subjects

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

-> Check on this website by selecting your country.
The Student center will also check your diploma, you can contact them via inschrijven@ap.be

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

-Research fast course
-Practical harmony and improvisation (only for piano & guitar students)

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

Use the related "comparison of programmes" document for your speciality. If you do not receive the requested exemptions you will have to follow these courses in a 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 (but bear in mind you will need credits for optional courses if you want to do a second instrument!)
-(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 ours.

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2. Preparation to request exemptions - 5 steps

1) Students that previously studied abroad, first need to attend an **information session**, preferably before coming to the study trajectory 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?

Nico Couck: guitar, harp -> appointment via nico.couck@ap.be

Luc Anthonis: voice, conductors -> appointment via luc.anthonis@ap.be

Koen Wilmaers: percussion and marimba -> appointment via koen.wilmaers@ap.be

Bram Van Camp: composition -> appointment via Bram.vancamp@ap.be

Jens Vermeiren: key instruments (piano, harpsichord, organ, pianoforte) -> appointment via jens.vermeiren@ap.be

Guido De Neve: violin -> appointment via guido.deneve@ap.be

Elisabeth Sturtewagen viola, cello, double bass -> appointment via elisabeth.sturtewagen@ap.be

Karin de Fleyt: woodwinds -> appointment via karin.defleyt@ap.be

Adrian Castro Capuz (Stephanie Proot for trajectories): brass -> appointment via adrian.castrocapuz@ap.be / stephanie.proot@ap.be

3) Students prepare the **Programme comparison/exemptions** themselves based on these guidelines

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 under the topic “Individual programme and transfer of credits Classical Music”.

You need to prepare the materials you need for your exemptions yourself:
- a scan of the obtained diplomas and certificates
- the detailed overview of previously obtained credits in the diploma supplement or transcript of records
  ! you need to highlight the specific course for every exemption !
- 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
- At the top, you need to mark your name and the country in which you previously studied, the diplomas and certificates obtained and the name of the institution.
- You also need to prepare a short description of the content and objectives of the course, preferably based on official study guide information from the previous university of applied sciences or university.

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) Next the requested exemptions are examined. If the file is complete and valid, it is sent to the **Admissions Committee**. If (part of) the requested exemptions are refused, the student can apply again and, if necessary, an appointment can be made to go over it together with the job students or study trajectory counselor.

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

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 courses, Music History courses**. 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.

- **Introduction to 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).

- **Interdisciplinary project:** Interdisciplinarity enables musicians to remain flexible, innovative, and relevant in a rapidly changing world. Performing musicians can build bridges between ideas, disciplines, art forms, and communities. Students are introduced to other disciplines and the broader professional field during the introductory week and through course units such as Cultural Movements and Artist in Society. Key activities in this course include: participating as a performing artist in an interdisciplinary project, critically reflecting on interdisciplinary practice, and relating this to one's own artistic profile.

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, the student 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 vrijstellingen.kca@ap.be