Programme guide

Royal Conservatoire Antwerp

AP HOGESCHOOL ANTWERPEN

Postgraduate Suzuki

Academic year 2026—2027

EXAMS **2**

PROGRAMME SUZUKI TEACHER TRAINING VIOLIN (ESA 1-2) **4**

YEAR 1 ..... **4**

YEAR 2 ..... **6**

PROGRAMME SUZUKI TEACHER TRAINING VIOLIN (ESA 3-4) **8**

YEAR 3 ..... **8**

YEAR 4 ..... **10**

SCHEDULE **12**

TEACHERS **12**

OBSERVATION LOCATIONS **12**

EXAMS

Before an external jury:

Two jury members from abroad and teachers from three different countries

The candidate:

- must play repertoire in progressive order (10 books spread over 5 levels).
- must have mastered all Suzuki Teaching Points from the level presented, including those from the previous levels, and is capable of answering questions about the previous levels.
- must know all pieces (for the level presented) from memory, including the Suzuki method Teaching Points of all pieces.
- must give an exam lesson to a pupil from the level which the candidate is undertaking.

Assessment standards:

- Philosophy of Dr Suzuki – The student must demonstrate that he or she has mastered the philosophy of Dr Suzuki and that he or she can apply it in daily life and while teaching the instrument.
- Performance – The student must be able to demonstrate the principles, technical and musical points of the Suzuki method in his or her own playing.
- Teaching – The student must have knowledge of the Teaching Points on the instrument, and must be able to demonstrate/explain/apply them.
- At least one month before the start of the exams, the student must submit written documents such as book reviews, observation hours and Teaching Points from the relevant level.

Duration:

- Level 1 (year 1) 30 minutes
- Level 2&3 (year 2) 50 minutes
- Level 4 (year 3) 60 minutes
- Level 5 (year 4) 60 minutes

Repertoire:

- Level 1 (year 1) Twinkle
  Menuet 2, J.S. Bach
  Gavotte, Gossec

- Level 2&3 (year 2) *Menuet in G,* L. von Beethoven
  Bourrée, J.S. Bach
  Concerto in A minor (allegro of presto), A. Vivaldi
  C*oncerto in G minor (adagio),* A. Vivaldi

- Level 4 (year 3) *La Folia,* A. Corelli
  Concerto in A minor, J.S. Bach

- Level 5 (year 4) Choice between Concerto in A or D by W. A. Mozart
  (to be performed in its entirety)
  One work of the student's own choosing (not from the Suzuki repertoire)

Research:

Date will be communicated later.
The student must present the project in front of a jury, and it will be assessed in terms of content, form, and presentation.

PROGRAMME SUZUKI TEACHER TRAINING VIOLIN (ESA 1-2)

YEAR 1

Suzuki as the mother-tongue method 1 (3 ECTS)
Teacher: Koen Rens

- What is the mother-tongue method
- Talent Education and the Suzuki triangle
- Development of ability
- Importance of child/listening and the surroundings
- The parent as the teacher at home/practising at home/how to create the right environment

Suzuki pedagogy 1 (6 ECTS)
Teachers: Koen Rens/Wim Meuris

- The study and application of the Pre-Twinkler level
- Teaching Points Level 1 and 2
- How to give a group lesson
- "Master Class" set-up in individual lessons
- Playing by ear

Repertoire for the instrument 1 (3 ECTS)
Teachers: Veerle Van Gorp/ Wim Meuris

- Detailed study of Suzuki Books 1-3
- Formation of tone

Teaching coaching 1 (3 ECTS)
Teachers: Wim Meuris/Koen Rens/ Veerle Van Gorp

- Individual lessons - minimum 55 hours
- Group lessons - minimum 2 hours

Research Project 1 (3 ECTS)
Teachers: Nico Couck/Koen Rens

- Research project with a link to the Suzuki Method

Literature Study 1 (3 ECTS)
Teacher: Veerle Van Gorp

- "Raised with Love" by S. Suzuki
- "Ability development from age zero" by S. Suzuki

Observation placements 1 (3 ECTS)

Teachers: Veerle Van Gorp/ Wim Meuris

- A minimum of 20 hours with recognised Suzuki teachers

Pedagogical projects (3 ECTS)
Teachers: Koen Rens/ Wim Meuris/ Veerle Van Gorp

- Participation in workshops
- Organising workshops oneself
- Paper on detailed Pre-Twinkler steps
- List of Teaching Points Level 1 with related tone exercises and techniques

Parents coaching (3 ECTS)
Lecturers Koen Rens/ Wim Meuris/ Veerle Van Gorp

- The continuing role of parents
- Parents as partners
- How to prepare children for autonomy; changing role of parent
- Touching methods to study alone

YEAR 2

Suzuki as the mother-tongue method 2 (3 ECTS)
Teacher: Koen Rens

- Continuation of this philosophy
- The developmental phase of children
- Every child has the ability: the development of various learning processes

Suzuki pedagogy 2 (6 ECTS)
Teachers: Koen Rens/Wim Meuris

- Teaching Points for Level 2
- Development through the 3 Suzuki books
- Motivation to repeat
- Musicality
- When to begin with note reading
- Meaning of playing from memory
- Works at a higher level

Repertoire for the instrument 2 (3 ECTS)
Teachers: Veerle Van Gorp/ Wim Meuris

- Detailed study of Suzuki Books 1-3
- Formation of tone

Teaching coaching 2 (3 ECTS)
Teachers: Wim Meuris/Koen Rens/ Veerle Van Gorp

- Individual lessons – minimum 10 hours
- Group lessons - minimum of 4 hours

Research Project 2 (3 ECTS)
Teachers: Nico Couck/ Koen Rens

- Continuation of Research Project 1

Literature Study 2 (3 ECTS)
Teacher: Veerle Van Gorp

- “Teaching from the balance point” by E. Kreitman
- “Man and his Philosophy” (Chapters 14 and 15) by Evelyn Hermann
- “They’re rarely too young” by Kay Collier Slone

Observation placement 2 (3 ECTS)
Teachers: Veerle Van Gorp/ Wim Meuris

- A minimum of 40 hours of individual and group lessons

Teaching Methodology Initiation to Music (3 ECTS)
Exemptions for Teaching Methodology

Students may get an exemption for *Teaching Methodology Instrument and Introduction to Physical Awareness* if they already have a pedagogical certificate for teacher training for the relevant instrument, or a diploma in music teaching.

Students may get an exemption for *Teaching Methodology Initiation to Music* if they already have explicit credits for *Teaching Methodology Initiation,* for example in the specific teacher training course from the Royal Conservatoire Antwerp.

Exemption on the basis of an ESA 1 or ESA 2 certificate

Students wish an ESA 1 or ESA 2 certificate from the Suzuki association may get an exemption from the following courses:

- Suzuki as the mother-tongue method 1 (3 ECTS)
- Suzuki pedagogy 1 (6 ECTS)
- Teaching coaching 1 (3 ECTS)
- Observation placement 1 (3 ECTS)

Total: 15 ECTS

A master's diploma will not entitle students to an exemption for Research Project 1 and 2, as this is a two-year course on a specific facet of Suzuki teaching with a progress report after one year.

PROGRAMME SUZUKI TEACHER TRAINING VIOLIN (ESA 3-4)

YEAR 3

Suzuki as the mother-tongue method 3 (3 ECTS)
Teacher: Koen Rens

- Collaboration and sharing
- The role of the teacher and his/her responsibilities

Suzuki pedagogy 3 (6 ECTS)
Teachers: Koen Rens/Wim Meuris

- Teaching Points Level 3 (Suzuki Books 4 and 5)
- Development of musicality, style, etc.
- Additional material to raise a child's level

Repertoire for the instrument 3 (6 ECTS)
Teachers: Veerle Van Gorp/Wim Meuris

- Books 1-5
- Additional material (studies, extra repertoire)

Teaching coaching 3 (3 ECTS)
Teachers: Wim Meuris/Koen Rens/ Veerle Van Gorp

- Individual lessons - minimum 5 hours
- Group lessons - minimum 2 hours

Research Project 3 (3 ECTS)
Teachers: Nico Couck/ Koen Rens

- Research project with a link to the Suzuki Method

Literature Study 3 (3 ECTS)
Teacher: Veerle Van Gorp

- "Casals and the Art of Interpretation" by David Blum
- Other material to be decided with the teachers

Observation placement 3 (3 ECTS)

Teachers: Veerle Van Gorp/ Wim Meuris

- A minimum of 20 hours of individual and group lessons

Pedagogical projects – focus (3 ECTS)
Teachers: Koen Rens/ Wim Meuris/ Veerle Van Gorp

- Paper on one's own experience as a Suzuki teacher
- Paper on how to retain teenagers in your studio
- Preparing lectures

YEAR 4

Suzuki as the mother-tongue method 4 (3 ECTS)
Teacher: Koen Rens

- Responsibility in the Suzuki studio
- The role of the teacher

Suzuki pedagogy 4 (6 ECTS)
Teachers: Koen Rens/Wim Meuris

- Teaching Points for Level 4 and for the chosen exam pieces, book 6-7
- Development of musicality and interpretation for higher levels

Repertoire for the instrument 4 (6 ECTS)
Teachers: Veerle Van Gorp/ Wim Meuris

- The complete 7 books and additional material

Teaching coaching 4 (3 ECTS)
Teachers: Wim Meuris/Koen Rens/ Veerle Van Gorp

- Individual lessons - 5 hours
- Group lessons - 2 hours

Research Project 4 (3 ECTS)
Teachers: Nico Couck/ Koen Rens

- Continuation of the research project

Literature Study 4 (3 ECTS)
Teacher: Veerle Van Gorp

- “To learn with Love: A Companion for Suzuki Parents” by William & Constance Starr
- “Suzuki changed my life” by Masaaki Honda
- “The Talent Code” by Daniel Coyle”
- Other material to be decided with the teachers

Observation placement 4 (3 ECTS)
Teachers: Veerle Van Gorp/ Wim Meuris

- 20 hours

Coaching Parents - focus (3 ECTS)
Teachers: Koen Rens/ Wim Meuris/ Veerle Van Gorp

- Helping parents further
- The psychology of teenagers and young adolescents

Students with an ESA 4 certificate from the Suzuki association may get an exemption for the following courses:

- Suzuki as the mother-tongue method 3 (3 ECTS)
- Teaching coaching 3 (3 ECTS)
- Pedagogical projects – focus (3 ECTS)

Total: 9 ECTS

A master's diploma will not entitle students to an exemption for Research Project 3 and 4, as this is a two-year course on a specific facet of Suzuki teaching with a progress report after one year.

SCHEDULE

Friday & Sunday: 10.00 - 18.00

Saturday: 14.30 - 18.00

TEACHERS

- Wim Meuris
- Koen Rens
- Veerle Van Gorp

Co-ordinator: all questions should be directed to Veerle Van Gorp veerle.vangorp@ap.be
Piano accompanists: Annemie Wuyts

OBSERVATION LOCATIONS

- Turnhout
  Academieplein 17 (GPS: Baron Frans du Fourstraat 4-6)
  2300 Turnhout
- Booischot
  Kortjakje
  Liersesteenweg 61
  2221 Booischot
- With Suzuki teachers with a Level 5 diploma
  During the academic year, workshops will be suggested which students may attend and observe.