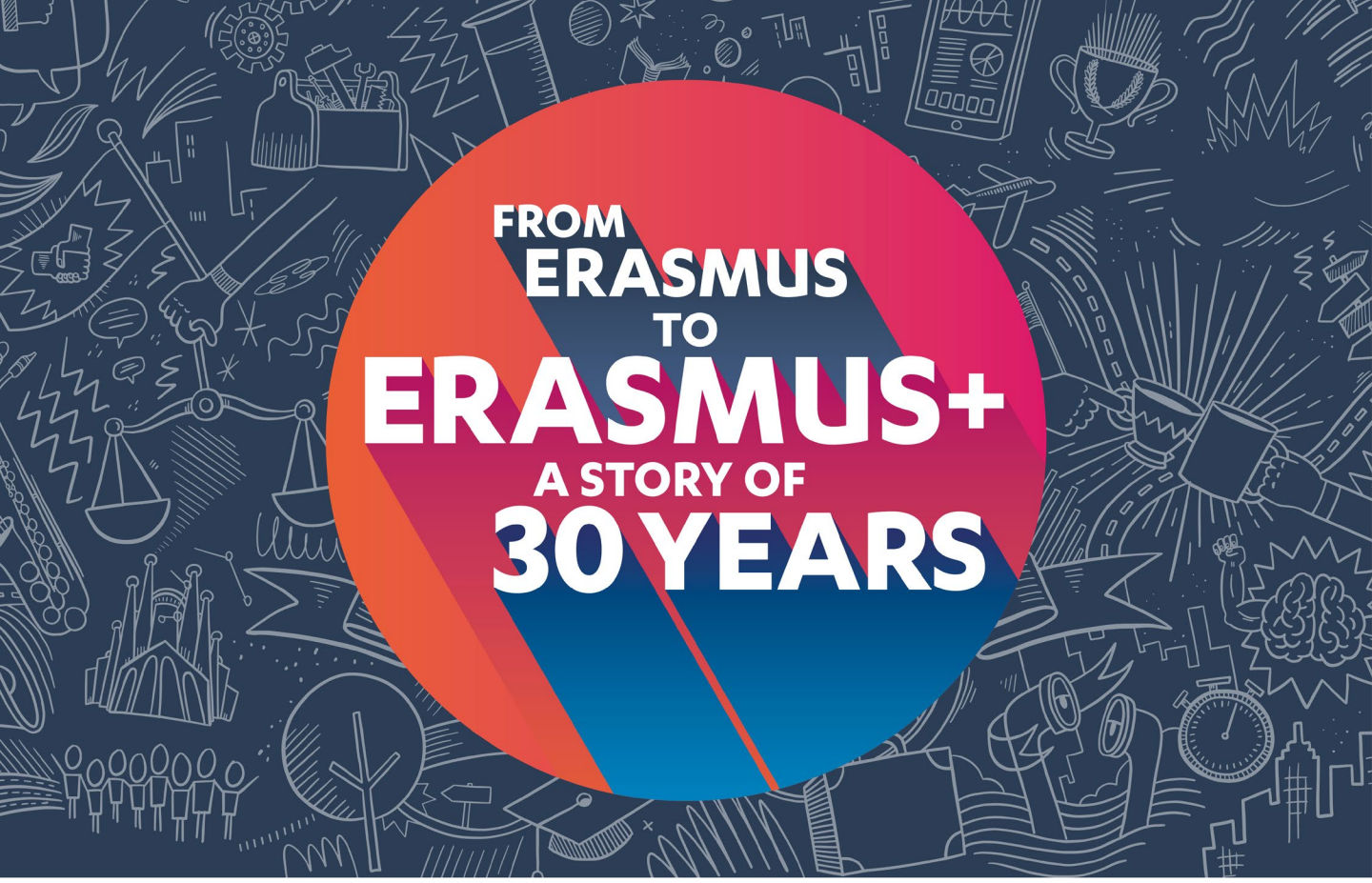

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.

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International and Student Experience (Academic Administration and Support)

- The administration of Erasmus+ (student and staff mobility) within the Conservatoire
  - Sarah Ward – Assistant Registrar (International and Student Experience) / Erasmus Coordinator
  - Pauline McCluskey – Administrator (International and Student Experience)

- international@rcs.ac.uk

What is Erasmus+?

- The European Union's flagship educational exchange programme
- Founded in 1987
- Over 9 million participants
- Allows students to study at a partner institution in Europe as part of their programme of study
- Due to Brexit, 2020 could be the last year of participation for the UK

Why should you go?

- Develop personally and professionally
- Broaden your horizons
- Experience new cultures (and new music/ways of working/performing/learning)
- Develop new confidence
- Learn a language
- Travel to new places
- Return to the Conservatoire more focused
- Receive funding

Will Erasmus+ suit everyone?

- Possibly not……
  - Homesickness
  - Different approach to education and/or pastoral support
  - Language difficulties
  - Different standards of accommodation

You'll need to be resilient!

Erasmus+ helps you get a job

Erasmus+ alumni double their chances of employment a year after graduation

HIGHER EDUCATION

1/3 of Erasmus+ trainees are offered jobs in the company where they worked

HIGHER EDUCATION

Erasmus+ alumni tend to find their first job faster and earn 25 % more

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

3/4 of employers say volunteering is a + for job seekers

EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE

Source: Agence Erasmus+ 2010, European Commission 2014 and 2015. © European Commission, 2017

Who can go?

- Any Conservatoire student on a degree-level course
- International students included (but subject to Tier 4 monitoring)
- Participation is subject to:
  - acceptance by the partner institution (e-recording or portfolio and application)
  - authorisation by Head of Department and/or RCS Head of Programme

When can I go?

- In term 1 of AY 2020/2021
- Apply during AY 2019/2020
- You can be in any year of your course apart from first and final year
- MMus students can go in term 1 of year 2
- Full year mobility not permitted
- No extensions of stay permitted

Where can I go to?

- Currently over 50 partner institutions. Full list available at https://www.rcs.ac.uk/apply/erasmus/internationalpartners/

- 23 countries
  - Austria – 3 partners (Vienna and Graz)
  - Belgium – 3 partners (Antwerp, Brussels and Gent)
  - Czech Republic – 2 partners (Prague and Brno)
  - Denmark – 2 partners (Aarhus/Aalborg and Copenhagen)
  - Estonia – 1 partner (Tallinn)
  - Finland – 2 partners (Helsinki and Turku)
  - France – 2 partners (Paris and Lyon)
  - Germany (13 partners!!!!)
  - + MANY MORE

- Many partnerships are school-specific and/or programme-specific (e.g. CNSAD in Paris is for BA Acting only, University of Limerick is for BMus Trad only)

- Within SoM, BMus and MMus have a wide variety of choice, BEd less so!
- You can only apply to study at a partner institution. If it's not on the list you can't go there!!!!!
- You can apply to 1, 2 or 3 partner institutions within Erasmus (+ 1 International Exchange partner)

- BA Acting
  - Iceland Academy of the Arts in Reykjavik
  - CNSAD in Paris, France
- BA CPP
  - Fontys University of Applied Sciences in the Netherlands
  - Iceland Academy of the Arts in Reykjavik
- BA Modern Ballet
  - CNSMD Lyon in France
- BA Filmmaking
  - University of Theatre and Film Arts Budapest
- BA PTM/PAD
  - No recommended partners in Europe as yet. Speak to Ros Maddison for further advice
- BA Musical Theatre
  - Hanzehogeschool Groningen University of Applied Sciences (Lucia Marthas Dance Academy) in the Netherlands – teaching is in Dutch
  - University of Gothenburg Academy of Music and Drama in Sweden – knowledge of Swedish required
- BA Performance in BSL and English
  - Janacek Academy of Music and Performing Arts in Brno in the Czech Republic
- Music programmes – most partners are suitable

Top destinations (institutions) for RCS students

1. FINLAND
   - University of the Arts Helsinki
2. IRELAND and CZECH REPUBLIC
   - University of Limerick
   - HAMU (Academy of Performing Arts in Prague, Faculty of Music and Dance)
3. GERMANY, SWEDEN, NETHERLANDS
   - The Liszt School of Music Weimar
   - University of Gothenburg, Academy of Music and Drama
   - University of the Arts Berlin
   - Fontys University of Applied Sciences

Do I need to be fluent in the language of my chosen destination?

- Sometime yes, but generally no!
- Some partners teach entirely in English and only require a basic level of their language

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Partner institution language requirements

Partner Institution	Country	Erasmus Code	Language of instruction 1	Language of instruction 2	Recommended level in language of instruction
Hogeschool Gent, School of Arts – KASK & Conservatory	Belgium	B GENT25	English	Dutch	B1 in English
Academy of Performing Arts in Prague, Faculty of Music and Dance	Czech Republic	CZ PRAHA04	English	N/A	B2
Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre	Estonia	EE TALLINN03	English		B1 in English
University of the Arts Helsinki	Finland	SF HELSINK42	English	Finnish or Swedish	B2 in English. Knowledge of Finnish is not required.
University of Theatre and Film Arts Budapest	Hungary	HU BUDAPES37	Hungarian or English		B1
Dublin Institute of Technology	Ireland	IRL DUBLIN27	English		B1
University of Limerick	Ireland	IRL LIMERIC01	English		B2
Royal Irish Academy of Music	Ireland	IRL DUBLIN22	English		C1
Conservatory of Music "E.F. Dall'Abaco" Verona	Italy	I VERONA02	English	Italian	

Partner institution language requirements

Partner Institution	Country	Erasmus Code	Language of instruction 1	Language of instruction 2	Recommended level in language of instruction
Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music	Latvia	LV RIGA05	English	Latvian	B1 in English. The knowledge of Latvian is not required
Hanze University of Applied Science Groningen	The Netherlands	NL GRONING03	English	Dutch	
Zuyd University of Applied Sciences Maastricht	The Netherlands	NL HEERLEN 14	English		B2
Koninklijk Conservatorium, Hogeschool der Kunsten, Den Haag	The Netherlands	NL S-GRAVE05	English	Dutch	B2
The Feliks Nowowiejski Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz	Poland	PL BYDGOSZ04	English	Polish	B1 in English or Polish
Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music	Poland	PL KATOWIC04	English	Polish	B2
Royal College of Music in Stockholm	Sweden	S STOCKHO11	English	Swedish	B2 in English. No knowledge of Swedish required
Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University	Turkey	TR ISTANBU06	English	Turkish	

Common European Framework of Reference for Languages - Self-assessment grid

		A1 Basic User	A2 Basic User	B1 Independent user	B2 Independent user	C1 Proficient user	C2 Proficient user
Understanding	Listening	I can understand familiar words and very basic phrases concerning myself, my family and immediate concrete surroundings when people speak slowly and clearly.	I can understand phrases and the highest frequency vocabulary related to areas of most immediate personal relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local area, employment). I can catch the main point in short, clear, simple messages and announcements.	I can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. I can understand the main point of many radio or TV programmes on current affairs or topics of personal or professional interest when the delivery is relatively slow and clear.	I can understand extended speech and lectures and follow even complex lines of argument provided the topic is reasonably familiar. I can understand most TV news and current affairs programmes. I can understand the majority of films in standard dialect.	I can understand extended speech even when it is not clearly structured and when relationships are only implied and not signalled explicitly. I can understand television programmes and films without too much effort.	I have no difficulty in understanding any kind of spoken language, whether live or broadcast, even when delivered at fast native speed, provided I have some time to get familiar with the accent.
	Reading	I can understand familiar names, words and very simple sentences, for example on notices and posters or in catalogues.	I can read very short, simple texts. I can find specific, predictable information in simple everyday material such as advertisements, prospectuses, menus and timetables and I can understand short simple personal letters.	I can understand texts that consist mainly of high frequency everyday or job-related language. I can understand the description of events, feelings and wishes in personal letters.	I can read articles and reports concerned with contemporary problems in which the writers adopt particular attitudes or viewpoints. I can understand contemporary literary prose.	I can understand long and complex factual and literary texts, appreciating distinctions of style. I can understand specialised articles and longer technical instructions, even when they do not relate to my field.	I can read with ease virtually all forms of the written language, including abstract, structurally or linguistically complex texts such as manuals, specialised articles and literary works.
Speaking	Spoken interaction	I can interact in a simple way provided the other person is prepared to repeat or rephrase things at a slower rate of speech and help me formulate what I'm trying to say. I can ask and answer simple questions in areas of immediate need or on very familiar topics.	I can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar topics and activities. I can handle very short social exchanges, even though I can't usually understand enough to keep the conversation going myself.	I can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken. I can enter unprepared into conversation on topics that are familiar, of personal interest or pertinent to everyday life (e.g. family, hobbies, work, travel and current events).	I can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible. I can take an active part in discussion in familiar contexts, accounting for and sustaining my views.	I can express myself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. I can use language flexibly and effectively for social and professional purposes. I can formulate ideas and opinions with precision and relate my contribution skilfully to those of other speakers.	I can take part effortlessly in any conversation or discussion and have a good familiarity with idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms. I can express myself fluently and convey finer shades of meaning precisely. If I do have a problem I can backtrack and restructure around the difficulty so smoothly that other people are hardly aware of it.
	Spoken production	I can use simple phrases and sentences to describe where I live and people I know.	I can use a series of phrases and sentences to describe in simple terms my family and other people, living conditions, my educational background and my present or most recent job.	I can connect phrases in a simple way in order to describe experiences and events, my dreams, hopes and ambitions. I can briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans. I can narrate a story or relate the plot of a book or film and describe my reactions.	I can present clear, detailed descriptions on a wide range of subjects related to my field of interest. I can explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.	I can present clear, detailed descriptions of complex subjects integrating sub-themes, developing particular points and rounding off with an appropriate conclusion.	I can present a clear, smoothly-flowing description or argument in a style appropriate to the context and with an effective logical structure which helps the recipient to notice and remember significant points.
Writing	Writing	I can write a short, simple postcard, for example sending holiday greetings. I can fill in forms with personal details, for example entering my name, nationality and address on a hotel registration form.	I can write short, simple notes and messages. I can write a very simple personal letter, for example thanking someone for something.	I can write simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest. I can write personal letters describing experiences and impressions.	I can write clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects related to my interests. I can write an essay or report, passing on information or giving reasons in support of or against a particular point of view. I can write letters highlighting the personal significance of events and experiences.	I can express myself in clear, well-structured text, expressing points of view at some length. I can write about complex subjects in a letter, an essay or a report, underlining what I consider to be the salient issues. I can select a style appropriate to the reader in mind.	I can write clear, smoothly-flowing text in an appropriate style. I can write complex letters, reports or articles which present a case with an effective logical structure which helps the recipient to notice and remember significant points. I can write summaries and reviews of professional or literary works.

Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEF): © Council of Europe

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Erasmus+ Online Linguistic Support (OLS)

- Every Conservatoire student who participates in Erasmus will be required to take an online language assessment before and after their mobility.
- You will also be invited to take a free, online language course via OLS
- The language course is of high quality

How can I decide where to go?

- Speak to your 1-2-1 teacher (music) or Head of Programme (DDPF)
- Speak to other students who have been on Erasmus
  - Siobhan Dyson - BMus Composition SDyson@rcs.ac.uk
  - Monika Masanauskaite– MMus Performance Mmasanauskaite@rcs.ac.uk
  - Peter McNeil– BMus Performance – PMcNeil1@rcs.ac.uk
  - Catherine Speight – BMus Trad – CSpeight@rcs.ac.uk
  - Joseph Standley – BMus Performance – JStandley@rcs.ac.uk
  - Charlotte Waters – BMus Performance – Cwaters@rcs.ac.uk
- Research the teachers at the partner institutions
- Consider whether you have specific musical interests on which to base your research (Irish, Flamenco, Nordic etc)
- Look at partner information sheets on the student portal https://portal.rcs.ac.uk/erasmus-and-international-exchange/

How much funding will I receive? Erasmus+ Funding in 2020/2021

Country	Student study mobility	
	Monthly grant	Monthly supplement for students from disadvantaged backgrounds
Group 1 countries (high cost of living) Denmark, Iceland, Ireland, Finland, Sweden, United Kingdom, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Norway	€420	€ 120
Group 2 countries (medium cost of living) Austria, Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Greece, Spain, Cyprus, Netherlands, Malta, Portugal	€370	
Group 3 countries (low cost of living) Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey		

Funding (Continued)

- Total amount of funding is calculated based on mobility start and end dates
- Due to Brexit only a partial grant will be available – amount to be determined
- 80% paid at the start of the mobility, 20% paid at the end
- Monthly supplement of €120 per month for students from a disadvantaged background = Household income of £25,000 or less
- One-off bursary of €500 for care experienced students
- Students with a disability - Additional grants are available for students with special needs wishing to participate in an Erasmus+ activity and where participation would not be possible without extra financial support.

Assessment

- All credits will be ‘recognised’, i.e. all your credits while on Erasmus will be used towards your annual total of 120 SCQF
- Usually 60 SCQF (30 ECTS) on Erasmus and 60 SCQF (30 ECTS) at RCS
- Your grades on Erasmus will count towards your degree classification if you go on mobility in year 3 of a 4 year honours degree

Grades

Berlin Grading Scale

1.0 – 1.3 = Very Good

1.7 – 2.3 = Good

2.7 – 3.3 = Satisfactory

3.7 – 4.0 = Sufficient

4.3 – 5.0 = Not Sufficient

If your Transcript of Records from Berlin showed a module score of 1.0 this would be converted to A5 on the RCS assessment scale. If you achieved a score in Berlin of 1.3 this would be converted to A3 on the RCS assessment scale.

Grades

YST Grading Scale	RCS Conversion
A+	A3
A	A4
A-	A5
B+	B1
B	B2
B-	B3
C+	C1
C	C2
C-	C3
D+	D1
D	D2
D-	D3
F	Fail

FAQs

- **Does everyone get a place?**
  - No. It's competitive but overall we are successful in getting most students a study mobility. However, note that you can only go in term 1 and there will only be a partial grant available.
- **Do I pay tuition fees to the partner institution?**
  - No. You continue to pay your tuition fee to RCS while you are on mobility in Europe
- **Are there 'other' costs?**
  - Sometimes you'll need to pay for printing, copying, or a travel card (sometimes €200+)
- **Do I still get my UK student loan?**
  - Yes. You'll also still get any RCS scholarship you're in receipt of
- **Can I get extra funding on top of the Erasmus+ grants?**
  - Maybe. Check out the Fees and Funding page on the RCS website https://www.rcs.ac.uk/apply/finance/feesandfunding/
- **Do partners have specific audition requirements?**
  - Not usually. If it doesn't state on their website what you should sing/play or include in your portfolio then you're free to choose. Normally 2 or 3 contrasting pieces of maximum 15 minutes in duration.
- **What if the partner's term dates do not match with RCS?**
  - It doesn't matter but in some cases the length of your academic year may increase, e.g. study in Finland in term 1 could mean you're studying from August 2019 to December 2019 or in Germany from October 2019 to February 2020

Application procedure

1. Give official notification of interest via the Notification of Interest form on the portal at https://portal.rcs.ac.uk/erasmus-and-international-exchange/ You need to do this between **today** and **6th January 2020**

Erasmus+ and International Exchange 2020/2021

If you are interested in participating in either an Erasmus+ or International Exchange in Academic Session 2019/2020 please complete the attached form.

2 routes – 1) Apply via EASY system if the partner institution uses EASY OR
2) Apply via EASY system AND directly to the partner institution if the partner does not use EASY

You need to apply to EASY with:

- Recording (or portfolio), Learning Agreement, CV, reference, transcript and letter of motivation.

You may also need to apply directly to a partner with:

- Application form (online or paper – partner will specify), recording (or portfolio), Learning Agreement, CV, transcript, reference and letter of motivation.

Deadline to apply via EASY is **21 February 2020**

After **21 February 2020** await details by email with instructions about applying directly to a partner if you need to.

Application summary

- Read the Erasmus page on the portal and the other useful websites
- Research possible partner institutions from the list of current partners
- Set up meetings with relevant teachers to discuss your options
- Complete the Notification of Interest Form on the portal between now and 6th January 2020
- Complete the EASY application form between 6th January 2019 and 21st February 2020 and any other application you're advised to complete

Really useful websites

- www.justlanded.com
- https://www.britishcouncil.org/study-work-create
- https://globalgraduates.com/
- https://portal.rcs.ac.uk/erasmus-and-international-exchange/
- https://www.naric.org.uk/europass/
- Turn2Us grant search
- https://www.fundmytravel.com/