

Guide for students joining us later than Bachelor 1 programme comparison / exemptions

New students who already studied music at conservatoire level at another Conservatoire or university are invited to make a comparison of the standard program and might be asked to subscribe for some courses of the preparatory programme. Students joining us later than in the beginning of the first year may also be interested in applying for a transfer of credits, using the credits which they obtained in college programmes previously taken. This will result in an individual study programme.

1. Workflow

- 1) Students need to first attend an information session, preferably before coming to the study advice.
Did you miss the info sessions during the introduction week? No problem, you can attend one of the following sessions organized at a set day in the week. (ask reception desk)
- 2) Next students arrange for a **personal meeting with the Study coach** (SC) and discuss the preferred study programme, the programme comparison and the requested exemptions.
Who is your Study Coach?
 - Roland Broux: guitar, harp
-> appointment via roland.broux@ap.be
 - Luc Anthonis: vocal studies, conducting
-> appointment via luc.anthonis@ap.be
 - Francis Pollet: Woodwind instruments
-> appointment via francis.pollet@ap.be
 - Ivo Hadermann: Brass instruments
-> appointment via ivo.hadermann@ap.be
 - Koen Wilmaers: percussion and marimba
-> appointment via koen.wilmaers@ap.be
 - Alain Craens: composition, music theory
-> appointment via alain.craens@ap.be
 - Aäron Wajnberg: key instruments (piano, harpsichord, organ, pianoforte, accordion)
-> appointment via aaron.wajnberg@ap.be
 - Guido De Neve: string instruments
-> appointment via guido.deneve@ap.be
- 3) The student uses this guide to individually prepare his/her **file Programme comparison/exemptions** and sends all documents of this file via mail to Charlotte.Saelemakers@ap.be

The following 3 documents are needed in the file Programme comparison/exemptions:

- The Programme comparison of the chosen programme. For each course the student looks for a corresponding course from earlier taken music programmes. The student types the names of the similar courses, including the achieved credits.

The programme comparisons can be found on the webpage: "Individual programme and transfer of credits"

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At the top of the programme comparison the student completes the diplomas and certificates already obtained + the name of the previous Conservatoires/universities.

The student also fills in the optional courses he/she wishes to follow. The list of Optional Courses is available on the webpage: "Individual programme and transfer of credits"

- The student adds proof of the diplomas and certificates earlier obtained + the acquired credits e.g through a diploma supplement.
 - For each requested exemption, the student provides sufficient information on the competences and a short description on the content of the courses as they have followed it. For the latter, the student uses the official study guide of his/her previous college or university.
- 4) The files are examined by the head of studies. In case the file is complete and viable, the file will be submitted to the **Admission commission (Toelatingscommissie)**. In case one or several requested exemptions are refused, the heads of Studies will contact the student and an individual meeting might be needed.

2. Which students fills in which programme comparison?

1) The student acquired the bachelor programme Music for the same instrument

- In a Flemish Conservatoire: the student starts the standard master programme, no programme comparison is needed.
- In a Conservatoire/university of the French Community of Belgium or a foreign institute: the comparison between the bachelor programme achieved and the bachelor programme at RCA is limited to the courses Introduction to the Arts and Humanities (Culturele stromingen) 1 and 2 and Physical Awareness Instrument (Lichamelijk bewustzijn instrument). We assume that the competences of the other courses of the bachelor programme at RCA have been acquired in the already completed bachelor programme.

Introduction to the Arts and Humanities 1	3 credits
Introduction to the Arts and Humanities 2	3 credits
Physical Awareness Instrument	3 credits *

This will lead to an individual study programme with courses for the master programme, possibly completed with Introduction to the Arts and Humanities and Physical Awareness. These additional courses can be implemented as an optional course in the master programme, or, in case the optional package is already taken with other courses, in a credit contract supplementary to the master programme.

**Physical Awareness not for students Master composition or master Music Pedagogy.*

2) The student started a bachelor programme Music for the same instrument in Belgium or abroad, but did not yet complete this bachelor programme.

The student makes a full comparison, course per course, of the bachelor programme (levels 1, 2 and 3)

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3) The student started a master programme in the French community of Belgium or a foreign country, but did not complete this master programme.

The student makes:

- A full comparison, course per course, of the master programme (levels 4 and 5)
- The comparison for the courses Introduction to the arts and humanities 1 and 2 and corporal awareness instrument of the bachelor programme (levels 1 and 2). *exception: for students master composition – music pedagogy only Introduction to the Arts and humanities 1 en 2.*

4) The student already acquired a master programme Music.

- For the same instrument in the French community of Belgium or a foreign country:
The student makes a comparison of the master programme (levels 4 and 5) for the courses that he/she wished to receive an exemption for.
- For an affiliated instrument in Belgium or a foreign country: the student asks for an individual meeting via the secretariat (Yannicke Belis) with Inge Simoens.

Note: as the course Research 3 is a direct preparation to the master exam paper, the RCA will never accept an exemption for this course. In Research 3 the main part of the master exam paper is written. Also students who have already completed the master Music at RCA and re-register for a second master will have Research 3 in their programme.

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>

For some of the RCA courses you are likely not to find any corresponding courses:

- **Introduction to the Arts and Humanities, Research, History of Music 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 a number of 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.

- **Introduction into music practice:** 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 practise. 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's test.

Important

- The student first attends an information session before coming to the study advice
- The student prepares the program comparison individually and delivers it on paper and through mail/USB stick.
- if the student wishes to apply for exemptions, he/she assembles the necessary evidence.