

2026/27 Postgraduate Erasmus Application Information

Updated February 2026

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If you have any questions, please contact erasmus@gsmd.ac.uk

General Information

Following the UK's departure from the EU, the UK can participate in the Erasmus+ programme as a non-associated third country. The home (sending) institution must be located in an EU member state or a third country associated to the programme, and awarded the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education. A bilateral agreement between the home (sending) and host (receiving) institution will be organised once a successful student has accepted their offer.

Duration and start date

Guildhall School can accept students for the following two periods only:

Term 1: (Autumn term)	Friday 11 September 2026 - Friday 4 December 2026
Semester 1: (Autumn term and part of spring term)	Friday 11 September 2026 - Friday 19 February 2027 <i>Christmas break: 5 December 2026 - 3 January 2027</i>

A September start date is required to enable students to attend induction events and to get the most benefit from the study period. Students may not extend their stay after **19 February 2027**.

Eligibility

- Students on the postgraduate Erasmus programme must have already undertaken at least three full years of undergraduate degree study in music.
- Students should be nominated by their home institution and must apply through their Erasmus Coordinator

How to apply

This document provides principal study details. Academic Class information to follow. Please refer to it when completing your application form and learning agreement.

- Applications and supporting material should be received by **27 March 2026**.
- Erasmus Coordinators should send an email to Erasmus@gsm.d.ac.uk with their student nomination(s) and email address for each nominated student(s).
- The nominated student will receive a direct link to Guildhall School's online application form.
- Students must be prepared to upload the following supporting documents as part of their online application:
 1. Learning agreement (supplied by the home institution)
 2. CV / Resume
 3. Academic Transcript
 4. Evidence of English language ability. This can be in the form of:
 - Reference from a teacher confirming your English language ability, OR
 - English language qualification / exam

- Video audition recording or Composition Portfolio with at least three contrasting pieces. Video auditions can be submitted as a high quality streamed web link (e.g. YouTube/Vimeo). Composition portfolios can either be shared via a link or emailed to Erasmus@gsmd.ac.uk. Please do not provide links that will expire before or shortly after the application deadline.

Any questions regarding applying can be sent to erasmus@gsmd.ac.uk.

English language support

Incoming students are expected to be competent in English at a minimum of level B2 of the *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages*. Referees will be asked to confirm the competency of incoming students.

However, students are invited to undertake a non-credit bearing *Written English* module alongside their Erasmus studies. This class focuses on the development of skills in written English for academic purposes. It includes written and spoken exercises for developing the acquisition of grammar and vocabulary. If you wish to attend, please discuss this at your entry meeting with Academic Studies in September.

Students will also be put in touch with an ‘International Buddy’ before the start of term. This is a student at Guildhall School who can help answer questions about settling into the School and life in London.

Credits & assessments

The Guildhall School operates a credit equivalency of 20 notional learning hours to 1 ECTS credit. Notional learning hours are a combination of contact time and private study. Assessments will not normally be offered for a September – December mobility. Where applicable, assessments are graded on a scale of 0 to 100 which fall under the following scheme:

Percentage mark out of 100	Award
70 and above	Distinction
60 and above	Merit
50 and above	Pass
49 and below	Fail

Term 1 (autumn term) programme: September - December	ECTS
Visiting Programme of Study Delivered through Principal Study and Academic Classes	15

Semester 1 (autumn and part-spring term) programme: September - February	ECTS
Visiting Programme of Study Delivered through Principal Study and Academic Classes	30

Course Outline

International Orientation and general induction

The International Orientation is arranged by the Student Affairs department and takes place each year on the Friday before the start of Term 1 (Friday, 11 September 2026). You will have an opportunity to meet fellow students and staff, and there will be a programme of presentations, tours and discussion groups.

All students are required to engage in the induction activities within the first week of Term 1, including attendance at group meetings with the Director of Music and senior members of the Principal Study and Academic Studies Departments.

Principal Study Modules

Students' activities vary by department. All aspects of the Principal Study Module are expected to be attended by the student during their period of study including all scheduled rehearsals. A Leave of Absence form must be approved for any absences during term-time.

The allocation of the Principal Study teacher is determined by student preference and tutor availability, and the final decision is made by the Head of Department. The School does not guarantee study with a particular Principal Study teacher.

Please see the available Principal Study modules below for further details. Incoming students should use the following information to complete their learning agreement.

1. Composition
2. Historical Performance
3. Jazz
4. Keyboard AIS (Advanced Instrumental Studies)
5. Keyboard PACC (Piano Accompaniment)
6. Strings
7. Vocal
8. Wind, Brass & Percussion

Composition		
	Term 1 programme	Semester 1 programme
Principal Study lessons:	10 hours	16 hours
Exams:	None, but formative feedback will be given during the course.	Mid-year portfolio

Workshops:	Participation in Composition projects to be determined in consultation with principal study teacher and Head of Department	Participation in Composition projects to be determined in consultation with principal study teacher and Head of Department
Other classes:	Attendance required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly postgraduate seminars • Weekly open sessions 	Attendance required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly postgraduate seminars • Weekly open sessions

Historical Performance		
	Term 1 programme	Semester 1 programme
Principal Study lessons:	15 hours	24 hours
Exams:	None	Mid-year exam
Platforms:	Attendance required and at least one performance	Attendance required and at least one performance
Ensemble:	Participation in ensembles and performance projects according to availability and with agreement of Head of Department	Participation in ensembles and performance projects according to availability and with agreement of Head of Department
Other classes:	Attendance required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical Performance: Principles and Research Optional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to continuo playing on the harpsichord (for singers and instrumentalists of other disciplines) 	Attendance required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical Performance: Principles and Research Optional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to continuo playing on the harpsichord (for singers and instrumentalists of other disciplines)

Jazz		
	Term 1 programme	Semester 1 programme
Principal Study lessons:	12 hours	19 hours
Exams:	None	Mid-year exam
Platforms:	Attendance required and at least one performance (small band)	Attendance required and at least one performance (small band)

Ensemble:	Participation in ensembles and performance projects according to availability and with agreement of Head of Department.	Participation in ensembles and performance projects according to availability and with agreement of Head of Department.
Other classes:	Other classes available in discussion with Jazz department.	Other classes available in discussion with Jazz department.

Keyboard: AIS (Advanced Instrumental Studies)		
	Term 1 programme	Semester 1 programme
Principal Study lessons:	20 hours	32 hours
Exams:	None	Mid-year exam
Platforms:	Attendance required and at least one performance	Attendance required and at least one performance
Other classes:	Other classes may be available in discussion with Keyboard department	Other classes may be available in discussion with Keyboard department

Keyboard: PACC (Piano Accompaniment)		
	Term 1 programme	Semester 1 programme
Principal Study lessons:	15 hours	24 hours
Exams:	None	Mid-year exam
Classes & Platforms:	Students are required to attend & play at one or two classes per week, plus performance at the Vocal Platforms	Students are required to attend & play at one or two classes per week, plus performance at the Vocal Platforms

Strings
<p>Chamber Music:</p> <p>Participation in chamber music cannot be guaranteed. On occasion, optional non assessed participation in chamber music may be authorised, but this requires the approval of the Head of Chamber Music. Please consider this carefully if your home institution requires you to participate in chamber music during Erasmus.</p> <p>Optional non assessed participation can also be authorised in a broad range of other activities, including string concerts, professor platforms, performance classes, and other workshops and</p>

projects in accordance with the applying student's experience and ability, and by agreement with relevant Department Heads.

	Term 1 programme	Semester 1 programme
Principal Study lessons:	10 hours	16 hours
Exams:	None	Mid-year exam
Platforms: Bowed Strings	Optional platform classes	Optional platform classes
Platforms: Harp	Participation in harp performance classes	Participation in harp performance classes
Platforms: Guitar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance at Guitar Musicianship and Repertoire & Performance classes Optional platform classes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance at Guitar Musicianship and Repertoire & Performance classes Optional platform classes
Ensemble: Bowed Strings/ Harp	Participation in orchestras / ensembles	Participation in orchestras / ensembles

Vocal

	Term 1 programme	Semester 1 programme
Principal Study lessons:	10 hours + 5 hours repertoire coaching	16 hours + 8 hours repertoire coaching
Exams:	None	Mid-year exam
Platforms:	Attendance required and at least one performance	Attendance required and at least two performances
Other classes:	Attendance required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oratorio Class Stagecraft & Movement 	Attendance required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oratorio Class Stagecraft & Movement

Wind, Brass & Percussion

	Term 1 programme	Semester 1 programme
Principal Study lessons:	15 hours	24 hours
Exams:	None	Mid-year exam

Platforms:	One performance	One performance
Ensemble:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in chamber group • Performance in orchestra and/or other ensembles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in chamber group • Performance in orchestra and/or other ensembles
Other classes:	Attendance required: at least one orchestral repertoire session	Attendance required: at least two orchestral repertoire sessions

Reflective Practice

Postgraduate Erasmus students **will usually be required to attend** Reflective Practice classes. This will normally be delivered through two seminars at the start of the autumn term. These seminars, and associated written task, are supported by discussion groups which normally meet twice a term.

This module aims to:

- Introduce professional development issues of relevance to all postgraduate students
- Develop the students' capacity to reflect intelligently on the nature of musical excellence and on their own emerging professional relationship with musical performance, composition and leadership.
- Allow an opportunity for consideration of aspects of the students' long term artistic professional development.

Academic Classes

Academic Class details will be confirmed at a later date. Erasmus students will be sent full details of what is available and how to submit class choices before enrolment.

An indicative list of academic classes includes the following however please note that there is no guarantee that any particular module will run in a particular year:

- Advanced Principal Study
- Artistry in Stylistic Composition: Counterpoint
- Artistry in Stylistic Composition: Fugue
- Body Matters
- Composition for Media
- Introduction to Music Therapy
- Jazz Improvisation
- Music, Philosophy & the Arts
- Song Accompaniment (piano students only)
- Song Interpretation (vocal students only)