

# Erasmus+ Policy Statement 2018-20



# **Erasmus+ Policy Statement**

Rose Bruford College of Theatre and Performance has been a recognised institution within the European Commission's Erasmus and Erasmus+ schemes since 1999, allowing students to study/train in one of our partner European conservatoires or institutions, or undertake a placement in a theatre or cultural organisation during their studies.

Rose Bruford College was awarded a European Charter for Higher Education in 2014 meaning that our staff and students can participate in Erasmus+ mobility until 2020. As part of this, the EU provides financial assistance for those undertaking mobility and provides a clear framework allowing students to gain academic credit for their study/training.

## **Promoting Erasmus+**

We actively promote Erasmus activities via centrally coordinated publicity through our college email system and on our VLE. Each year we organise a number of promotional talks/activities to promote the opportunity that the Erasmus scheme holds for current and prospective students and staff. We also annually publish a catalogue of courses available to study for incoming Erasmus students. Erasmus+also is a key feature on our BA (Hons) European Theatre Arts programme, with all students expected to undertake a European mobility.

# **Ensuring Quality**

We work hard to ensure the highest quality of academic and vocational experience in all our mobility activities, and that Erasmus activities are made available for all eligible students and staff. Rose Bruford College has a long-standing commitment to providing academically rigorous, vocationally relevant, theatre and performance training centred on providing the highest quality experience to our students. Our programmes are subject to regular, systematic quality assurance processes and rigorous academic review both before and during delivery. We operate within recognised quality assurance processes, including annual programme monitoring and periodic review (using internal and external peer review). Student feedback, in a number of forms, plays a key role in our quality processes and informs our academic development.

#### **Our Partners**

We carefully select partner institutions and enterprises that match the ethos and intensive vocational nature of our own degree programmes, offering new and challenging opportunities and contexts for our students' training, and allowing them to extend their skills and aptitudes in different cultural settings. We regularly review our partnerships to ensure we offer dynamic, exciting and relevant locations and course content. We also regularly review any challenges, to improve the student experience and explore developmental opportunities that will lead to an enhanced experience for staff and students who participate in the programme. We work to ensure a quality experience for all programme participants, with a focus on building

long-term relationships with our partners, whilst exploring the possibilities for further collaboration.

## **Learning Agreements and student support**

All students are provided with a learning agreement prior to starting their study period. We provide incoming students and their home institutions with complete and accurate transcripts at the end of the period of mobility. All students are provided with information on mobility opportunities, and guidance on studying/living abroad, what they will study and how they will be assessed. We work to offer appropriate language support to students who have confirmed a period of mobility.

## **Incoming students**

Incoming students are given pre-induction information, advice and guidance from the College's Erasmus Team (Erasmus Academic Coordinator, Erasmus Administrative Coordinator/Student Services Manager, and individual Programme Directors). On arrival, students are given an induction to the institution as part of an orientation programme and are allocated a Personal Academic Tutor (typically a key member of staff from the Programme in which they are studying). Students are introduced to the key individuals/programmes/departments that will support them during their mobility period. Throughout the programme students are supported by their academic tutors, the Erasmus team, and student mentors.

# Our teaching

All of our programmes are taught in English and incoming students are expected to have at least B1 level of English on the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR). Because of their nature, some programmes require higher language competencies (please see the current RBC Course Catalogue). All students will be supported by their tutors to enable them to make the most of their studies and experiences at the College. All students gain academic recognition for their period of mobility.

#### **Academic recognition for ERASMUS exchanges**

Rose Bruford College has adopted the ECTS academic credit transfer system for all of our degree programmes. This enables us to recognise the achievements of students whilst on study abroad and to record the outcome of these activities in the Diploma Supplement issued to completing students. Before students commence their study abroad, an agreement is reached on the number of ECTS credits required to be achieved to ensure that sufficient credits are awarded to complete their degree programme. Rose Bruford College operates on the principle that students will study 60 ECTS in one Academic Year – the equivalent of 120 UK credits.

The College ensures that it receives transcripts from host institutions at the earliest opportunity and that these are checked against the student's individual learning agreement to ensure that the student has fulfilled all the requirements necessary. The credits awarded are noted on the student record, along with any grades

attributed, and these are reported to the relevant Assessment Board that takes place at the end of the Academic Year. For incoming students, upon completion of their mobility period, the College issues a transcript confirming the modules achieved, credits earned, ECTS earned and any grades awarded. This is issued to the student or home institution, depending on requirements. The College's Credit Transfer Framework for incoming students is publically available on our VLE [insert link]. On graduation all home students are issued with a Diploma Supplement that includes a record of their Erasmus+ mobility.

#### **International Erasmus Partners**

Rose Bruford College of Theatre and Performance has a number of international partners through the Erasmus+ programme in the following countries: Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Malta, Poland and Spain. We continue to search for new partners with which to collaborate, seeking out those that share our values and commitment to the training of creative professionals.

#### Summary

- An international outlook is at the heart of Rose Bruford College's approach to the training of creative practitioners
- All full-time BA and MA students have the opportunity to apply to undertake a period of study/training/placement abroad during their degree
- Staff also undertake international mobility (teaching and/or training) and foster individual and institutional links abroad.
- We are a committed and proactive partner within the Erasmus+ scheme, working to develop best practice in the organisation and management of the scheme
- If students are interested in coming to Rose Bruford College on an exchange, we actively encourage their ambitions.