



The Stanisław Moniuszko
Academy of Music
in Gdańsk

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European Credit Transfer System Information Pack

(ECTS)

2006/2007

Socrates/ Erasmus
European Union Project

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Introduction

What is the ECTS?

ECTS – European Credit Transfer System, was founded by the European Commission, a governing body of the European Union. The system's role is to facilitate the international student exchange. It enacts rules which allow to recognize the credits received by the student throughout part of the studies, which took place abroad or in another domestic higher educational facility.

ECTS is a method of assessment the knowledge acquired by the students. It helps to build the relationships between Universities, supports creativity in the area of education, „Europe with no borders“ through which the students and teachers can move without any obstructions.

ECTS doesn't regulate the content nor the educational structure; these issues are settled by the Universities themselves. The system is only an instrument that allows to clearly sort out the rules of obtaining credits in domestic or foreign partner Universities.

The system is based on voluntary and mutual trust of the Universities participating in the student exchange programme. It helps to obey the rules which generally come down to:

- A common way of presenting information concerning the studies in different Universities;
- Signing agreements between Universities, which determines the scope of the exchange, as well as the students admittance mode.
- Using the credit system, which allows to assess the student's work contribution into completing particular subjects.

ECTS credits

The credits are ascribed to particular subjects and reflect the student's work contribution (in lectures, classes, laboratories, as well as homework and library work) which are necessary for completion of a particular course. The essential contribution for completing a subject is worth 30 points. Points are ascribed to particular subjects, which reflect the work contribution into receiving credits and takes into consideration the proportions of the necessary work contribution required to complete the whole semester. In the process, the points are a relative, not an absolute measure of the student's work contribution.

The student, acquiring the obligatory amount of credits, receives a base for semester (or year) completion. The credit system doesn't eliminate the grading system. The grades are aimed at assessment the level of abilities and knowledge of the student.

The Universities may freely set the credit values of every subject throughout the semester. The ECTS credits have to be ascribed to all the subjects, both compulsory and optional. They can be also granted for preparing and realizing projects, artistic and work internships, semester works, so far as they raise issues from the studies. The points are awarded after completing a particular subject according to the regulations of this subject.

Credit transfer

The students undertake the studies on a partner University based on a previously signed individual agreement, which refers to a particular student. The agreement determines the period of study and a subject list. If the student successfully completes the subjects he receives a number of credits (the student can also receive grades). After returning to the home university, the received credits are fully honoured in the student's documentation. The student can continue the studies without any loss of the study period abroad and recognizing the credits obtained during the studies in the partner university.

The students can benefit from the exchange after fulfilling certain conditions set by both partner universities.

Exchange in the *Erasmus programme*

Exchange studies in the Erasmus programme can last for 3 to 10 months (full academic year). The student can participate in the Erasmus exchange programme only once in a lifetime. First year students are not entitled to the exchange. The student going for an exchange keeps all the rights to due scholarships. Moreover the student can receive an Erasmus scholarship which covers the difference in maintenance costs between the home and host countries. The university doesn't collect the tuition fee.

Detailed rules of qualifying students for the exchange are determined by the home university. The home university also determines the detailed rules of dividing the Erasmus programme scholarships, abiding the general rules accepted in this programme. The university may also financially aid the exchange.

The Stanisław Moniuszko Academy of Music in Gdańsk

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About the Academy

The Academy of Music in Gdańsk is over half a century old. In northern Poland it was the only Musical Academy for a long time, covering an area of 1/4th of the country. Today its backstage is an area covering 1/5th of the country with 5 million citizens.

The Academy raised 3023 graduates so far (May 2006). Amongst them, there are winners of prestigious competitions and prominent artists. Amongst others: vocalist Zofia Janukowicz – winner of the International Music Competition in s'Hertogenbosch, pianist Jerzy Sulikowski - winner of the International Music Competition in Geneva, Katarzyna Popowa-Zydroń – pianist and the outstanding teacher, violinist Konstanty A. Kulka - winner of the International Music Competition in Munich, pianist Ewa Pobłocka – laureate of the International Chopin competition in Warsaw; vocalist Stefania Toczyska - soloist of the Vienna Opera, vocalists – participants of numerous prominent music events, Piotr Kusiewicz, Bożena Harasimowicz-Haas, Ryszard Minkiewicz or Tomasz Krzysica, winner of the vocal competition in Milan, strongly connected with the La Scala opera in 2001. Amongst the Academy graduates a strong position in jazz was obtained by Włodzimierz Nahorny and Leszek Możdżer.

The graduates of the Academy are highly valued in symphonic orchestras in Poland and abroad. Filharmonies and operas of northern Poland, as well as numerous other groups (for example the Ancient Music Ensemble "Cappella Gedanensis") are mainly formed of graduates of our Academy. They also teach in various 1st and 2nd grade music schools. The quality of teaching in our Academy has a fundamental influence on the music life in northern Poland and provides a visible contribution to the music life in other areas.

The Seat

The Academy, founded in 1947 as the Higher State Music School in Sopot, at the beginning operated in very modest conditions. In 1967 it was moved to a slightly bigger building in Gdańsk on Łagiewniki street number 3. In the nineties of the 20th century the Academy obtained abandoned 19th century military barracks. The buildings were reconstructed and modernized and became the new residence, big, for the first time suitable for the pur-

poses and the scale of activities of the Academy. In 1998 the Instrumental Faculty as well as the administration moved to the first of the two reconstructed buildings. In 1999 in the wing of the second (much bigger) building, a new, modern and fully equipped Academic House was put at disposal. In 2001 the whole Academy moved to the new buildings. The reconstruction and putting to use the whole renovated complex – together with the new Concert Hall – is expected in 2007. The conditions in which the students can study, are already one of the best in the country.

About the studies

The study period in the St. Moniuszko Academy of Music is 5 years (6 – for vocalists) – and the education course prepares for the final Master's degree exam.

Annually, about 450 students study on all years and faculties. The Academy enables postgraduate studies for composers, instrumentalists, brass band conductors and music theorists.

The Academy carries out the registration and conferment procedure for a doctoral degree, endowing the Doctor of Arts, Post-doctoral degrees; the Academy also has the right to begin the Professor of Arts degree proceedings.

183 academic teachers give lectures in the Academy, amongst which 63 are senior staff, including 50 professors.

Educational and artistic activity

The Academy in Gdańsk regularly organizes international events. The main are:

- International Johannes Brahms Chamber Music Competition (every 3 years),
- International Brass Instruments Competition (every 3 years),
- International Guitar Meeting (with an international competition - every 2 years),
- International Modern Music Workshops (every 2 years),

International Conferences of Musicology and Theory of Music (in 2 year cycles):

- Piano Music
- Organ Music
- Musica Baltica (on music from the Baltic countries)

Annual master classes in an international pedagogic staff in areas of:

- flute
- clarinet
- strings
- solo singing
- choral conducting.

The Academic Library consists of about @80 000 volumes: scores, books, manuscripts, scientific works; an electronic catalogue also functions in the library accessed through the Internet. The sound library consists of around 15 000 recordings. The students and teachers can use the Internet and e-mail.

The concert bureau of the Academy organizes about 160 concerts every year in the Academy facilities as well as outside – in domestic and foreign - concert halls. The Academic staff participate in above 800 concerts a year.

The Academy runs it's own publishing house and a perfectly equipped recording studio.

International Cooperation

The Academy closely cooperates with foreign music universities. It's a member of two international associations: The AEC – Association of European Conservatories, Higher Music Schools and Academies, and also ABAM which is an organization consisting of Music Academies from around the Baltic Sea. It has the longest cooperation with the

Academies in Bern, Lucerne, Płowdiw, Petersburg and Weimar; **in the Erasmus European Union programme** it cooperates with music universities from Bremen, Brussels, Eskisehir, Gothenburg, Hamburg, Hanover, Jyväskylä, Leuven, London, Lucerne, Lyon, Odense, Paris, Porto, Rostock, Salzburg, Tallin, Tampere, Trapani, Turku, Utrecht nad Vilnius.

Academy structure

Faculties:

I – Composition and Theory of Music

Speciality:

- Composition
- Theory of music

II - Instrumental

Area:

- Playing instruments

Speciality:

- Instrumental pedagogy

III – Vocal and Acting

IV – Choral Conducting, Musical Education, Eurhythmics and Church Music

Area:

- Artistic Education in the area of music arts

Speciality:

- Choral conducting
- Eurhythmics
- Church Music
- Jazz

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Other units

- Pedagogical Study
- Foreign language Study
- Physical Education Study
- Library
- Publishing house
- Recording Studio

Postgraduate Studies

- Postgraduate studies in composition
- Postgraduate studies in any instrumental specialization
- Postgraduate studies in brass orchestra conducting
- Postgraduate studies in theory of music.

Study system

The Academy has regular Master's degree studies, extramural Master's degree studies and postgraduate studies and a supplementary pedagogic study.

The studies last for five years (vocalists - 6 years), extramural studies 5 years, postgraduate studies 2 years.

Grading scale:

academy grades points	academy grades (description)	ECTS scale adequate
21 – 25	Very good	A and B
16 – 20	Good	C
11 – 15	Pass mark	D and E
0 – 10	Failed	F

Academic calendar 2006/2007

Winter semester

1 October 2006 - 3 February 2007

Academy holidays:	2 - 3 November 2006
Christmas Holidays:	22 December 2006 - 2 January 2007
Examination period:	22 January 2007 - 11 February 2007
Intersemester break:	5 February 2007 - 11 February 2007
Resit examinations:	12 February 2007 - 17 February 2007

Spring semester

6 February 2007 - 30 September 2007

Spring holidays:	5 April 2007 – 10 April 2007
Academy holiday:	2 May 2007
Examination Period:	28 May 2007 - 9 June 2007
Resit examinations:	17 September 2007 – 29 September 2007

Tuition Fees

Regular studies on all faculties are free. Exceptions in extramural and postgraduate studies as well as postgraduate internships are shown in the table.

All the examination fees including the qualifying exam fee for the Pedagogical Study concern all the candidates and amount 80 PLN (21 euro).

(The PLN/EURO exchange rate from the April 24th 2006)

Studies	semester PLN / EURO	year PLN / EURO
Instrumental Faculty		
Instrumental Pedagogy (extramural studies)	1400 / 362	2800 / 724
Postgraduate Studies	1400 / 362	2800 / 724
Postgraduate Internships	1400 / 362	2800 / 724
Choral Conducting, Musical Education, Eurhythmics Church Music and Jazz Faculty		
Artistic Education in the Area of Music Arts (extramural studies)	1700 / 440	3400 / 880
Postgraduate Brass Orchestra Conducting	1600 / 414	3200 / 828
Pedagogical Study	900 / 233	1800 / 466

Bank Account:

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Practical Information

Gdańsk

- the capital of Pomerania and a port at the mouth of the river Vistula, a trading city with a thousand year old rich and sometimes dramatic history, is widely known for its architectural monuments, especially Gothic and Renaissance. It lies on land and sea trading routes connecting Scandinavia and northern Europe to the middle and western part of the Continent. That resulted in wealth and cultural variety. Thanks to that - despite the huge damages caused by World War II – Gdańsk is still a vivid maritime, economic, scientific and cultural centre, as well as a tourist attraction.

Gdańsk has over 450 thousand inhabitants. It is practically a part of a bigger city complex – the Tricity – consisting also of Sopot and Gdynia. The whole urban area spreads from Pruszcz Gdański to Wejherowo and adds up to about 850 thousand residents what creates the biggest and most modern centre in northern Poland.

In the Tricity one can find the opera, musical theatre, dramatic theatre, symphonic orchestras, ancient music ensembles, numerous museums, libraries and publishing houses. There are also numerous higher educational institutions including the University of Gdańsk, University of Technology, Maritime University, Medical University, Academy of Physical Education and Sport, and - besides the Academy of Music – The Academy of Fine Arts.

International Exchange

Foreign students, who want to study in the Academy of Music in Gdańsk in the Erasmus programme, should send the appropriate application in co-operation with their home university Erasmus co-ordinator. Composers, instrumentalists and vocalists should also include their recordings. The applications ought to be sent at least six months before beginning the studies.

The intention to study can also be reported by foreign students, whose home universities didn't sign the bilateral agreement with the Academy of Music in Gdańsk. In this case, the Erasmus institutional co-ordinator from Gdańsk will seek the opportunity to sign a bilateral agreement.

Individual classes, which are the base for composition, instrumental, vocal and conducting studies, can be carried out in English, French, German or Russian; so can some theoretical courses.

The Academy provides courses of Polish, which layout is very flexible. For the entitled students, the lessons will be paid from the Erasmus programme funds.

Maintenance costs

The Polish currency is the zloty (PLN). The exchange rates are provided by the National Polish Bank.

A monthly maintenance cost for a student is approximately:

Place in the student dormitory	60 Euro
Board, including dinner in the student's diner	165 Euro
Transportation	25 Euro
books, events, concerts, scores	60 Euro
Personal expenses	60 Euro
Altogether	370 Euro

Renting a room privately – about 200 Euro. The sum would then increase to 510 Euro.

Room and board

The students can live in two and three person rooms in the comfortable and modern student dormitory, which is on the same, closed area of the Academy campus.

In the campus area, there are two excellent canteens. In the neighbourhood one can find numerous pubs, coffee houses, fast food cafeterias and restaurants.

Financial aid

The Academy provides the following forms of financial aid:

- grants for educational achievements,
- social grants,
- Ministry of Culture grants,
- President of Gdańsk grant,
- aiding the canteen expenses,
- subsidizing the charges for the dormitory,
- aiding competition trips, courses and conferences.

Detailed information can be obtained from the Erasmus institutional coordinator (tel. +4858 300 92 13) or directly in the Dean's office.

Health service and insurance

Polish and foreign student's can use the academic clinic and hospital.

Polish students use the health service according to the Polish law. **Foreign students** benefit from the health service for a fee. Because of that, the student should acquire an insurance policy before their leave, or in a Polish insurance company right after their arrival.

Student life

The Body, which represents the students, is the elected Student Government. It's authorities participate in taking decisions concerning the students, act in accord with the student society and represent this society in front of the rector and academic authorities. This helps to resolve numerous problems concerning student life.

The Student Government organizes many cultural and entertainment ventures, helps in contacts between students in the city.

Also travel agencies located in Gdańsk help in realizing plans according to the students interests and possibilities.

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English version

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