Semester Exchange
USC Thornton School of Music
Classical Division
TOPICS COVERED

Tools to Plan Semester Abroad
Action Steps
Programs Offered at Overseas Institution
Application Deadlines
Audition Requirements
Overseas Institutions for Classical Division

Amsterdam Conservatory
Lyon Conservatory
Paris Conservatory
Norwegian Academy of Music
The Hague
Royal Northern College of Music
Sibelius Academy
My Goal at Thornton: assist students envision the possibility to practice, perform and network overseas.

Nurture your ongoing creative process by experiencing a new environment. Flourish as musicians. Thrive as creatives.

Studied, Research & Volunteer Abroad: Berlin, Prague, Oaxaca, Punta Gorda & San Ignacio

Appointment: calendly.com/nevarezj

Email: nevarezj@usc.edu

Virtual Drop-In Hours
• 9:45a-10:45 Tuesdays
• 12:45a-1:45p Wednesdays
• 2:45p-3:45p Thursdays
• 4:45p-5:45p Fridays
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Eligibility</th>
<th>Exchange</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GPA</strong></td>
<td>3.0 and above</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Academic Status</strong></td>
<td>Fulltime status, currently enrolled</td>
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<td><strong>Language Requirement</strong></td>
<td><em>Depends</em></td>
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### How Do I Choose a Program?

#### Best Academic Fit
- Interest in faculty
- Maximize major credit (stay on track)
- Complement your studies on campus

#### Location
- Genuine interest in culture, performance opportunities, music scene, etc.
- Cultural immersion
- Opportunity to explore local cities

#### Costs
- More/less than a semester on-campus
## Starting Point: Exploring & Applying

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>EXPLORE</strong></th>
<th><strong>APPLY</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Research Your Options</strong></td>
<td><strong>Gather &amp; Upload Forms</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10-14 months prior to departure</td>
<td>9-12 months prior to deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Attend Thornton International Programs Information Session</td>
<td>□ Speak with Thornton International Programs Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Research Program Options for your major</td>
<td>□ Complete Study Abroad Planning Tool</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Confirm if there is a language requirement needed to study at Host Institution (i.e., French, Norwegian, Swedish, or Finnish).</td>
<td>□ Apply, or renew, your passport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ For questions on how to find courses abroad, contact International Programs Coordinator, <a href="mailto:music.intl@usc.edu">music.intl@usc.edu</a>.</td>
<td><strong>When to Apply:</strong></td>
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<td>□ Apply spring of sophomore year to Thornton’s Exchange Application:</td>
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<td>□ Deadline: January 22</td>
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<td>□ Submit your Exchange Application on EASY by host institution’s unique deadline</td>
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Student Responsibility To Select Courses

**STEP 1:** Complete **Course Planning Tool** with Academic Advisor

**STEP 2:** Submit **Academic Learning Agreement** with Tentative Courses *(before departure)*

**STEP 3:** Revise **Academic Learning Agreement** after attending courses at overseas institution

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**PREPARE & REGISTER**

**Finalize Plans Abroad**

6-9 months prior to departure

☐ Complete Pre-Departure requirements
☐ Plan a budget
☐ Apply for study abroad scholarships

*Complete the following the semester before your departure:*

☐ Get your Academic Learning Agreement approved
☐ Register to appropriate section of USC 300 Overseas Block Enrollment
☐ Confirm USC Financial Aid Package for semester abroad

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**Course Planning Tool**

- **Student Name:**
- **Term Abroad:**
- **Current GPA:**
- **Major/Emphasis:**
- **Study Abroad Program:**
- **Academic Advisor:**

This form is meant to help you familiarize yourself with the courses available in your chosen study abroad program and to help you understand the important considerations relating to your course choices. This is not course registration and does not guarantee any course’s availability or approval for inclusion on your transcript.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number/Title at Host Institution</th>
<th>Type of Degree Requirement Anticipated</th>
<th>Credits Abroad</th>
<th>USC Credits</th>
<th>Thornton Course Number / Equivalency</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<td>(Major or Elective Credit)</td>
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**Important Notes:**

- Final courses approved by Thornton Academic Advisor should appear on Academic Learning Agreement when applying for Exchange Program
- All General Education requirements must be completed at USC
Curated Study Abroad Timelines

If you have taken a Leave of Absence due to COVID19, your academic timeline may have shifted.

Or course sequences may have shifted.

Please consult with your Academic Advisor.

*Rule to thumb: you can go abroad the semester before you begin MUSC 480 Young Artist Project I+II*
Thornton Pre-Selection Application

Platform: SlideRoom
Start: 11/15/2020
Deadline: 01/22/2021
Grace Period: 2 days
Application Fee (USD): $25.00

Link to application will be shared via email on Friday, Nov. 13th
Semester Exchange Application Timeline

Thornton Pre-Selection
- Open: Nov. 15th
- Closes: Jan. 22nd

Thornton Decision
- Rolling Basis
- Final Notification: Jan. 29th

European Application
- EASY Platform
- Instructions will be provided by Jessica Nevarez
Amsterdam Conservatory
Programs of Interest

Languages: predominantly English & Dutch

COMPOSITION
CLASSICAL PERFORMANCE
EARLY MUSIC
VOCAL ARTS
CvA
Application Details

Application: February 1 to March 15

Students must submit their completed application through EASY platform

• EASY access will be provided by Jessica Nevarez after students complete Thornton Pre-Selection Application

Audition Guidelines: 20 minutes of audition recordings

• 3 recordings of songs (at least one of the songs should be an original composition) max upload mp3 is 10 Mb
• Scores for Composers
CvA Housing

No on-campus housing
Students are responsible for finding their own housing.
Finding living space in Amsterdam is difficult. It is advisable to search for a room as quickly as possible.
You can register with Room, even if you are not a student yet, but planning to study in Amsterdam.

Recommended area to stay: North Amsterdam or outskirts of city
• Campus is 5 minutes away from Central Station
• Ferry connecting North Amsterdam is scheduled to depart/arrive every 5 minutes
# Amsterdam Conservatory Budgeting

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The CNSMD de Lyon now offers weekly French courses for non-French speaking students who study at the CNSMDL as exchange students. Courses last one hour and a half and are free for students who take a French test upon arrival to evaluate their level and divide them between groups from A1 to C1 level.

**COMPOSITION**

**CLASSICAL PERFORMANCE**

**CHAMBER MUSIC**

**SINGING & CHORAL CONDUCTING**

**EARLY MUSIC**
CNSMD Lyon
Application Details

Application: February 1 to March 25

Students must submit their completed application through EASY platform

- EASY access will be provided by Jessica Nevarez after students complete Thornton Pre-Selection Application

Audition Guidelines:

- For performers: a certified audio recording of about 20 minutes which demonstrates the musical qualities of the applicant. Singers are advisable to prepare an audio/video recording.

- For composers: the score of one of their compositions, preferably accompanied by a recording of a performance.
CNSMD Lyon Housing

TBD

Meeting with Lyon Coordinator on Nov. 16th
# Lyon Conservatory Budgeting

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The recommended level of French language proficiency is B1, according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

Weekly French classes are offered to the incoming exchange students.

*Educational Philosophy Leans Towards A Mid-century European & Avante Garde Focus*

**CLASSICAL PERFORMANCE**

**COMPOSITION**

**VOCAL ARTS**
CNSMD Paris
Application Details

Application: February 1 to March 15
Students must submit their completed application through EASY platform

Audition Guidelines:
• For composers: a portfolio of compositions
• For instrumental & vocal performers: a 20-to-30-min recording (preferably a video), containing pieces in different styles, and an attestation certifying its authenticity.
CNSMD Paris: Housing

TBD

Meeting with Paris Coordinator Nov. 18th
## Paris Conservatory Budgeting

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Norwegian Academy of Music Programs of Interest

The Norwegian course on is mandatory for students assigned to the elective course in Norwegian language **NORSK20** (*offered fall semester only*)

**CHURCH MUSIC** (Organ Studies)

**CLASSICAL PERFORMANCE**

**COMPOSITION**
NMH Application Details

Application: Dec 1 to March 5

Students must submit their completed application through EASY platform

- *EASY access will be provided by Jessica Nevarez after students complete Thornton Pre-Selection Application*

Audition Guidelines:

- Recording(s), preferably video, totaling 15 to 20 minutes.
- Videos can be uploaded in most file formats. They can also be attached as a link to Vimeo, SoundCloud, YouTube or Dropbox.
- Composition students must upload a portfolio.
NMH Housing

No campus residences and student housing in Oslo is in short supply

The cheapest and most secure way to find a suitable flat in Oslo as a student is to apply for student housing through the student welfare association, SiO. You should plan and apply for a SiO residence well in advance to your arrival.
## Norwegian Academy of Music Budgeting

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The Hague
Programs of Interest

Languages spoken: English

CLASSICAL PERFORMANCE
ELECTRO ACOUSTIC COMPOSITION
EARLY MUSIC
VOCAL ARTS
The Hague Application Details

Application Deadline: March 15

Students must submit their completed application by email

• More details will be available after November 18th

Audition Guidelines:

• Classical Performance & Vocal Arts: perform and record a number of works of your own choice. The total length of the recording should not exceed 20 minutes.

• Composition Majors: The scores of at least three (and preferably four) of your own compositions, together with audio recordings of the works. Midi recordings are permitted. Recordings of exclusively electronic compositions (intended to be played via electronic media) can be submitted without a score. If there are no recordings of a score or none can be made, the score can be sent without a recording.
The Hague: Housing

Finding accommodation in the Hague can be a challenge.

The Hague has partnered with HousingAnywhere.com to make sure you can book your room with priority and in complete safety. Only if you successfully find a room, a small booking fee will be charged.
# The Hague Budgeting

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Royal Northern College of Music

Programs of Interest

Languages spoken: English

COMPOSITION
CLASSICAL PERFORMANCE
RNCM
Application Details

Application Deadline: mid-March
Students must submit their completed application by email

More details will be available after November 18th

Audition Guidelines:

• All applicants are required to play two (2) pieces that contrast in style. The recording should last approximately fifteen (15) minutes.

• Please submit high quality, authenticated VIDEO recordings – we are happy to accept e-mailed web links (e.g. YouTube, DropBox) or a hard-copy DVD. Please note we cannot accept audio recordings.
RNCM: Housing

TBD

Meeting with Manchester Coordinator Nov. 18th
## Royal Northern College of Music Budgeting

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Sibelius Academy
Programs of Interest

Languages spoken: Finnish, Swedish, and English

COMPOSITION
CLASSICAL PERFORMANCE
VOCAL ARTS
Sibelius Application Details

Application: January 10 to February 28
Students must submit their completed application through EASY platform

Audition Guidelines:

- A video recording of your playing or singing is required
  - You may choose the works freely; 2-3 pieces in contrasting styles.
  - Total length of the recording should not be longer than 20 minutes. Videos can be attached as a link to Vimeo, SoundCloud, YouTube or DropBox. You can also upload videos in most file formats. The size of the uploaded files should not exceed 100MiB.

- Students applying for Composition studies:
  Composition applicants must submit the score of one or two work(s) showing both technical and compositional skills.
Sibelius: Housing

Students have two options:

• **Off-campus Housing**: use online platforms
  • *Recommended to live in the outskirts of Helsinki*

• **On-Campus Housing**: submit application on Klavis
  • very expensive
## Sibelius Academy Budgeting

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