

# EARLY MUSIC

## Overview

### Administration

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### Organization of study

#### Faculty

The Early Music Department student body comprises about fifty students. There is a faculty of 20 teachers and 2 accompanists.

The number of students per instrumental class (major discipline) varies from 2 to 12. Each student is scheduled for a weekly lesson with the teacher.

In ensemble courses, class size may vary.

#### Instruments taught

The following instruments are taught (major instrument):

- ◆ strings: baroque violin, baroque viola<sup>1</sup>, baroque cello, viola da gamba, historical double bass
- ◆ woodwinds: baroque transverse flute (*traverso*), baroque oboe, historical clarinet, early bassoon
- ◆ brass: natural horn
- ◆ lute and theorbo
- ◆ harpsichord and basso continuo, pianoforte.

Chamber Music is accessible as second major to students majoring in another discipline at the Conservatoire.

#### Study cycles

Studies are divided in two successive cycles:

- 1st cycle (Undergraduate) - maximum duration: 3 years, leading to the *Diplôme de 1<sup>er</sup> cycle supérieur* (or *Diplôme National Supérieur Professionnel de Musicien* (DNSPM) depending on the discipline)

- 2d cycle (Graduate) - standard duration: 2 years, leading to the *Diplôme de 2<sup>e</sup> cycle supérieur* (Master's degree equivalence pending).

Erasmus exchange programs are possible at either level.

### Admission<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> 2d cycle (Graduate) only

## 1st CYCLE - UNDERGRADUATE

Age limit: 26<sup>3</sup>

The entrance examination consists of:

- one solfège (formation musicale) eliminatory test
- one instrumental performance eligibility test (10 to 15')
- one instrumental performance admission test, including sight-reading.

## 2d CYCLE - GRADUATE

The 2-year Study Course is accessible:

- with entrance examination - to holders of a French or foreign undergraduate degree in that same discipline.
- without entrance examination - to holders of a Paris CNSMDP undergraduate degree in the same - or the related - discipline, with the distinction 'Très Bien' or 'Bien' provided their application is made the following academic year.

Age limit: 30<sup>4</sup>

N.B.: Chamber music: the average age of the group must be under 28, and no individual group member may be over 30.

Applicants for the 2d cycle (Graduate) go through the four-step selection process outlined hereafter:

- examination of their dossier including degrees, resume and personal project by an internal jury
- instrumental eligibility test
- Instrumental admission test
- Interview.

## Graduation<sup>5</sup>

### FIRST CYCLE - UNDERGRADUATE

The Undergraduate degree - *Diplôme de premier cycle supérieur* (or *Diplôme National Supérieur Professionnel de Musicien (DNSPM)* for some disciplines - is issued after successful completion of the (maximum) 3-year cycle, provided the student has obtained:

- a certificate in instrumental performance
- a certificate or attestation in each required discipline
- a certificate or attestation in one optional complementary discipline (ad libitum).

### SECOND CYCLE - GRADUATE

The 2d Cycle Graduate degree - *Diplôme de deuxième cycle supérieur* (*Master's degree equivalence pending*) - is issued after successful completion of the 2-year cycle, and includes:

- a performance degree ('Prix')
- a certificate or attestation in each required discipline
- a certificate or attestation in each required specific discipline
- assessment of real-life professional performing situation

## Degree Structure - 1st Cycle (Undergraduate) and 2d Cycle (Graduate) Degrees

Cf. following page

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<sup>2</sup> Full-degree applicants only.

<sup>3</sup> Age of the applicant on Oct. 1st of the academic year for which application is being made

<sup>4</sup> Age of the applicant on Oct. 1st of the academic year for which application is being made

<sup>5</sup> Full-degree applicants only.

## 1st cycle - Undergraduate

Disciplines	ECTS Credits	number of hours per week	Duration	Assessment
<i>Major Discipline</i>				
Instrument	year 1: 40,5	1 h	3 years maximum	annual exam
	year 2: 44,5			
	year 3: 52,5			
<i>Complementary Disciplines - Required</i>				
Solfège (formation musicale)	8	3 h	2 years	Certificate
Analysis	8	3 h	2 years	Certificate
Sight-reading	8	3 h	1 to 2 years	Certificate
Chamber music/Orchestra	12	sessions	1 to 3 years	Attestation
Foreign language	1	1 h 30	1 year	Certificate
Baroque dance	2	30 h	1 semester	Attestation
Historical treatises « A »	2	30 h	1 semester	Certificate
Professional context	1,5	0 -12 h	3 semesters	Attestation
Complementary Discipline - Specialized	3	1h	1 year	Attestation
<i>Complementary Discipline - Optional</i>				
1 complementary discipline ad libitum	3	variable	1 or 2 years	Certificate or attestation

## 2<sup>e</sup> cycle - Graduate

Disciplines	ECTS Credits	weekly tuition number of hours	Duration	Assessment
<i>Major Discipline</i>				
Instrument	year 1: 36	1h	2 years	1 recital at the end of each academic year
	year 2: 40			
<i>Complementary Disciplines - Required</i>				
Chamber Music / Orchestra	8	sessions	2 years	Attestation
1 discipline ad libitum	4	variable	1 or 2 years	Certificate or attestation
Historical treatises « B »	8	3h		Certificate
Foreign language	2	1 h 30	1 year	Certificate
<i>Specific Disciplines - Required</i>				
Research methodology	3	3 h	1 semester	Attestation
Personal project	9	variable	3 semesters	Certificate
Practical aspects of the profession	2	0 - 3 h	1 year	Certificate
Rudiments of educational sciences	2	0 - 12 h	1 year	Attestation
Internships	10	variable	1 or 2 years	Attestation

### Course progression

Students are free to start their optional complementary discipline whenever they choose, provided they complete the course within the allotted time-frame.

## Short-term study syllabus

The above charts outline the duration and content of regular full-degree programs.

Short-term students' study programs are defined jointly by the students, the director of studies of their home institutes and the Paris Conservatoire.

In general, such programs focus on the major discipline and three or four complementary disciplines.

Short-term students are encouraged to attend ensemble classes with a focus on practical activities, such as orchestra, choir or chamber music for two main reasons:

- a lower level of French language proficiency is not a hindrance
- students integrate more quickly.

Allocation of ECTS credits: see charts.

## Description of course units

### Major Disciplines

#### **INSTRUMENT**

**Duration:** 1<sup>st</sup> cycle (Undergraduate): 3 years maximum; 2d cycle (Graduate): 2 years

**Weekly tuition (in hours):** 1h with the teacher on a one-to-one basis

**Purpose/ Content:**

1<sup>st</sup> Cycle (Undergraduate):

Higher instrumental training is designed to:

- develop the students' artistic sensibility and technical skills in individual and ensemble practice
- broaden their cultural horizons through practical experience and theory classes (complementary disciplines)
- raise their awareness of the various aspects of the profession.

2<sup>e</sup> cycle (Graduate):

- develop the students' individual artistic voice
- develop student autonomy in designing and delivering a recital project
- develop the ability to analyze one's own artistic practice
- develop professional skills

**Assessment:**

- End-of-year exam throughout 1st Cycle:  
instrumental performance - average duration: 20' (first year) to 40' (third year).  
*Grading: TB, B, AB.*
- Annual recital throughout 2d Cycle:
  - 1st year: the standard recital program -30' to 45'- consists of a piece left to the candidate's choice and one or two compulsory pieces, including one contemporary work.  
However, this program may be adapted to fit the specificity of each instrument.
  - 2d year: free recital program.  
Award: *TB, B, AB.*

### Complementary Disciplines - Required

#### 1<sup>st</sup> cycle

**ANALYSIS (for instrumentalists) 'A' or 'B'**

**Duration:** 2 years **Weekly tuition (in hours):** 3h **ECTS :** 8

**Purpose/Content:** the course is designed:

- to help students acquire in-depth understanding of the various pieces studied in class (different styles, periods and genres);
- more generally, to develop the students' autonomy and analytical skills (listening, applying historical and methodological knowledge) through relating theory and instrumental practice. Pieces studied in class are in direct relation to the students' instrumental programme.

**Admission:** entering students will be given a placement test (group 'A' or 'B')

- ♦ exam (1st year): similar for 'A' et 'B' Certificates
  - critical commentary with simple formal analysis (oral)
  - score analysis (including general harmonic pattern)*Grading: this grade constitutes 1/3 of the final grade - certificate A or B.*

♦ final exam (2d year):

- *Certificate 'A'*
  - critical commentary (includes three excerpts played three times each);
  - analysis of a piece (recording + score);
  - questions on instruments and/or voices, related to an orchestral excerpt.
- *Certificate 'B'*
  - \* *written tests:*
    - analysis of a piece (listening + score)
    - recognizing and writing down themes or other musical elements.
  - \* *oral test:*
    - oral commentary (no score, preparation time: 40').

**Award:** Certificate with distinction (*TB, B, AB*)

### SOLFÈGE (FORMATION MUSICALE)

**Duration:** 1 year    **Weekly tuition:** 1 to 3h depending on the module    **ECTS :** 8

**Purpose/ Content:** this course consists of three modules (sight-singing, rhythmic sight-reading, aural skills).

**Assessment:**

- Aural skills: chord, cadence and key identification; detecting mistakes and missing part(s) in a chorale; 1- and 2-part dictations, etc. (*graded on 60 point scale*)
- Sight-singing: one simple melody (read in treble or bass clef), with/without time-beating, with piano accompaniment (preparation time equivalent to test duration). (*graded on 10 point scale*)
- Rhythmic sight-reading: one or two pieces (candidates may read in the clef of their choice) including time-beating, spoken with/without the standard syllables (test preparation time equivalent to test duration) (*grade on 10 point scale*)

Grading and Award: the sum total of points determine the distinction (*TB, B, AB*).

### SIGHT-READING

**Duration:** 1 or 2 years    **Weekly tuition:** 30' to 1 h depending on the instrument

**ECTS :** 8

**Purpose/ Content:** the course focuses on:

- acquiring technical and interpretive skills necessary for fluent sight-reading and quick understanding of a new piece of music
- individual and group training, preparatory to orchestra class in order to improve repertoire knowledge and facilitate ensemble performance.

Depending on the instrument, more attention will be given to orchestra repertoire, sectionals, transposing exercises, or the role of a section principal.

**Assessment (final exam):** performance of orchestral excerpts/sight-reading with or without accompaniment/transposing exercises where relevant.

### BAROQUE DANCE

**Duration:** 10 sessions (3 hours each)    **ECTS :** 2

**Purpose/Content:** an introduction to Baroque dance based on historical treatises. A critical reflection on music interpretation and body movement. Practical applications in instrumental and vocal performance.

**Assessment:** attestation

### TREATISES « A »

**Duration:** 1 year    **ECTS :** 2

**Number of hours:** 10 sessions (3 hours each)

**Purpose/ Content:** throughout this course, students are encouraged to read historical treatises ; listen to, and analyze Works ; write and deliver papers and make ample use of *the Bibliothèque Nationale, Musée du Louvre* and *Musée de la Musique* ressources. The course focuses on:

- French and Italian ornamentation practice
- improvisation, styles and interpretation.

**Assessment:** certificate

### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

**ECTS :** 1

**Aim:** Required for all students without a B1 level in a (living) foreign language - 1st Cycle.

**Assessment:** certificate

### PROFESSIONAL CONTEXT

**Duration:** 3 modules, average duration 2 days each, to be spread over Yr 1 & Yr 2 of the 1st Cycle.

**ECTS :** 1,5

**Purpose/Content:**

- Module 1 «Orientations Days» - knowing how to find appropriate information, knowledge of the resources available at the Cité de la Musique's multimedia library and awareness of the psycho-physical aspects of music.
- Module 2 «Days of the Profession» - understanding the professional landscape and learning to invent one's own career path.

- Module 3 «Communication » - learning to introduce and promote oneself.  
Assessment: attestation (regular attendance compulsory)

## Instrument-specific Required Complementary Disciplines

### TUNING AND TEMPERAMENT

(harpsichord and basso continuo, pianoforte)

Duration: 1 year Weekly tuition: 45' ECTS : 3

Admission: harpsichord and pianoforte students

Purpose/ Content: a theoretical and practical approach to Renaissance, Baroque and Classical intonation scales.

Assessment: attestation or certificate

### BAROQUE VIOLA

(baroque viola)

Duration: 1 year ECTS : 3

Admission: Baroque violin students

Purpose/ Content: an introduction to the baroque viola and its repertoire. Participation required to one or several orchestra or chamber music ensemble sessions (Early Music repertoire).

Assessment: attestation

## Required Complementary Disciplines and Specific Disciplines

### 2d cycle

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Duration: 12 lessons (3h each), 2d Cycle/1st year. ECTS : 3

Purpose/Content: to know the standard methodology and norms of research to design and deliver an art-related project: sourcing information (libraries and media libraries), defining a field of research, forming working hypotheses as a basis for questioning, creating bibliography, plan of work and presentation norms for a written project which can take many forms.

Assessment: allocation of ECTS credits (3) is effective after the Personal Project (or *T.E.P.*- see below) presented at the end of the first semester has been accepted by the the head(s) of Department under the supervision of the Director or his representative.

### PERSONAL PROJECT

ECTS : 9

All students present a Personal Project (*Travail d'Étude Personnel - T.E.P.*) at the end of the 2d Cycle. Submission formats must include at least one written presentation, supported as the case may be by musical and/or audio and/or audiovisual documents. The project focuses on an artistic topic determined by the student after completion of the Research Methodology Course. *T.E.P.* may (not 'must') be related to the free recital program at the end of 2d Cycle and/or the Practical aspects of the profession course.

*T.E.P.* may overlap with written presentations of the same type as required in the Teacher Training Curriculum or the Complementary Discipline as the case may be: acoustics, music history ...

*T.E.P.* may involve 2 or 3 students, provided individual and collective work is clearly defined.

Assessment: graded on 20 + distinction (10 - 12: *Assez Bien*/12 - 15: *Bien* /15 - 20: *Très Bien*).

### PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF THE PROFESSION

Duration: 6 lectures of 3h each, 2d cycle/1st year ECTS : 2

Purpose/Content: to inform students on all practical aspects of professional life:

- the legal status of professional musicians
- public funding and private sponsors
- understanding cultural policy and audience development
- creating and promoting a cultural and artistic project
- introducing and marketing oneself

Assessment: certificate

### RUDIMENTS OF EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES

Duration: 3 week-ends (Sat. & Sun.). Time-frame: November - March. 1<sup>st</sup> year / 2d cycle.

ECTS : 2

Large group/small group classes focus on the rudiments of educational studies (historical survey and specific vocabulary), didactic analysis and an overview of the French education system. Students who successfully complete this first module then register for CA\* study cycle will be exempted from the corresponding course.

Assessment: attestation

\* CA : Certificate of Aptitude, which qualifies musicians to teach in state-certified music schools.

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE****ECTS : 2****Objectif:** required for all students without a B2 level in a (living) foreign language - 2d Cycle.**Assessment:** certificate**Professional Experience****ECTS : 10****Duration :** throughout the study course**Objectives/contents:** Activities in one or several areas of the principal discipline organized in front of/or for an audience outside of the pedagogical framework of the Conservatoire and/or in collaboration with representatives of the profession, allowing students to be confronted with the realities of their future profession under professional conditions.**Assessment :** attestation**TREATISES « B »****Duration:** 1 year    **Weekly tuition (in hours):** 3 hours in 2d year.    **ECTS :** 8**Purpose/ Content:** throughout this course, students are encouraged to read historical treatises, listen to, and analyze works, write and deliver papers and make ample use of the *Bibliothèque Nationale*, *Musée du Louvre* and *Musée de la Musique* resources. The course focuses on Baroque instrumental tutors and theoretical writings.**Assessment:** certificate**Shared Disciplines (1st & 2d cycles)****CHAMBER MUSIC (complementary discipline)****Duration:** session-wise over the whole cycle(s).**Purpose/Content:** to provide the most varied chamber music experience possible in terms of repertoire, instrumental ensemble and coaching.**Assessment:** students are required to give four public performances (three in the case of instruments with limited repertoire). Inadequate quality level invalidates the performance. Upon completion of the required number of performances, and with the Head of Studies' agreement, the student receives an attestation.**ORCHESTRA (where relevant)****Duration:** session-wise over the whole cycle(s). 2 to 3 annual sessions (on average)**Modalités:** sessions under the direction of guest-conductors or CNSMDP teachers.**Purpose/Content:** to prepare students to being professional orchestra musicians, paying attention to a conductor's signals, listening and interacting with other musicians. To develop knowledge of the repertoire.**Assessment:** continuous assessment of active participation and regular attendance + public performance.

## **EARLY MUSIC DEPARTMENT FACULTY**

### **Harpsichord and basso continuo**

Olivier Baumont (clavecin - harpsichord)  
Blandine Rannou (basse continue - basso continuo)

### **Instruments**

Eric Bellocq (luths et théorbe - lutes and theorbo)  
Bruno Cocset (violoncelle baroque - baroque cello)  
Patrick Cohen (piano - fortepiano)  
Christophe Coin (violoncelle baroque et viole de gambe - baroque cello and viola da gamba)  
François Fernandez (violon baroque - baroque violin) (alto, option - viola, optional)  
Claude Maury (cor naturel - natural horn)  
Eric Hoeprich (clarinette historique - historical clarinet)  
Richard Myron (contrebasse historique et violone - historical double bass and violone)  
Michel Henry (hautbois baroque - baroque oboe)  
Jan de Winne (flûte traversière baroque - baroque flute)  
Giorgio Mandolesi (basson baroque - baroque bassoon)

### **Chamber music**

Kenneth Weiss

### **Treatises and ornamentation**

Jean Saint-Arroman  
Jan de Winne

### **Tuning and temperament**

Emile Jobin (clavecin et piano - harpsichord and fortepiano)

### **Baroque dance**

Irène Ginger

### **Serpent (optional)**

Michel Godard

### **Basso continuo, optional**

Pierre Cazes

### **Tuning and temperament, optional**

Pierre Cazes

### **Harpsichord (organists, optional)**

Françoise Marmin

### **Accompanists**

Laure Vovard, clavecin  
Soo Hyun Park, piano