



University of
BRISTOL

Erasmus+ Study Guide
2019/20
Department of Theatre

Department of Theatre

GUIDE FOR INCOMING ERASMUS STUDENTS 2019-20

Welcome to the Department of Theatre

Welcome to the Theatre Department in the School of Arts at the University of Bristol. The Theatre Department was founded in 1947 – the first department in the UK to offer a degree in Theatre Studies – and has a long history in the innovative study of theatre and performance. The exploration of live performance is an important part of the way we approach the understanding of theatre. And whether we look at contemporary work, theatre histories, or performance studies, our teaching is underpinned by world-class research resulting in a department that has established and maintained its reputation as one of the leading theatre departments in the UK for over 60 years.

Academic Calendar and Structure

Academic Calendar for 2019/20

	Start Date	End Date
Welcome Week	23 September 2019	27 September 2019
Teaching Block 1	30 September 2019	20 December 2019
Assessment Period	13 January 2020	24 January 2020

Teaching Block 2	27 January 2020	08 May 2020
Summer Assessment Period	18 May 2020	05 June 2020

VACATIONS	Start Date	End Date
Christmas	23 December 2019	10 January 2020
Easter	30 March 2020	17 April 2020
Summer	15 June 2020	To be confirmed

The University of Bristol operates in Teaching Blocks which, together with the assessment periods, make up a semester. If you are visiting us for one semester only, we expect you to be available both during the Teaching Blocks as well as the appropriate assessment period.

The units in the Department of Theatre are structured either as a combination of lectures, seminars, and independent study, or as a combination of workshops, rehearsals, and independent study. Tutorials are an important part of all units and working outside of timetabled classes, with your peers or independently, is expected on all units. There will be ample opportunity for support both from academic staff, professional services and fellow students.

Units and Credits

As a Theatre Erasmus student, you will be expected to take the majority of your units within the Department of Theatre in the School of Arts.

You are required to take units amounting to 60 credits in each Teaching Block, which is equivalent to 30 ECTS credits.

The University of Bristol's Unit and Programme Catalogue 2019-20 provides full information on the units available in the Department of Theatre:

<https://www.bris.ac.uk/unit-programme-catalogue/RouteStructure.jsa?ayrCode=19%2F20&byCohort=N&programmeCode=1DRAMO11U>

When reviewing unit choices, please consider:

- The amount of credits for the unit (most Theatre units available to you are 20 credits)
- The Teaching Block it is running in – please make sure you select a unit which runs in the semester you are here
- Are there any pre-requisites or co-requisites? Are you expected to have passed a specific unit already or do you need to take the class alongside another class? If that is the case, please contact us so we can decide whether your study so far has fulfilled any pre-requisites.
- The form of assessments you will be required to complete. This could include coursework, practical assessment, production and performance, and/or class presentations.

All this information can be found on the unit's description entry in the Unit and Programme Catalogue.

You are responsible for selecting units appropriate for your level of study, and for informing your University of your choices. Our Office is happy to answer any questions you may have about units within the Department of Theatre but cannot confirm what your University requires you to take.

Please, be aware that mixing units from different years, i.e. first, second and third year, might be difficult due to time-tabling constraints. We will, of course, try and make your choices possible but cannot guarantee them.

English Language Skills

If you need to develop your academic English language skills, you can take optional units at CELFS (the Centre for English Language and Foundation Studies). These units focus on listening and speaking, reading and writing, and advanced grammar. Visit the CELFS website to register for these units: www.bristol.ac.uk/english-language/study/current-students/for-undergraduate/open-units/

Projects

If you have never engaged with Theatre Practice before, it may not be possible to enrol on Third-Year practice and project units. We are available to discuss such specific issues and

answer any questions you may have by email before you arrive and in person during Welcome Week for TB1 or late January for TB2.

School/Department policy for Erasmus students from other areas wishing to take units.

External, i.e. non-Theatre Erasmus students are welcome to choose some units in Theatre but please be advised that, generally, no practice-based units are available to non-Theatre Erasmus students. Please, contact the department if you would like to discuss your choices in more detail.

School/Department contact information

Your point of contact is the School of Arts Support Office, located in 43 Woodland Road. You can also contact the office by email: sart-theatreadmin@bristol.ac.uk

Your points of contact in the Department are as follows:

Erasmus co-ordinator: Dr Jan Wozniak: Jan.Wozniak@bristol.ac.uk

Director of Teaching: Dr Jan Wozniak: Jan.Wozniak@bristol.ac.uk

Head of the Department of Theatre: Dr Elaine McGirr: elaine.mcgirr@bristol.ac.uk

University Global Opportunities team contact information

Email: global-opportunities@bristol.ac.uk

Telephone: +44 117 39 40207

Commonly asked questions

1. Can I take a unit outside the Department of Theatre?

Yes – the majority of your units should be within the Department of Theatre to reflect your registration as a Theatre Erasmus student. However, please discuss with your University how many units they will permit you to take outside Theatre. Your University may have specific requirements about what you can and cannot take, or they may allow you the freedom to choose units from across the University of Bristol.

2. I have looked at the unit catalogue and it says that a unit is 'not open'. What does that mean? The majority of units within the Department of Theatre are not open to University of Bristol students on programmes outside the department. A few are, and these are called 'open units'.

As a Theatre Erasmus student, you will not be affected by the open unit constraints. You can register interest in units across the department, as we recognise you are taking a Theatre pathway.

3. Can I change my unit options at a later date?

This is possible, but not guaranteed. The School of Arts will register you on the units you include in your Learning Agreement before you arrive at Bristol. During your first week here, our School runs a unit registration session where you can request to drop or take a class. Our Office cannot guarantee unit availability, so it is not always possible to grant a unit change request. We also grant these changes early on and cannot amend unit registrations after the second week of teaching has finished.

4. I am studying here for one term and will return to my home University in January. I want to take a unit that has an assessment in January, but I will not be able to attend. Can I still take the class?

Yes – you can choose to take a unit which has an assessment in January as long as the assessment is a written piece of work rather than a practical assessment. You are required to submit all written assessment online and can do so without necessarily being in Bristol. You will not be able to take units which assess by group practice during the January assessment period if you cannot be in attendance.