

Information Sheet about International Studies: X+Y Exchange Semester. Offers at BA and MA level at the BUA.

*“The sensitivity of daring is to know,
up to what point you can go too far.” Jean Cocteau*

Preamble: The flexible structure of a small, excellently equipped university allows it to offer individualised programmes to guest students doing an exchange semester.

The students` development within a specific discipline (X) is guaranteed by the highly qualified BUA teaching staff (Music, Opera/Theatre, Literature, Design and Fine Arts, Conservation and Restoration), while transdisciplinary tuition (Y) is conducted by the competent Y teaching staff. The tuition language of both BA and MA programmes is German. Depending on the particular study programme, French and English may also occur.

For a Bachelor guest student with X+Y status (usually in the 4th or 5th semester), the individual study programme (Y) is put together as follows:

History of Culture lecture (1 credit), Y theory seminar (2 credits), Y project (4 credits), toolbox (2 credits), individual Y student project (6 credits). A further 15 credits are awarded for tuition events of the core discipline.

At Master level, the MA CAP (Fine Arts/ Music and Media Art/ Literature/ Performance) offers students from various disciplines the opportunity of an X+Y exchange semester. Depending on the students` specific talents, aptitude and interests, this format of studies can also be offered within other BUA MA programmes.

1. What is an X+Y Exchange Semester?

X+Y guest status allows students to expand their studies in a particular discipline with one or more of the aspects (Y) listed below:

Examples (not including all options):

X Music + Y = space, installation, staging, media, text, image, acting

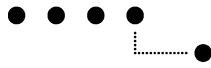
X Design & Fine Arts + Y = staging, text, acting, voice, movement/body, performance art, architecture

X Literature + Y = space, installation, staging, media, image, acting, voice, movement/body

X Theatre + Y = space, installation, media, text, image, sound

X Conservation + Y = space, installation, staging, text, voice

The specific qualifications for admission depend on the main discipline: “staging” means something else in the music scene than it does in the art scene. Learning objectives and competencies to be attained are therefore defined separately for each individual discipline. In addition to this, the guest students, the Y Institute and the disciplinary degree programme define an individual study programme specific to each student.



2. Requirements to be met by Guest Students with X+Y Status

The following conditions have to be met:

- Matriculation at a public university
- A confirmation of studies of the appropriate BA or MA programme at the home university
- A high degree of responsibility and capacity for self-management

3. Application and Admission to X+Y Guest Status at the BUA

The application should be submitted to the Y Institute, Department of Tuition, one semester before the guest semester, including the following documents:

- A confirmation of studies of the home university
- A letter of recommendation by the responsible Head of Studies and/or the main teacher
- A motivational statement by the applicant and a project outline explaining with what Y aspects the disciplinary studies are to be expanded
- For ERASMUS students also:
 - the ERASMUS student application
 - the ERASMUS learnig agreement

The responsible BUA Head of Studies and the Director of Y Tuition decide on admission together sur dossier.

4. Planing and Executing the X+Y Guest Semester

a) Supervision of the Studies

The Director of Y Tuition will nominate a supervisor. The supervisor will accompany the X+Y guest student's individual study programme and ensure responsible and continuous supervision, together with the responsible X Head of Studies.

b) Individual Study Programme

The guest students, the Y supervisor and the responsible X Head of Studies determine the individual study programme, which is put down in writing and is binding. The signed original goes to the Head of Studies, copies go to the student and supervisor. The study programme defines the student's individual learning goals and the compulsory and elective courses, which

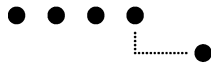
- a) consolidate the disciplinary foundations with appropriate modules,
- b) ensure broadening transdisciplinary experiences and knowledge and
- c) are based on the project outline, which the guest student composed for the application.

The project outline serves as the foundation for the realisation of the individual student project.

The study programme is made up of BUA courses and, in exceptional cases, also of tuition units from other BUAS universities and cooperation partners of the BUA (University of Bern, ZHdK). The X Head of Studies ensures admission to the Y tuition units, in accordance with the individual study programme. Together with the Y supervisor, he/she will inform the appropriate teachers of the X+Y students' particular learning goals. The Y supervisor is part of the grading commissions.

c) Evaluation

Student, Y supervisor and X Head of Studies will evaluate the individual study programme at the end of the guest semester.



d) Certification of the guest semester at the BUA with X+Y status

The credits attained will be confirmed by the BUA.

They are guaranteed to be recognised by the home university.

5. Expenses and Administration

- The expenses of the individual study programme depend on the specific degree programme (X). The fees for the Y supervisor are covered by the Y Institute.
- The person responsible for student administration in the respective degree programme (X) will make sure the study achievements are properly documented.
- The ERASMUS programme finances the guest students' mobility expenses (mainly the travel expenses).
- Students should expect general living costs of around Sfr. 1`500 a month.

6. Information and Communication

- The Y Department of Tuition will provide information about the X+Y status to interested students from abroad (personal study consultation).
- The X+Y guest status is described on the website (under "Y"). The information sheet is published there.

Further Information

Christoff Kandra, International Relations Coordinator of the BUA
Bern University of the Arts, Fellerstrasse 11, CH-3027 Bern
+41 31 848 38 23
Email: christoff.kandra@hkb.bfh.ch

Leonie Stein, Director of Y Tuition
Bern University of the Arts, Fellerstrasse 11, CH-3027 Bern
+41 31 848 38 68 (Office)
Email: leonie.stein@hkb.bfh.ch