

Theatre without Borders

ERASMUS+ STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMME 2024/2025



**Janáček Academy of Performing Arts (JAMU)
Theatre Faculty
International Office
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ERASMUS ID CODE: CZ BRNO03

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Obs. Please note that all information given in the brochure is subject to change.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The exchange study programme Theatre without Borders (TwB) aims to create a space for artistic and educational exchange between European guest students and the specific surroundings of a Central European cultural tradition and atmosphere. By implementing methods and experiences of Czech cultural practice in an internationally oriented artistic teaching process, TwB is designed and developed within the process of collecting contributions from students of European theatre schools, constantly analyzing their inputs, needs and preferences and framing them in the wider context of a Central European history of ideas and artistic uniqueness.

As incoming students usually do not have a sufficient knowledge of the Czech language to follow courses together with JAMU students, TwB has been established as a separate study programme. It is formed by a stable team of teachers and a group of incoming international students that changes every semester. TwB offers several core courses in English (including the opportunity to create a collective artistic project at the end of each semester), as well as a number of courses for individual specialization that connect TwB with other departments of the university. This allows incoming students both to form a strong Erasmus group and to meet and collaborate with degree programme students in frame of classes.

This study programme is open for incoming students during the winter and summer semesters for the following study specializations of theatre studies:

- Theatre Directing
- Theatre Dramaturgy
- Dramatic Acting
- Musical Acting
- Physical Theatre*
- Set and Costume Design*
- Lighting Design
- Audiovisual Media and Theatre
- Radio and TV Dramaturgy and Scriptwriting
- Theatre Management*
- Stage Management and Technology
- Theatre and Education
- Theatre and Education for the Deaf
- Dance and Movement Theatre and Education

We also have a Ph.D. programme in the Czech language for students doing their research in the field of dramatic arts. For Ph.D. students an individual research programme can be agreed for exchange purposes.

* Students of the fields of Physical Theatre, Set and Costume Design and Theatre Management have the opportunity to apply for deeper participation in the teachings of particular departments of Theatre Faculty of JAMU. In case you are interested, please, highlight this piece of information in your application.

2. ADMISSION PROCESS

The approximate dates of the semesters of the academic year are:

WINTER SEMESTER: from October* 2024 to January 2025

SUMMER SEMESTER: from February 2025 to June 2025

***Due to the planned overall reconstruction of the dormitory and the Astorka learning center, the start of the winter semester may be postponed. Accommodation in the dormitory will not be possible before the start of the winter semester.**

The closing date for applications to the Erasmus exchange programme for the next academic year is always 30th April.

Before this date applying students need to be **officially nominated** via e-mail by their international coordinator at their home school. Applications from students who have not been nominated by school will not be accepted.

Before the deadline we ask applying students to **submit online application**:

<https://isois.jamu.cz/>

In the online application, please add following attachments:

- Letter of Motivation
- CV
- Portfolio
- Proof of knowledge of English
- Additional information (letter of recommendation etc.)

After receiving all the applications, the entrance committee will decide on admissions. A short video call with the applicant may be part of this process. **Applicants will be informed of whether or not they have been accepted by 20th May by acceptance/rejection in the online application and by e-mail. We ask all applicants to make sure they state correct e-mail address in the online application.**

For more information please consult the International office (Mrs. Petra Riou, e-mail: riou@jamu.cz).

2. 1. Important notice for students from outside the EU/EEA countries/Switzerland

Applications from students from outside the EU/EEA countries/Switzerland cannot be accepted after the application deadline in any manner due to the long application period for a Czech long - term visa. On receiving original documents (letter of acceptance and confirmation of accommodation), these students are asked to apply immediately for a long - term visa at the Czech

Embassy/Consulate in their home countries. We draw students' attention to the long - term visa application period, which is 90 days by law. For this reason, we recommend strongly that international students contact as soon as possible the Czech Embassy/Consulate in their own country to obtain the latest information and requirements concerning student visas. Possession of a student visa is a condition for entering the Czech Republic and studying at JAMU.

We ask accepted students from outside the EU/EEA countries/Switzerland to send us a copy of their Czech long - term visa by 31st August.

3. COURSES – BASIC DESCRIPTION

3. 1. Core courses

Core courses of TwB are held in English language exclusively for exchange students. It is highly recommended to attend them.

Performance Project

Type of lecture:	weekly lessons
Semester:	winter, summer
Credits:	7
Teacher:	Adéla Kratochvílová

Course Description

Each student should come with an idea of what kind of performance he/she wants to create. It can be an experimental solo-performance, partner improvisation, street show, art happening, lightshow, slapstick, a serious theatre piece etc. Whatever is connected with theatre and performance. We will discuss the students' ideas and look for the realization with the pedagogical supervision. Students can work individually or in groups. The topics and the shapes of the pieces will be devised by the students during the lessons. A teacher will supervise cooperation between students and advise on the methods used.

The outcome of this project will be a kind of performance at JAMU, out-door or in a theatre.

Authorial Theatre

Type of lecture:	lessons once per 2 weeks
Semester:	winter, summer
Credits:	2
Teacher:	Pavol Seriš

Course Description

The classes will consist of two main disciplines: authorial writing (monologues, dialogues, sketches) and physical theatre (exercises, improvisation, short theatre pieces). Cooperation of the students and the teacher is crucial for the whole process. The teacher will focus on the student's creativity and active participation in classes. Attendance of the classes is crucial to obtain the credits.

Brno Theatre Map

Type of lecture:	weekly lectures + theatre visits
Semester:	winter, summer
Credits:	4
Teacher:	Šimon Peták

Course Description

The seminar “Brno Theatre Map” is focused on exploring contemporary theatre productions in Brno in context with Czech theatre in general. The module puts emphasis on critical reflection of such productions through debates, essays and creative responses. After a general introduction into problematic of contemporary Czech theatre, students are progressively acquainted with variety of genres and poetics represented by nowadays theatres in Brno, including student theatres of JAMU (Studio Marta and Theatre Orlí Street). By writing of essays on the seen productions, students are encouraged to reflect productions in context with their field of study and with theatre in their home - countries. Their analytical, critical and verbal skills are cultivated through discussing their opinions in debates lead by a teacher.

Actor’s Training

Type of lecture:	Weekly training
Semester:	winter, summer
Credits:	6
Teacher:	Adam Mašura, Tereza Havránková

Course Description

Practical course oriented for a psycho-physical actor’s training as a mean leading to an articulation meaning through body, voice, energy and scenic presence of performer. The course consists of intensive works sessions and its aim is to open basic theatre questions, theatre possibility, identity and sense. Through exercises inspired by various theatre traditions the students acquaint with basics of works on actor’s techniques and mechanism of reshaping training exercises to improvisation and fixed études.

Czech for Foreigners

Type of lecture:	Weekly lecture
Semester:	winter, summer
Credits:	2 (+ 2 for the Intensive course of Czech)
Teacher:	external lecturer

Course Description

This course provides a basic outline of the Czech language today. The aim of the course is to enable students to understand both written and spoken language and for them to become active, competent users in everyday communication. Students will be introduced to the system of Czech grammar – grammatical gender of Czech nouns, questions, numerals, prepositions, declension, conjugation, present, past and future tenses of verbs. Knowledge will be practised in practical communication situations. Students will learn to use basic social phrases, talk about their family and its members, describe a person or a place, order in a restaurant; they will practise dialogues in a shop, at a railway station, at a post office, at the doctor's, ask the way, make bookings on the phone, etc. Other topics can be included with respect to the needs and wishes of students.

Work with a textbook is supported by interesting exercises dealing with topical issues, group work, listening exercises, working with texts, speaking exercises, songs, games, working with dictionaries, etc.

JAMU organizes an intensive one-week course of Czech for new incoming students before each semester. This course is for 2 ECTS credits.

Content

- basic social phrases
- describing a room, asking the way
- family, description of a person
- food, restaurants, shopping
- culture, towns and cities, hotels
- the human body, at the doctor's
- daily routine, days of the week, seasons of the year

Circus Skills

Type of lecture:	Weekly training
Semester:	winter, summer
Credits:	2
Teacher:	Adéla Kratochvílová

Course Description

Basics of traditional and new juggling with balls, rings, scarfs and clubs, contact juggling and poi juggling. Partner acrobatics and movement skills. Individual and group development of techniques, cooperation and creativity. Juggling props as substitute objects for a theatre expression.

Ensemble Singing

Type of lecture: Weekly training
Semester: winter, summer
Credits: 2
Teacher: Dagmar Klementová

Entry requirements for course enrollment: Interest in choral singing, musicality

Course objectives:

The joy of singing together, orientation in multiple voices with an emphasis on intonation, rhythm, phrasing and overall expression when interpreting compositions of various musical styles. Ability perceive and hear each other.

Learning outcomes:

After completing one semester of ensemble singing, the student will be able to:

- basic orientation in sheet music;
- to realize and maintain the intonation of one's own voice among others in 2- and 3-voice compositions with piano accompaniment;
- interpret all studied materials from memory

Annotation?

Simple rhythmic and intonation exercises, singing with piano accompaniment - familiarization with different musical styles: folk song, classical music, pop, jazz. Gradual penetration into of simple polyphony - canon 2 - 6-voice, basics of improvisation, creative approach. In the end semester application of the studied materials in practice (participation in min. 2 performances together with drama students if possible - with the use of rehearsed songs).

Basics of Stage Technology

Type of lecture: intensive workshop
Semester: winter, summer
Credits: 2
Teacher: Jakub Mareš, Ondřej Bulva

Course Description

The objective is to acquaint students with the basics of stage technology (sound, light, construction and video).

The course is open to students of all study specializations without previous experience in stage technology. An intensive workshop is organized every semester.

SOUND

Students will deal with a topic of sound, especially with what a sound is, sound recording, sound reproduction, audio chain elements, connectivity and interface, basics of electro, reading in technical documentation and sound glossary.

LIGHTING

Students will learn, what a light is (physical parameters of light), they will learn about light sources, colour mixing, types of luminaires, their use and accessories; connectivity and interface, lighting control systems, basics of electro, reading in technical documentation and light glossary.

CONSTRUCTION AND VIDEO

Students will acquaint with health and safety at work, basics of electro, standardized building elements, hanging, elements of stage machinery; stage sets, materials and covers; reading in technical documentation, what a video is (basic parameters of digital video signal), data interfaces, video sources, displays, video signal distribution and video glossary.

PRACTICAL TRAINING PROJECT

According to the tender documentation, students will be given the task of technically securing and implementing a fictitious project (for example, a concert, theatre production, lecture...), where students will be able to test their acquired knowledge and skills in practice.

Audio JAMU podcast

Type of lecture:	irregular lessons and meeting upon previous agreement
Semester:	winter, summer
Credits:	2
Teacher:	Tereza Reková

Students will acquire professional skills in audio recording and post-production. Students will be able to independently master the current techniques used in the creation of podcasts and apply them in their own creative activities within the framework of the creation of the [AUDIO JAMU podcast](#) (Spotify, Apple podcast).

The final work of the students can be interviews, reportages, sound-arts, or any experimental sound work.

Structure:

- Sound recording
- Editing of the recorded material
- Specifics of stereophonic recording
- Work in the studio
- Creation of AUDIO JAMU podcast content

Credits are based on active participation and submission of agreed assignments. Classes are organized in form of workshops and irregular consultations (depends on the agreement between the tutor and students).

3. 2. Other optional courses offered according to study specialization

Every semester, a number of courses taught for degree students of various departments of the Theatre Faculty of JAMU are open to exchange students as well. These courses are taught in English, or a mixture of English and Czech. **The offer of these courses may change from semester to semester according to study plans and needs of individual departments.**

Objectives

To offer subjects specific to an education at the Theatre Faculty of JAMU according to the study specialization of each exchange student. The set of subjects will be launched and presented to all

international students in detail after consideration of the study preferences of students admitted to the Theatre without Borders Erasmus exchange programme.

Theatre without Borders				
Type of courses	Course Title	Semester	ECTS	Teacher
Core courses (exclusively for exchange students)	Performance Project I, II	Winter, Summer	7 per semester	Kratochvílová
	Brno Theatre Map I, II	Winter, Summer	4 per semester	Peták
	Czech for Foreigners I, II	Winter, Summer	2 per semester	external lecturer
	Intensive Course of the Czech language	Winter, Summer	2 per one week	external lecturer
	Ensemble Singing I, II	Winter, Summer	2 per semester	Klementová
	Actor's Training I, II	Winter, Summer	6 per semester	Mašura, Havránková
	Circus Skills I, II	Winter, Summer	2 per semester	Kratochvílová
	Basics of Stage Technology	Winter, Summer	2 per workshop	Bulva, Mareš
	Authorial Theatre	Winter Summer	2 per semester	Seriš
	Workshop*	winter Summer	1-2 per semester	guest lecturer
	English, French, German, Spanish, Russian	Winter Summer	2 per semester	Foreign Language Dep.
ActOptional courses – together with the Theatre Faculty degree students	Tap Dance	Winter Summer	1 per semester	Knotková
	Basics of partner acrobatics	Winter Summer	1 per semester	Kratochvílová
	Acrobatics	Winter Summer	1 per semester	Mašura
	Fencing	Winter Summer	1 per semester	Krupa, Jochmanová
	Lighting Design - workshop	Winter Summer	1 per semester	Beranová
	Festival SETKANÍ/ENCOUNTER	Summer – one week	1 per semester	Vodičková
	JAMU podcast	Winter Summer	2	Reková

*workshop - the content of the workshop will be specified according to the current offer of the given semester. It will be a workshop either in English or language barrier-free.

Please note that some optional course indicated above may be subjected to capacity limits and may require certain level of talent preconditions. All changes reserved. An updated course list will be sent to incoming students before the new semesters starts.

3. 3. Studies at the Faculty departments

All exchange students at the Theatre Faculty of JAMU belong to TwB study programme, but students of:

- Physical Theatre,
- Set and Costume Design (Scenography),
- Theatre Management (Production)

have the opportunity to apply for deeper participation in the teachings of particular departments of the faculty by prior arrangement with the head of the department and the current course offer.

3. 3. 1. Studies at the Physical Theatre Department

The department offers a 4-years Master's study programme and opens just once per 4 years. The offer of courses and creative tasks, therefore, differs significantly in every semester. Small number of exchange students with previous experience in the field and high study and artistic motivation can join some of the courses of the department upon previous agreement with the head of the department. Here is a general overview of topics covered throughout the 4 years of study in the Physical Theatre Department. Depending on the semester the exchange student joins, he/she will have the opportunity to deal with some of them.

- **Neutral mask, larval mask and expressive mask**, supervised by Pierre Nadaud.
- **Movement analysis and basics of movement writing**, supervised by Pierre Nadaud and Roberta Štěpánková.
- **Commedia dell'arte**, supervised by Pierre Nadaud and Dalibor Buš.
- **Clowning**, supervised by Pierre Nadaud and Dalibor Buš.
- **Theatrical improvisation**, supervised by Dalibor Buš.
- **Acting training**, supervised by Dalibor Buš.
- **Dialogue with inner partner**, supervised by Martina Musilová.
- **Art of movement and dance**, supervised by Roberta Štěpánková.
- **Choreographic work**, supervised by Roberta Štěpánková and Pierre Nadaud.
- **Basics of stage creation with intermedialita: sound, light, projection, animation, film**, supervised by Tomáš Hubáček.
- **Art projects related to intermedialita**, supervised by Tomáš Hubáček, Roberta Štěpánková, Pierre Nadaud and Šimon Peták.
- **Coaching and mentoring of personal stage project**, supervised by all the pedagogical team

Please note: In the academic year 2024/25 there will be the first year students at the Physical Theatre department. At the moment, it is not possible to accept exchange students into the department due to the ongoing admission process for the degree study programme. The possible participation of exchange students in the department's courses will be specified after prior agreement at the beginning of the academic year.

3. 3. 2. Studies at the Stage and Costume Design (Scenography) Department

A special set of subjects will be offered to students of Stage and Costume Design (scenography). Our faculty has a great deal of experience with international students within the Scenography department. The Scenography set of subjects will consist of the following courses:

- **Drawing** – Barbara Pokorná – 1 ECTS credits. Basics of drawing, figure, portrait, still life.
- **Drawing** – David Baránek – 1 ECTS. Basics of painting: colour composition, spatial composition.
- **Sculpture I** – David Baránek – 1 ECTS credits. To acquaint students with materials and elemental techniques, development of space perception, development of idea (concept, conception) to space, elemental proportion and volume. Short space exercise – plaster, paper, plasticine, wood . Study of smaller objects – clay.
- **Sculpture II** – David Baránek – ECTS 1 credits. Work with clay – modelling of head from live model, familiarization with technique of casting.
- **Photo and video** - Ondřej Žižka – 1 ECTS credits. Basics of photography: practical technologies, social context and history.
- **Performance** - Tomas Ruller – 1 ECTS. 2-day lecture and workshop.
- **Scenography for BA students**- Matěj Sýkora– 4 ECTS credits. Basics of scenography: interpretation, context, presentation.
- **Scenography for MA students**- Pavel Borák – 4 ECTS credits. Advanced interpretation: space, context, dramatic situation, visualization.
- **Costume for BA students** - Marie Jirásková- 4 ECTS credits. Basics of costume design: interpretation, context, presentation.
- **Costume for MA students** - Jana Preková- 4 ECTS credits. Advanced interpretation: dramatic character, context, visuality.
- **Costume construction** - Pavlína Kočvarová- 4ECTS credits. 3 day workshops of costume transformation.

Besides the subjects mentioned above, students may also attend other courses by individual agreement with the mentor/teacher concerned.

3. 3. 3. Studies at the Theatre Management and Stage Technology Department

Courses and lectures provided by the Theatre Management and Stage Technology Department are destined only to theatre management/production students and they are open for the minimum number of 2 students.

Winter Semester

- ***Theatre Production – practical course (1 ECTS)***

Supervised by Petra Vodičková

Shadowing of a Brno student during a practical production of a performance in one of university's theatres (MARTA or DNO). The expected output is a written report reflecting the production process. A comparison with a similar experience at the home institution of the student will be preferred (if possible).

Practical project typology:

- dramatic acting production within theatre Marta studio: exchange student is member of big creative team and could shadow production manager (student) or exchange student could shadow technical creative team (lights, sound, stage management),
 - musical acting production within Theatre Orlí Street: exchange student is member of big creative team and could shadow production manager (student) or exchange student could shadow technical creative team (lights, sound, stage management),
 - dramatic acting production within faculty venues – small scale projects: exchange student is shadowing and cooperating with production manager,
 - audiovisual theatre project: exchange student is shadowing and cooperating with production manager, output is audiovisual (small film, a trailer for a theatre performance etc.).
- ***Team member of the SETKANI/ENCOUNTER (international festival of theatre schools) (4 ECTS)***

Open only to students who will stay in Brno for whole academic year 2024/2025 (both semesters)

Supervised by Petra Vodičková and other teachers of the department

The student will participate in the preparatory period of the festival being a member of organizational team. Festival organization is fully brought by the student team in bachelor programme under the supervision of the Board of the Festival and teachers.

Summer Semester

- ***Theatre Production – practical course (1 ECTS)***

Supervised by Petra Vodičková

Shadowing of a Brno student during a practical production of a performance in one of university's theatres (MARTA or DNO). The expected output is a written report reflecting the production process. A comparison with a similar experience at the home institution of the student will be preferred (if possible).

Practical project typology:

- dramatic acting production within theatre Marta studio: exchange student is member of big creative team and could shadow production manager (student) or exchange student could shadow technical creative team (lights, sound, stage management),

- musical acting production within theatre Orlí: exchange student is member of big creative team and could shadow production manager (student) or exchange student could shadow technical creative team (lights, sound, stage management),
- dramatic acting production within faculty venues – small scale projects: exchange student is shadowing and cooperating with production manager,
- audiovisual theatre project: exchange student is shadowing and cooperating with production manager, output is audiovisual (small film, a trailer for a theatre performance etc.).

➤ ***Team member of the SETKANI/ENCOUNTER (international festival of theatre schools)***
(4 ECTS)

Supervised by Petra Vodičková and other teachers of the department

Open only to students who will stay in Brno for whole academic year 2024/2025 (both semesters)

The student will participate in the preparatory period and postproduction of the festival being a member of organizational team. Festival organization is fully brought by the student team in bachelor programme under the supervision of the Board of the Festival and teachers.

➤ ***SETKANI/ENCOUNTER – festival week (6 ECTS)***

Supervised by Petra Vodičková and other teachers of the department

A busy and demanding week of the festival – students are working within the organizational team. Plans and dreams become a reality.

By prior arrangement and current course offer, students in production may attend music production courses at the Faculty of Music.

4. CONTACTS

If you need more information, please do not hesitate to contact the International Office:

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