

## LANGUAGE POLICY AT RMC

RMC's vision is to be among the world's foremost educational institutions in rhythmic contemporary music. To support this vision, the Conservatory has adopted an internationalisation initiative to reinforce the quality of its educational programmes.

In its strategy for this internationalisation initiative, RMC has formulated the following overall objectives:

- To strengthen and develop a framework that will secure an international dimension to RMC's activities;
- To create an international study milieu that will help to attract highly-qualified students and staff from Denmark and abroad;
- To train graduates in the skills required to work in the international market;
- To be a driving force in international collaborations on education in contemporary rhythmic music.

RMC's language policy must support these objectives and clarify to all stakeholders the role that language plays at RMC, and how RMC, through an active language policy, can help to integrate foreign students and teaching staff as well as possible in the institution, while at the same time optimising their benefit from the teaching.

RMC's language policy is based on pragmatic parallel language use, which means that while the ordinary language of instruction is Danish, teaching can be provided in English as necessary.

### Teaching

Teaching at RMC usually takes place in Danish. However, individual staff members giving one-to-one lessons or teaching groups with international students may decide to give the lesson in English as needed.

Moreover, the Conservatory can also offer teaching in English in selected subjects and courses, so that international students can obtain satisfactory benefit from their programmes. The course plan for the individual subjects will state the language of instruction.

The soloist programme and the joint study programmes in which RMC participates are provided in Scandinavian languages and English, as needed. Teaching may however be provided in Danish to groups made up solely of Scandinavian-speaking students, and in individual guidance.

RMC is an international educational institution in which it is natural that all staff members can provide teaching and undertake academic discussions in English. International teachers are not expected to teach in Danish, but they must be able to teach in comprehensible English.

### Tests, examinations and written assignments

Where linguistic barriers are likely to affect a student's performance in examinations or written assignments, the Conservatory can offer students and admission applicants with a mother tongue

other than Danish the opportunity to take their examinations or write their assignments in another Scandinavian language or in English.

Diplomas and written statements must be provided in either Danish or English. The Danish version can be translated into English by The Study Administration if requested.

### **Boards and committees**

The working language of boards and committees is usually Danish. In order to make meeting convening notices, agendas and minutes available to foreign students, these are also compiled in summary form in English, while other meeting material is issued in Danish unless it is already available in English.

### **Guidance and information**

RMC aims to ensure that international students and teachers have access to comprehensive information on their studies/work. All important information and guidance must as a starting-point be available in both Danish and English, regardless of the form of communication.

Where the information is not available in an English version, it will be the responsibility of the individual student or teacher to seek out the necessary information. In this connection, the Study Administration and other relevant departments will always be willing to provide information, help and guidance.

International students and teachers are expected, on an equal footing with their Danish fellow students and colleagues, to be fully up to date with respect to rules, guidelines and other obligations in relation to their studies or employment at RMC.

All of RMC's employees are expected to be able to provide verbal guidance, information and help in English. The administrative staff are furthermore expected to be sufficiently fluent in both written and spoken English to be able to provide good, accurate and correct guidance to both staff and students.

RMC wishes to support the skills enhancement of its staff in order to support the language policy.

### **Information on the website and the intranet**

RMC will strive to ensure that all texts targeted at students are available in both Danish and English on the intranet, and that texts on the website which are also targeted at an international audience will appear in English. Other texts will be available in Danish only.

### **Language requirements for international students**

In addition to their mother tongue, all international students (from non-Scandinavian countries) are expected to be able to speak and understand English at a level that will enable them to follow the Conservatory's teaching and understand internal information. International students are expected to make an effort to learn to understand Danish to a level that supports both their ability to follow the teaching in inclusion. The Conservatory refers the student to relevant language courses.

## **Research and development**

RMC is tasked with contributing new knowledge from artistic research and pedagogical development activities, as well as scientific research within the Conservatory's sphere of activity. This both ensures that RMC contributes new knowledge and insight to the surrounding society, including the respective professional areas, and enables the Conservatory to secure and develop the knowledge base of its programmes.

Artistic and pedagogical development activities and research contribute to a national and international research and development environment. RMC has in particular become a visible player in the international artistic research field, and is well advanced with expanding its international relations in the field. It is therefore central to RMC's research and development that the work can be carried out and communicated in English, to the extent that this is compatible with the researcher's linguistic competencies and the subject field.

## **Cultural institution (events)**

RMC Events presents a number of public events in the form of artist talks, workshops, panel debates, concerts and master classes for citizens interested in art and culture in Denmark, including RMC's own students and staff. These events usually take place in English, in order to accommodate non-Danish-speaking citizens and RMC's foreign students and staff members. However, the context of the individual event is taken into account, i.e. there may be events where Danish-speaking participants on stage do not master English to an extent that would allow them to hold the event in English. In such cases the event will take place in Danish, possibly with simultaneous translation into English by the event coordinator.

There may also be events at which the participants on stage speak neither Danish nor English, in which case interpreting assistance is obtained and the event is translated into English as a starting point.

In the communication of RMC's events on the website and in the social media, both Danish and English are generally used to convey the content of the events. Posters for use at RMC will usually be in English. In the case of posters for use in the urban space, the communication will be in English or Danish, depending on the event in question.

In the case of an exclusively Danish-language event, the communication of the event may take place exclusively in Danish.

RMC Events also presents a podcast under the name RMC Podcast, which is essentially provided in English. Communication on the website, in podcast services and in the social media takes place in both Danish and English.

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