



Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia Regulations Master Courses in Music Studies 2025–2026

Singing Course

Teacher **Sara Mingardo**

Harpsichord and piano accompaniment **Pierfrancesco Borrelli**

Admission

Admission requirements

- The three-year course is open to musicians of any nationality who are no more than 27 years of age.
- Candidates must possess a 1st or 2nd Level Degree or Conservatory Diploma (old Italian system) in Vocal Studies. If the degree was obtained abroad, it will be considered valid if it has been declared equivalent to a Conservatory diploma; it is the responsibility of any student admitted to a course to obtain the equivalence of the foreign qualification, pursuant to applicable Italian laws.
- Candidates should be fluent in the Italian language.

Exceptions to these requirements may be permitted only in exceptional cases, in the event of special, recognized artistic qualities and subject to the evaluation and approval of both the teacher and the Academic Board.

Provided that the above requirements are met, admission to the course is subject to an entrance examination.

Applications for admission

Applications for admission must be submitted online (form <https://santacecilia.it/en/master-courses/form-di-iscrizione-corsi-di-perfezionamento>) by no later than the **13th July 2025**.

Proof of the application being successfully sent will consist of the e-mail notification sent by the Accademia.

The following documents must be attached to the online application:

- diploma certificate
- artistic CV and list of studied repertoire;
- examination programme at the candidate's choice;
- photocopy of passport or other identification document;
- proof of payment of the examination admission fee.

Entrance examination

Programme

Performance of three pieces from operas of different periods and styles, one of which from the Baroque repertoire.

Mode

Entrance examinations will be held at the Auditorium Parco della Musica Ennio Morricone (Rome), on **5 November 2025**. Candidates will receive an e-mail concerning the schedule.

The candidates shall appear at the examination bearing a valid identification document, as well as the musical material for their examination programme, including the scores for the pianist; the Academy will provide applicants with a Piano/Harpsichordist accompanist.

The Examination Panel may ask the candidates to perform all or part of the programme.

The pieces shall be prepared in full and performed from memory.

The Panel may ask the candidates to describe the motivations and objectives connected to attending the course.

No supplementary exam session are foreseen.

Duration

The course lasts three years and includes the following exams:

- two intermediate exams (promotion from the 1st to the 2nd year and from the 2nd to the 3rd year);
- a diploma exam at the end of the third year of attendance.

The diploma exam can be brought forward to the end of the second year only in exceptional cases, subject to approval by the Academic Board.

Attendance

Every course year is organized in **twenty-five days of lessons** held by the teacher, in which each student must guarantee attendance **of at least 12 individual lessons**, as well as the participation in the collective and artistic activities included in the course curriculum.

The student shall organize his/her attendance schedule in accordance with his/her teacher.

Inability to attend one or more scheduled lessons shall be communicated to the teacher and to the academic office (*Segreteria Didattica*: didattica@santacecilia.it) as far in advance as possible, in order to allow re-scheduling of the other lessons.

Repeated and/or unjustified absences may result in the exclusion from the promotion or diploma examinations.

In the event of interruption of the course for health-related reasons, the student shall be entitled to repeat the interrupted course year during the subsequent academic year, upon submitting a medical certificate.

Attendance cannot be suspended on educational or artistic grounds; in the event of voluntary interruption of the attendance, a new admission application will have to be submitted within the year, and the corresponding examination will have to be taken.

Students are required to inform their teacher of any educational and/or artistic activities outside the Accademia that are planned during course attendance; in this regard, students enrolled in other courses are asked to submit a certificate of enrolment of the attended courses (2nd level / master programmes, etc.).

Promotion examinations

At the end of each year of attendance, students shall take an examination for promotion to the subsequent course year, with the programmes indicated below.

Promotion from course year I to II

- Performance of three arias, taken from Operas / Oratorios / Sacred or Secular Cantatas by any author, one of which from the Baroque repertoire, and performance of a complete opera role.

The programme must be prepared in full and performed from memory.

The Commission may request the execution of all or part of the submitted programme.

Promotion from course year II to III

- Performance of three arias, taken from Operas / Oratorios / Sacred or Secular Cantatas by any author, one of which from the Baroque repertoire, different from those presented in the previous year, and performance of a complete opera role, different from the one presented in the previous year.

The programme must be prepared in full and performed from memory.

The Commission may request the execution of all or part of the submitted program.

Should a student fail to pass a promotion examination, he/she shall be entitled to re-apply for admission to the course only after one academic year has passed.

Diploma examination

The Diploma exam consists in the public performance of a concert program, lasting approximately one hour, including two complete opera roles, one of which from the Baroque repertoire.

The program must be performed in full and from memory.

Decisions made by Examination Panels for admissions, promotions and diplomas are final and indisputable.

Fees

Examination and attendance fees

- € 50.00 entrance examination;
- € 950.00 yearly attendance (for students enrolled at the same time in the Chamber Music course, one of the two fees is reduced to € 800.00);
- € 100.00 promotion examination;
- € 250.00 diploma examination.

Students in arrears with their course tuition and examination fees will not be admitted to lessons or to examinations.

All payments, specifying as reason "Singing Course," may be made via:

- **postal account payment**
acct. no. 30406003, made out to Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia – *Fondazione*
- **wire transfer**
c/c n. 9872, made out to Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia – *Fondazione*
Banca Nazionale del Lavoro (BNL) Agenzia n. 6340 di Roma, Via del Corso, 471
IBAN: IT31 I 010 0503 2400 0000 0009 872
SWIFT: BIC BNL IITRR
- **Paypal** on Fondazione's website at this link <https://santacecilia.it/alta-formazione/paypal>

The receipt of the payment for attendance must be sent to the academic office (*Segreteria didattica*: didattica@santacecilia.it) by no later than 15 days after the date of admission to the course. Students may pay the attendance fee in two instalments of equal amount, the second of which is to be paid by no later than 01 March.

Withdrawal from the course shall not entitle the student to be refunded what was paid.

Information and contacts

Academic office (*Segreteria didattica*)

Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia

Via Vittoria, 6 – 00187 Roma

Tel: +39 0632817.348 – 321 – 305

E-mail: didattica@santacecilia.it

All requests and communications to the academic office (*Segreteria didattica*) should be e-mailed to didattica@santacecilia.it specifying the purpose of the request for quicker handling.