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hdk

Zürcher Hochschule der Künste
Zurich University of the Arts

International Interdisciplinary Programme in the Arts

Transcultural Collaboration

Transcultural Collaboration
11–29 Jan 2027 (Zurich or online)
22 Feb–12 Mar 2027 (Yogyakarta)

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Transcultural Collaboration is a unique interdisciplinary and cross-cultural programme, which is open to BA & MA students of fine arts, music, performing arts, art education, curatorial studies, and design.



25 participants have the chance to explore Zurich and Yogyakarta, learn about relevant transcultural discourses, and collaborate on experiments with open outcomes.

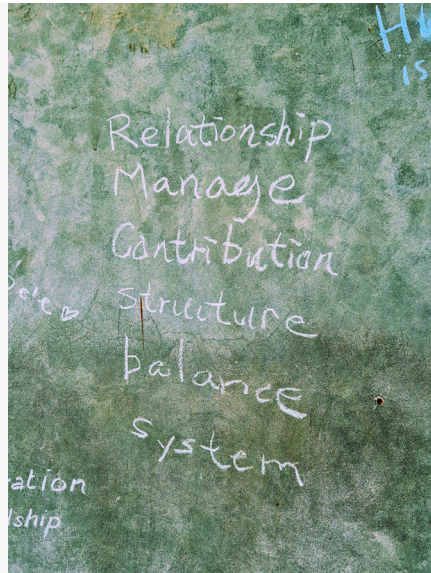
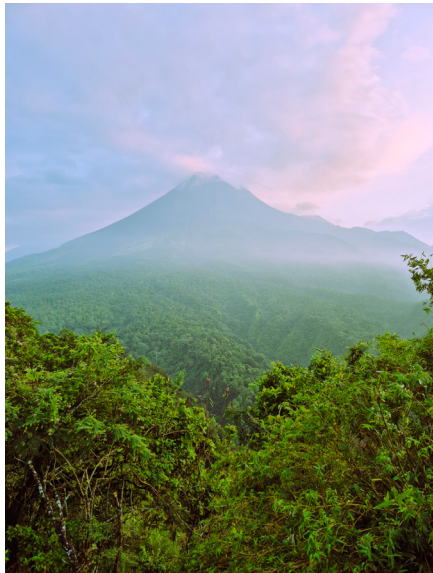
On Transcultural Collaboration

Today, artists, performers, musicians, curators, and designers need a multi-perspective mindset, as well as a genuine commitment and willingness to communicate, exchange, and debate ideas and opinions within a global framework, critically reflecting on manifold interconnected issues and questions. Given the complex and pressing nature of the problems facing all of us, we are convinced that close cooperation is imperative for tackling these issues.

Between Zurich and Yogyakarta

Zurich and Yogyakarta are the two main locations of the programme. They serve as the base and common playground for explorations and experiments. Their different cultural and historical developments and living environments provide interesting insights and opportunities for reflection on a variety of topics such as value systems, politics, traditions and cultural hybridization, or power structures.

An online participation for the part in Zurich is possible, the participation in person in Yogyakarta is mandatory.





On Transculturality

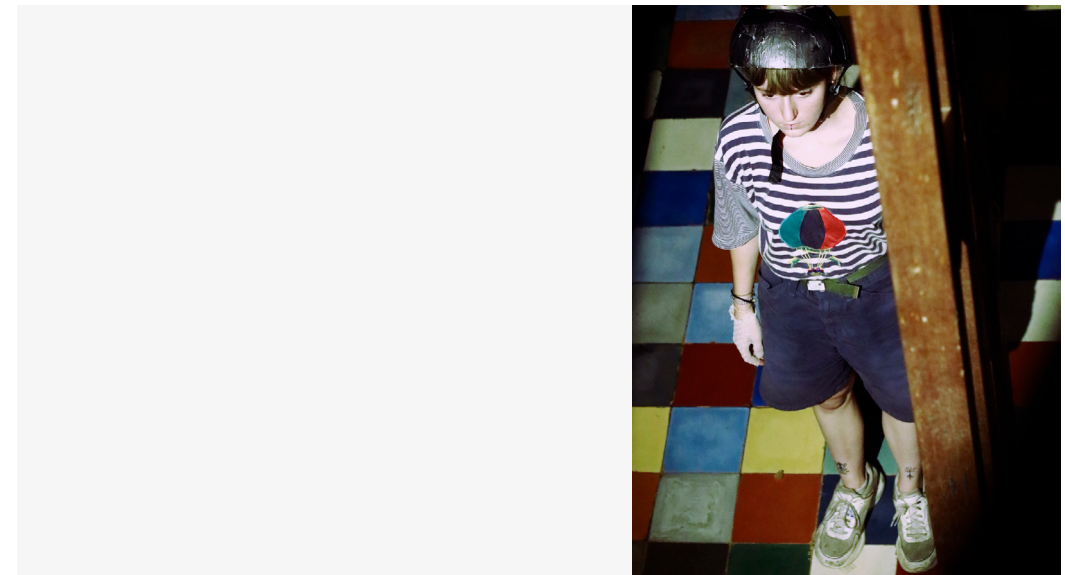
For contemporary creative practitioners, a transcultural mindset and attitude is necessary in order to deal with different cultures on many levels. They act as facilitators between different political, social, economic, and cultural contexts. Not only professional expertise is required, but also the ability to understand and negotiate the diversity of global cultures and societies. Artists and designers can take the role of agents who constantly observe, reflect, distinguish, and position themselves in dynamic environments, withstanding frictions, and demanding to make things visible, to mediate, to produce, and to act precisely.





On Collaboration

When making use of different working methods or approaches, one might come up with ideas and conceptions that are beyond regular imagination and capabilities. Collaboration as a principal working method exposes participants to different mindsets, traditions, and aesthetic understandings. Working in cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary teams allows for direct exchange and debate on topics of common interest, while at the same time critically reflecting on each other's perception, values, and way of working. It is a way of expanding the artistic toolkit, helping participants to better understand their own discipline.



On the Programme Structure

The programme is divided in two parts:

- 3-week stay in Zurich/Switzerland (8hrs/day in the first week, practice-based group work and mentoring in 2nd and 3rd week) or an online participation (3hrs/day online sessions in the 1st week, practice-based group work and mentoring in 2nd and 3rd week)
- 3-week stay in Yogyakarta (8hrs/day in the first week, practice-based group work and mentoring in 2nd and 3rd week)

The core programme is dedicated to practice-based collaboration and teamwork between the participants in changing constellations. The programme is complemented with additional inputs by guest lecturers, excursions, and workshops. Participants receive support from artists and experts from various arts and design disciplines. The programme includes a public presentation in an art context in Yogyakarta.

Shared Campus Transcultural Collaboration International Programme



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COURSE DATES

- 11–29 Jan 2027 (Zurich or online) &
- 22 Feb–12 Mar 2027 (Yogyakarta)

COURSE CONTEXT

- This course is part of an interdisciplinary minor programme at Zurich University of the Arts. The 2 x 3 weeks form the core part of the minor and are open to students of other art universities. Please find more details on the minor programme here:

<https://www.zhdk.ch/en/degree-programmes/transcultural-collaboration-10069>

PARTICIPANTS

The course offers places to 25 students from all arts and design disciplines, including performing arts, music, fine arts, media arts, curating, design, and art education. Emphasis is placed on a good mixture of disciplines.

ADMISSION CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS

- A genuine interest in and willingness to identify and analyse transcultural questions
- An ability and interest to work in teams whose members come from different cultural and disciplinary backgrounds
- A willingness to expose oneself and one's work, to engage in critical reflection, to experiment and take artistic risks, and to participate full-time in the semester programme
- Proficient in English

LEARNING GOALS

- To cope with conflict and to understand and deal with the potential of the variety in global cultural and societies
- To critically reflect on the impact of diverse, globally relevant and related topics and questions, and develop an awareness of their own cultural identity
- To recognize and apply a variety of collaborative working techniques and approaches in the arts and design
- To compile transdisciplinary teams to implement a variety of creative tasks and projects.

CREDITS

Students receive a course certificate, but remain enrolled at their home institutions. Credits are granted according to their home study programme.

STUDENT COSTS

- Tuition fee Part 1 + 2: CHF 410.- (if Part 1 online: CHF 360)
- Travel expenses (travel to and from Zurich if applicable, flight to and from Yogyakarta)
- Accommodation: Zurich (approx. 30 CHF/night), Yogyakarta (approx. 15 CHF/night)

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Often, participants can get support from their home institutions. Please check the specific conditions of your university or school.

TEACHING FACULTY

Lecturers and artists from Europe and Asia. Faculty from various arts and design disciplines, and a range of academic backgrounds.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Short CV/Bio
- Sample of work (pdf, video,...)
- Interview (20min online)

APPLICATION

- Application deadline: 26th October 2026
- Online interviews will be conducted between 27–30 October 2026
- Please apply online here: intern.zhdk.ch/?transcultural_collaboration_form

Final confirmation of participation:
2nd November

For a personal consultation, please contact Daniel Späti, Senior Lecturer, Coordinator of Transcultural Collaboration

- Daniel Späti
daniel.spaeti@zhdk.ch



TC07

Information Events

Presentation of the programme, Q&A:

① Wednesday, 7 October 2026
from 12:00 pm – 01:00 pm CET (Zurich time)

② Thursday, 22 October 2026
from 12:00 pm – 01:00 pm CET (Zurich time)

Please check your corresponding local times

Zoom Link: <https://zhdh.zoom.us/j/5568218974>
Password: 468588

TC08

Application Deadline

🕒 26 October 2026