

Programme Specification

Overview

Programme Code	36831
Programme Title	BA (Hons) Music (with one of the following pathways): (Songwriting and Performance) (Songwriting and Production) (Contemporary Pop Voice and Performance) (Session Musicianship) (Popular, Contemporary and Commercial) (Production)
Programme Type	Degree
Language of Programme	All LIPA programmes are delivered and assessed in English
Programme Leader	Tim Pike

Awards

Award Type	Award Description	Award Learning Outcomes
Target Award	Bachelor of Arts with Honours – BA (Hons)	See Learning Outcomes below
Alternative Exit	Bachelor of Arts - BA	<p>Demonstrate a broad and comparative knowledge of the general scope of the subject, its different areas and applications, and its interactions with related subjects.</p> <p>A detailed knowledge of a defined subject or a more limited coverage of a specialist area balanced by a wider range of study. In each case, specialised study will be informed by current developments in the subject.</p> <p>Demonstrate a critical understanding of the essential theories, principles and concepts of the subject(s) and of the ways in which these are developed through the main methods of enquiry in the subject.</p>

Alternative Exit	Diploma of Higher Education - DipHE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Employ advanced technical facility in practical performance, music creation or music production skills reflecting a developing personal musical style. 2. Apply high level musical, creative and technical skills to create new musical works and performances in response to specific industry briefs. 3. Demonstrate an operational fluency and creatively employ music software. 4. Apply high level knowledge of the professional and cultural environment to new creative musical works and performances. 5. Initiate and play a key role in the successful realisation of career relevant and professionally focused music performance, creation and production projects based on personal strengths. 6. Demonstrate high level communication, teamwork and problem solving skills. 7. Apply information and concepts relating to the practice and study of contemporary popular and commercial music to carry out a critical analysis of music practices and products within music industry and socio-cultural contexts, communicated using appropriate skills and conventions. 8. Identify and plan potential employment, and career development or business opportunities within the music industry. 9. Demonstrate an increasing capacity for independent and reflective learning.
Alternative Exit	Certificate of Higher Education - CertHE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate a solid technical basis in practical performance, music creation or music production skills for further creative and expressive development. 2. Apply musical, creative and technical skills to create new musical works, performances or productions in response to specific briefs. 3. Competently operate industry standard music software. 4. Employ an understanding of music theory, harmony, form and structure in the performance, creation and production of new musical works. 5. Demonstrate rhythmic and aural awareness. 6. Apply basic skills in written and oral communication, teamwork and problem solving.

		<p>7. Identify and recall information and concepts relating to the practice and study of popular, contemporary and commercial music within music industry and socio-cultural contexts, to devise a coherent discussion using appropriate skills and conventions.</p> <p>8. Research, identify and contribute to the successful realisation of career relevant and professionally focused music performance, creation and production projects.</p> <p>9. Evaluate and develop action plans to address strengths and weaknesses as a learner.</p>
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External Benchmarks

Subject Benchmark Statement	UG-Music (2025)
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Programme Offering(s)

Mode of Study, Mode of Delivery	Intake Month	Programme Length
Full-Time, Face to Face	September	3 Years

Learning Outcomes

Code	Description
PL01	Initiate and carry out a range of professionally focused music performance, music creation or music practical production projects that build into a developing career.
PL02	Exercise initiative and personal responsibility to manage their own learning and projects.
PL03	Evaluate and synthesise key aspects of current research and practice in the popular, contemporary and commercial music context, to construct and sustain a coherent argument using appropriate skills and conventions.
PL04	Produce industry standard creative and artistic products and promotional materials, identify and successfully target relevant markets demonstrating a comprehensive understanding of the professional frameworks and contexts.
PL05	Demonstrate professional levels of communication, teamwork and problem-solving skills.
PL06	Apply professional level musical, creative and technical skills in creating new industry relevant musical works and performances.

Aims and Outcomes

Educational Aims of the Programme

The programme aims to further develop the learner's practical skills and knowledge/understanding of popular, contemporary and commercial music and the related artistic, cultural, and professional context. This is achieved through an integrated educational approach encompassing a balanced range of performance, creative, technical, analytical, and professional/vocational skills.

Specifically, it will develop:

- technical, creative, expressive and entrepreneurial skills in a professionally/vocationally appropriate range of popular music centered areas of practice including: instrumental, vocal, performance, music production, songwriting, music creation, arranging and music technology.
- the professional application of these skills in real world and simulated environments.
- an understanding of the industrial, historical, philosophical, social and cultural context in which popular, contemporary and commercial music is made, distributed and consumed.
- essential transferable skills such as creative thinking, collaborative, team working, problem solving and communication skills.
- knowledge and skills that enable students to achieve sustained employment and self-employment in a broad range of music careers.
- independent and self-directed learning and ongoing personal and professional development.

Programme Structure

Programme Structure Description

The programme is structured from a suite of modules at each level that combine to form six named pathways:

- Songwriting and Performance Pathway
- Songwriting and Production Pathway
- Contemporary Pop Voice and Performance Pathway
- Session Musicianship Pathway
- Popular, Contemporary and Commercial Pathway
- Production Pathway

Programme Structure - 360 credit points

Level 4 - 120 credit points

CORE - All Pathways - 30 credit points

[MODULE] 4701MUS Music Professional and Creative Practice 1 - 15 credit points
[MODULE] 4702MUS Popular Music Studies 1 - 15 credit points
CORE - Songwriting and Performance Pathway - 90 credit points
[MODULE] 4703MUS Songwriting Techniques 1 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 4706MUS Instrumental/Vocal Technique 1 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 4709MUS Music Skills 1 - 30 credit points
CORE - Songwriting and Production Pathway - 90 credit points
[MODULE] 4703MUS Songwriting Techniques 1 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 4708MUS Music Production Techniques 1 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 4709MUS Music Skills 1 - 30 credit points
CORE - Contemporary Pop Voice and Performance Pathway - 90 credit points
[MODULE] 4704MUS Contemporary Pop Performance 1 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 4706MUS Instrumental/Vocal Technique 1 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 4709MUS Music Skills 1 - 30 credit points
CORE - Session Musicianship Pathway - 90 credit points
[MODULE] 4705MUS Ensemble Performance Skills 1 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 4706MUS Instrumental/Vocal Technique 1 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 4709MUS Music Skills 1 - 30 credit points
CORE - Popular, Contemporary and Commercial Pathway - 90 credit points
[MODULE] 4706MUS Instrumental/Vocal Technique 1 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 4707MUS Music Creation Techniques 1 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 4708MUS Music Production Techniques 1 - 30 credit points
CORE - Production Pathway - 90 credit points
[MODULE] 4708MUS Music Production Techniques 1 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 4709MUS Music Skills 1 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 4710MUS Studio and Recording Techniques 1 - 30 credit points
Level 5 - 120 credit points
CORE - All Pathways - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 5701MUS Music Professional and Creative Practice 2 - 15 credit points
[MODULE] 5702MUS Popular Music Studies 2 - 15 credit points
CORE - Songwriting and Performance Pathway - 90 credit points
[MODULE] 5703MUS Songwriting Techniques 2 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 5706MUS Instrumental/Vocal Technique 2 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 5709MUS Music Skills 2 - 30 credit points
CORE - Songwriting and Production Pathway - 90 credit points
[MODULE] 5703MUS Songwriting Techniques 2 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 5708MUS Music Production Techniques 2 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 5709MUS Music Skills 2 - 30 credit points
CORE - Contemporary Pop Voice and Performance Pathway - 90 credit points
[MODULE] 5704MUS Contemporary Pop Performance 2 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 5706MUS Instrumental/Vocal Technique 2 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 5709MUS Music Skills 2 - 30 credit points
CORE - Session Musicianship Pathway - 90 credit points
[MODULE] 5705MUS Ensemble Performance Skills 2 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 5706MUS Instrumental/Vocal Technique 2 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 5709MUS Music Skills 2 - 30 credit points

CORE - Popular, Contemporary and Commercial Pathway - 90 credit points
[MODULE] 5706MUS Instrumental/Vocal Technique 2 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 5707MUS Music Creation Techniques 2 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 5708MUS Music Production Techniques 2 - 30 credit points
CORE - Production Pathway - 90 credit points
[MODULE] 5708MUS Music Production Techniques 2 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 5709MUS Music Skills 2 - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 5710MUS Studio and Recording Techniques 2 - 30 credit points
Level 6 - 120 credit points
CORE - All Pathways - 60 credit points
[MODULE] 6701MUS The Music Professional - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 6702MUS Popular Music Research - 30 credit points
CORE - Songwriting and Performance Pathway - 60 credit points
[MODULE] 6703MUS The Songwriter - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 6706MUS The Solo Performer - 30 credit points
CORE - Songwriting and Production Pathway - 60 credit points
[MODULE] 6703MUS The Songwriter - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 6708MUS The Producer - 30 credit points
CORE - Contemporary Pop Voice and Performance Pathway - 60 credit points
[MODULE] 6704MUS The Contemporary Pop Performer - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 6706MUS The Solo Performer - 30 credit points
CORE - Session Musicianship Pathway - 60 credit points
[MODULE] 6705MUS The Session Musician - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 6706MUS The Solo Performer - 30 credit points
OPTIONAL - Popular, Contemporary and Commercial Pathway - 60 credit points
<i>Students are to choose two of the modules listed below.</i>
[MODULE] 6705MUS The Session Musician - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 6706MUS The Solo Performer - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 6707MUS The Music Creator - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 6708MUS The Producer - 30 credit points
CORE - Production Pathway - 60 credit points
[MODULE] 6708MUS The Producer - 30 credit points
[MODULE] 6710MUS The Recording Studio Producer - 30 credit points

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

The programme is delivered through a combination of:

- Lectures & seminars
- Individual tuition
- Practical workshops
- Tutor led rehearsals
- Student led practice
- Computer-based tutorials
- Master-classes
- Independent study
- Individual tuition

Throughout the course, the learner is encouraged to undertake independent reading, research and private study to both supplement and consolidate what is being taught/learnt and to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject.

Assessment is completed through a combination of:

- Performances
- Portfolio presentation
- Self and peer evaluation
- Written essays
- Seminar presentations
- Research paper

Opportunities for Work Related Learning

A range of professional and simulated opportunities and environments are provided on the programme as part of creative and professional practice modules. No formal work-based learning is offered although there are weekly visits by industry guests delivering lectures and auditioning for professional opportunities.

Entry Requirements

Type	Description
Alternative qualifications considered	Music theory candidates should be able to demonstrate a good working understanding of music theory. UK applicants should aim to attain Grade 5 London College of Music (LCM) Popular Music Theory or equivalent qualification such as a Distinction in Unit 27: Music Theory & Harmony BTEC National Diploma by the time they enrol with us. Candidates are tested on their music theory ability at auditions so if they achieve above a certain level at the audition the need to achieve a further grade 5 level qualification may be waived. Overseas students are considered on an individual basis and are also tested on their music theory ability at the audition stage. Audition or Interview Candidates are invited to audition/interview on the basis of

	<p>completing the LIPA and/or UCAS application form. We look for evidence of the key attributes and an ability to achieve the qualifications standard. In exceptional cases people may be invited to audition/interview who have not met or are not on course to meet the qualifications standard. In these cases there must be substantial potential demonstrated against the other attributes. The audition or interview allows us to evaluate you as a practitioner in your area of interest. Offers of a place will follow where you demonstrate high ability and the potential to succeed. At the audition we provide an overview of LIPA and candidates are asked to present prepared pieces, to take part in a song writing workshop and to undertake a music theory test.</p> <p>Equal Opportunity LIPA is an equal opportunities organisation and aims to successfully recruit students from a wide range of different socio-economic and personal backgrounds. To ensure we provide effective equality of opportunity within the application process we carefully consider each application individually and acknowledge differences that can exist between applicants' experiences from diverse backgrounds. We regularly update our approaches to take into account changing understanding of communities and cultures and we monitor applicant/student characteristics such as age, gender and ethnicity.</p> <p>Recognition of Prior (Experiential) Learning [RP(E)L] and Credit Transfers If applicants can demonstrate they have already achieved learning equivalent to a module or modules, or a level of study, in the programme they may be eligible to be awarded credit for this learning or to have credit transferred from another UK institution. They will be required to complete an application to have their qualifications or experience approved by the Head of Discipline and the university. This requires the presentation of appropriate evidence and we will map the evidence against the programme outcomes to be certain of equivalence. If approved credit will be awarded and they will proceed on to the appropriate level of the course to complete the remaining credit for the award.</p>
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Other international requirements	We welcome applications from students with qualifications from outside of the UK. Each application is considered on an individual basis and mapped to the appropriate entry level. We value the diversity of experience that students from different backgrounds bring to the course. We require an IELTS score of 5.5, with a minimum of 5.5 in each component.
International Baccalaureate	Acceptable on its own and with other qualifications. Welsh Baccalaureate: Acceptable on its own but is ideally combined with other qualifications as it is equivalent to one A Level.

A levels	<p>We are committed to accepting students onto this course who have the potential to succeed as practitioners and who will gain sustained work in the performing arts and entertainment industries. With this in mind we wish to identify through applications and interview or audition key attributes and achievements. The key attributes that we seek to identify are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge, ability and experience of music • Commitment to the performing arts • Ability to work effectively with others • Broad interest and engagement • Self-awareness • Spirit of enterprise. <p>The minimum educational standard that we are looking for is:</p> <p>GCSEs.</p> <p>We normally require a minimum of five GCSEs grade C. These should include Maths and English.</p> <p>UCAS tariff points Plus a minimum of 96 UCAS tariff points.</p> <p>Subjects studied at this level should include Music. We accept all types of equivalent qualifications, the following are the most common UK qualifications that people tend to apply to us with:</p> <p>A/AS Level.</p> <p>This should be from three A Levels (i.e. grades C, C, C), excluding General Studies. Points from AS and Key Skills are not counted.</p>
BTECs	<p>Extended Diploma (i.e. Merit, Merit, Merit profile).</p> <p>BTEC Diploma (i.e. Distinction, Distinction): Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications such as an A Level, in which case total needs to be 72 (2017 UCAS tariff points) or 240 (2016 UCAS tariff points) across both qualifications.</p> <p>90 Credit Diploma (Distinction, Distinction): Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications such as an A Level, in which case total needs to be 72 (2017 UCAS tariff points) or 240 (2016 UCAS tariff points).</p>