

MODULE DESCRIPTIONS (PERFORMANCE TRACK)

Performance Studies 3A / 3B

This module represents the core learning experience for performers. Individual tuition is given on instrumental or vocal specialism. Solo performance is assessed at the end of the module, with the emphasis in this module being on individual technical work, studies and orchestral extracts (where applicable). Syllabuses stipulating work to be covered are made available separately.

Ensemble experience is provided by a range of ensembles, and is assessed continuously by ensemble leaders. A learning journal collates students' performance activities, providing opportunities for reflexive appraisal and for accurate record keeping.

Music Management

This module is designed to give you practical experience and theoretical knowledge in music management and business issues, that will be of fundamental importance in your future performing/composing careers. You will need to be familiar with a variety of concepts and issues, understanding their deployment in a number of different practical situations.

It also aims to develop the student understanding of employment opportunities within music industry, and particularly recent moves towards a "freelance" industry where the need for multi-skilled and adaptable employees is expected. The module will also introduce an understanding of the mechanics of production and marketing including copyright, contracts, and the procedures involved selling a product in the modern market.

Advanced Performance Project

This module gives students with proven aptitude in performance the opportunity present a live public showcase of their work. Performers will be expected to perform live in their showcase event.

Students will undertake preparatory work, programming, publicity design, marketing, co-ordination, management and presentation of their individual showcase with minimal tutor guidance and within limited and predetermined resources. The overriding aim will be to create a showcase that demonstrates originality, innovation and professionalism at all stages.

Advanced Orchestration and Arranging

This module consist of score-study alongside recordings which will play a crucial role in developing your understanding and experience of recognised techniques. This module will train you to be fluent in the comprehension of score layout, transcription, balance, spatial planning, historical and stylistic context, and texture of instruments. Students will gain an advanced working knowledge of instrumental techniques and practicalities.

Students will orchestrate/arrange, for example, piano works, songs or chamber works for a variety of instrumental groupings, and will also encounter the particular logistical and creative challenges faced when material requires downsizing to smaller forces than those of the original work; given the present economic difficulties facing the music industry along with the rest of society, this is a vital skill to acquire, not least with an eye to the film music world.

MODULE DESCRIPTIONS (RECORDING TRACK)

Music Management

The module is designed to further develop an understanding of the mechanics of music production and marketing and give students a clear idea of their employment opportunities within the industry. Students will also be able to enhance their business skills.

Showcase Studies

This module helps students understand the key concepts of design, image and saleability. It deals with issues that have traditionally resided in the hands of management, record companies and publishers such as publishing, marketing through a website and mailing lists and distribution through publications and retail outlets. Students will have technical insights into a future musical career enhanced by the added independence gained from the experience of producing and marketing their own work.

Performance Project

This option provides students with proven expertise in musical performance to instigate, plan, rehearse and perform a short programme of popular music. Students are expected not only to perform their chosen programme to a suitable level, but also to investigate the background of the music performed, and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of context and content.

Music Technology Showcase Project

This module offers students an opportunity to work independently and produce a self-managed piece of work in an area of particular interest. The project will involve the research, design and creation of a self-selected or commissioned artefact relevant to the course. This module will work alongside Showcase Studios and the Performance Project and will be a CD with recordings of the original music composed for those live performances.

Composing for Moving Image

The module puts the student into the role of a 'Sound Designer/Composer' – an increasingly important profession that is responsible for providing film in particular with its acoustic identity. Part of the module will include investigating the creative aspects of sonic art and also the relationship of sound to moving image. Students will compose original and imaginative audio to support and manipulate the meaning of moving image sequences.

Music Education Workshop (Optional Module)

Students will work on a music project that will take place in local schools. This module is an ideal first step into music teaching. It will involve devising practical learning activities and assessing their effectiveness.

Experimental Sound (Optional Module)

This is a module that explores the world of sonic art. Students will be able to conceive an idea, research and produce a piece of sound/audio art, which can take many forms from a CD to a public installation.

Live Sound Practice (Optional Module)

This is a long thin module that runs all year. Places are limited and will be allocated based on a formal application, covering letter and supporting CV. Students working as a team record all live events and concerts for SRMC. This will involve setting up and running PA systems, negotiating with organisers and performers as well as using a wide range of recording methods.

MODULE DESCRIPTIONS (MUSIC MANAGEMENT TRACK)

Event Design

The module explores the use of design to create appropriate environments and settings for Events and to reflect upon how design can influence event experiences. This, in turn, allows for an analysis of the experience guests get from attending or taking part in an Event.

Through experiential study and visits of events it is possible to analyse the design ideas used to create environments and explore the impact these have on customers. This can therefore include lighting, decor, furniture, sound, smell, size & shape, it can also include challenge, adventure or repetition as well as the products or commodities we may use during the experience (clothes, equipment). It can also embrace social and cultural values that have been placed upon the particular experience, or psychological ideas about the perception we may have of an experience

Project

The project module is an individually negotiated and self managed undertaking and as such has little prescribed module content. However the generic characteristics such as the learning outcomes, the timetable and assessment strategies will largely remain the same for all.

The module will commence with a series of sessions focusing on key aspects necessary for success in the undertaking of the project namely, organisational skills, managing resources, research and professional practice. Following your pitch the Module Leader will inform you of the available academic supervisor. You will be expected to maintain regular contact with them and update them on your progress.

Strategic Management

This module provides an overview on the current and future broader music (and entertainment) industry and seeks to bring together some of the teachings from previous Level 4 and Level 5 modules as well as ongoing Level 6 modules to furnish the student with the intellectual tools and specialist knowledge required to be a robust practitioner in today's diverse and competitive global music business. Lectures will provide students with a foundation of the roles of the manager within today's global music industry and examples of good working practice. Each lecture in the module will focus on a specific issue or function of today's practitioners, along with an in depth analysis of the knowledge and transferable skills required.

The module will also examine key practitioners from the industry over the past fifty years, the contribution they have made to the business, and their continuing influence.

Blast Radio

Students produce a diverse range of programming for Blast, including magazine format music and talk shows, news, flagship Brunch & Drivetime slots, specialist music and live performance. There are

regular live broadcast sessions in the campus and Blast also covers important campus news such as SRMC events across all campus.

Festival Studies

This module is a key foundation to understanding the mechanics and responsibilities of those working within the festival sector of the live industry. A current practitioner teaches this module with many years experience working worldwide with a broad range of acts and artistes. This experience will be shared with examples of professional practice throughout the module.

Conference And Exhibition Studies (Optional Module)

This is a module on the Conference Venue Sector and therefore will combine practical and conceptual approaches. The module will provide an understanding and overview of the sector as well as examining and analysing key elements in the production of conferences and event venues and requirements. It will also focus on the specific factors involved in organising events, in particular looking at the resources and venues used to stage events of this type.

You will have the opportunity to apply your existing skills on budgeting and sponsorship, the key factors to consider when putting an event together. Throughout this module you need to be aware that you are in charge of your learning and be responsible for independent learning away from the set lectures and seminars.

Stage Management (Optional Module)

This module facilitates an introduction to the employment of stage managers, and assistant stage managers and their roles within the industry. You will investigate the responsibilities while working within the workplace stage managing an event taking place either on the university campus, or at one of its partners venues.

The module will explore the range of legal and contractual responsibilities involved in this field, including direction, management of cast and crew, health and safety, security, and risk assessment.