

University of Plymouth

Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Business

School of Society and Culture

Programme Specification

MA Music

Definitive Document Approved: 19/12/19

Implementation Date: September 2020

1. **Final award title:** MA Music

Level 7 Intermediate award title(s): PG Cert
[Upon successful achievement of 60 level 7 credits]

Level 7 Intermediate award title(s): PG Dip
[Upon successful achievement of 120 level 7 credits]

UCAS code: N/A
HECOS code: Music - 100070
2. **Awarding Institution:** University of Plymouth
Teaching institution(s): University of Plymouth
3. **Accrediting body:** None
4. **Distinctive Features of the Programme and the Student Experience:**

Students entering the MA Music will benefit from:

1. Joining a vibrant interdisciplinary research community with opportunities to work with tutors who are specialists in a wide variety of musical disciplines.
2. A programme that focuses on the context and function of music in global society and its part in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.
3. Music rehearsal and recording facilities, including individual practice rooms, a professional recording environment, digital audio workstations, and instrumental facilities ranging from Steinway and Bosendorfer pianos to valve guitar amps, electronic keyboards, and analogue synthesisers.
4. Chances to get involved in a wide range of societies and groups, such as our gospel choir, concert band, ukulele society, gamelan group, orchestra, and many more.
5. Opportunities to gain industry experience while studying via the subject's Professional Opportunities Scheme, which facilitates placements in areas such as community music, music tutoring, film composition, sound design, performing, live sound, and studio recording.
6. A teaching team that recognise and support musicians from a variety of backgrounds and who promote stylistic freedom, exploration, and creative risk-taking.

7. A programme that prepares learners for a career in the music industry and/or further academic study.

5. Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Group(s)

This programme aligns to the QAA Benchmark Statements for Music and the QAA Master's Degree Characteristics Statement.

6. Programme Structure

Full Time Route

Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3
		MA Project MAMU700 60 Credits
Sound Recording in Context MAMU701 30 Credits	Music and Impact MAMU703 30 Credits	
Music and Culture MAMU702 30 Credits	Professional Portfolio MAMU704 30 Credits	

Part Time Route

Year 1:

Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3
Music and Culture MAMU702 30 Credits	Music and Impact MAMU703 30 Credits	

Year 2:

Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3
Sound Recording in Context MAMU701 30 Credits	Professional Portfolio MAMU704 30 Credits	MA Project MAMU700 60 Credits

7. Programme Aims

- To produce graduates with advanced knowledge of music as a discipline and cultural activity.
- To foster student confidence in creative risk taking and collaboration.
- To provide learners with the opportunity to gain tailored work experience while studying. Examples of previous work placements include composing for film, live sound engineering, instrumental tutoring, and running community music workshops.
- To equip students with the capacity to interpret and analyse music and sound both subjectively and objectively, looking beyond one's personal taste.
- Emphasise the value of learning by practical investigation informed by critical understanding.
- Support students in developing independent research skills, self-reflection techniques, and practical confidence.

8. Programme Intended Learning Outcomes

8.1. Knowledge and understanding

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

- 1) A systematic understanding of different musical contexts, theories, and functions;
- 2) In-depth knowledge of influencers on the sound of music;
- 3) Comprehensive knowledge of the relationships between music and other disciplines in the arts and sciences;
- 4) An advanced understanding of arts research methodologies and their applications.

8.2. Cognitive and intellectual skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

- 1) The ability to discuss and debate music's position, function, and value in human lives, in relation to educational, professional, institutional, or community perspectives including an awareness of contemporary issues in the cultural and creative sectors;
- 2) The ability to assimilate information and insights from scholarly discourse (including from other arts or sciences), and relate them in innovative ways to the practice and experience of music;
- 3) The ability to critically analyse and apply appropriate knowledge and skills in the selection and use of music-related technologies;
- 4) The ability to synthesise and critically evaluate information and present it in the form of a clear and coherent argument in a variety of ways, including discriminating between and evaluating divergent opinions.

8.3. Key and transferable skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed the ability to:

- 1) Communicate excellently both in written and oral forms;
- 2) Work autonomously and as part of a group, showing self-motivation and critical self-awareness;
- 3) Manage time and resources according to specific tasks or deadlines;
- 4) The ability to work creatively to a set brief.

8.4. Employment related skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

- 1) Advanced IT skills;
- 2) A comprehensive understanding of professional protocols and behaviours;
- 3) The capacity to present work in a coherent form in appropriate formats;

- 4) An ability to engage in continual self-evaluation and participate in additional learning and creative development where necessary.

8.5. Practical skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

- 1) The ability to confront, explore, and assimilate unfamiliar musical sounds, concepts, repertoires and practices;
- 2) The ability to capture, analyse, and edit music/sound using appropriate technological resources;
- 3) Apply appropriate practices within a professional, legal, sustainable, and ethical framework;
- 4) The ability to document creative practice, with consideration for issues of both dissemination and impact.

9. Admissions Criteria, including APCL, APEL and Disability Service arrangements

All applicants must have GCSE (or equivalent) Maths and English at Grade 4 or above (equivalent to a Grade C as per the GSCE grading system until 2017).

Entry Requirements for MA Music	
Degree	A 2:1 degree in a music-related subject or equivalent is desirable. Students with a lower degree classification may be considered by interview. Graduates from other disciplines will be considered on an individual basis. International applicants must meet the University's language requirements. The minimum IELTS score for entry is 6.5.
Accreditation of Prior Learning	Accreditation of Prior Learning will be considered, where appropriate, on a case-by-case basis and in line with the university's Academic Regulations .

10. Progression criteria for Final and Intermediate Awards: N/A

11. Non Standard Regulations: N/A

12. Transitional Arrangements: N/A

Appendices
Programme Specification Mapping (PGT)

Appendix 1: Programme Specification Mapping (PGT): module contribution to the meeting of Award Learning Outcomes
Tick those Award Learning Outcomes the module contributes to through its assessed learning outcomes.

Module	Credits	C core E elective	Award Learning Outcomes contributed to (for more information see Section 8)																				Compensation Y/N	Assessment element(s) and weightings [use KIS definition] E1 - exam E2 - clinical exam T1 - test C1 - coursework A1 - generic assessment P1 - practical			
			Knowledge & understanding				Cognitive & intellectual skills				Key & transferable skills				Employment related skills				Practical skills								
			1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4					
MAMU701	30	C																							Y	C1 100%	
MAMU702	30	C																								Y	C1 100%
Learning Outcomes 60 credits																											
MAMU703	30	C																								Y	C1 100%
MAMU704	30	C																								Y	C1 75%, P1 25%
Learning Outcomes 120 credits																											
MAMU700	60	C																								N	C1 100%
Learning Outcomes 180 credits																											
Confirmed Award LOs																											