

Programme Specification

Programme Title: BA (Hons) Music for the Creative Industries (Top-Up)

Awarding Institution:	University of Bolton		
Teaching Institution:	Bradford College		
Division and/or School/Institute:	Arts and Creative Industries		
Professional accreditation	Professional body	Professional body URL	Status of graduates
	N/A	N/A	N/A
	No professional body associated with this programme.		
Final award(s):	Honours Degree (BA)		
Exit or Fallback award(s)	Ordinary Degree - students who successfully complete a minimum of 60 credits at FHEQ Level 6 may be awarded an Ordinary Degree, which is an unclassified award.		
Programme title(s)	BA (Hons) Music for the Creative Industries (Top-Up)		
JACS Code	W300		
University Course Code(s)	TBC		
QAA Benchmark Statement(s)	The following benchmark statements apply to this programme: Music`		
Other internal and external reference points	UK Quality Code for Higher Education University of Bolton Awards framework		
Language of study	English		
Mode of study and normal period of study	Full-time - one year		
	Part-time - two years		

Admissions criteria

Typically an HND qualification in Music or a related discipline or 120 credits at NQF Level 5 or equivalent. You should also be qualified to at least Grade 6 (or equivalent) on your primary instrument and you will be required to demonstrate this in an audition.

Additional Criteria

Non-standard applicants will be required to produce evidence of their ability to study at the Higher Education level. Short-course and relevant work experience may be taken into account. Non-standard applicants will be interviewed and may be required to complete a piece of written work as part of their application. Claims for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) are welcomed by the College. Applicants should consult the admissions tutor if they wish to claim such recognition.

Additional admissions matters

Applicants will be invited to an audition/interview and will be expected either to play a prepared piece on their first instrument or evidence their previous music related work. This is to ensure their musical skills and experience are at an appropriate level.

International students are additionally required to achieve an overall score of 6 (with each subset no lower than 6) in IELTS. Please consult the admissions department for further details.

Fitness to practise declaration

N/A

Aims of the programme

- develop your skills, knowledge and experience in order to become a successful practitioner within the Music industry and other related fields.
- enhance your employability within the creative industries by promoting a collaborative approach to teaching and learning across different disciplines.
- enable you to pursue further study at post-graduate level.
- enable you to develop and embed critical and theoretical approaches to a range of media and sources of information.
- enable you to engage in a stimulating Music curriculum that reflects industry practice and encompasses new developments and trends.
- deliver an inclusive and wide-ranging curriculum that allows for the study of diverse and under-represented artists alongside an up-to-date and broad reading list.
- support you in producing innovative and original work as a performer and/or composer/producer.
- ensure you are able to participate in both Music and Higher Education, regardless of your background or whether you are from an under-represented group in the community.
- enable you to make a contribution to the Music industry through developing the relevant skills and understanding of the professional standards.
- enable you to become a capable and well-rounded Music graduate who will make a contribution to the labour market needs of the local, regional, national and global economies having developed appropriate knowledge and skills covering a broad range of specialist skills.
- ensure you are well placed to take advantage of any opportunities provided by the Bradford 2025 and its legacy.
- support Bradford's 'Culture is our plan' through engaging you in the arts and culture activities taking place in the city.

Distinctive features of the programme

- The programme is delivered by experienced practicing music professionals and academics, all of whom have a wide range of skills and relevant industry experience.
- The programme encompasses a broad range of learning and teaching opportunities in Music, including conceptual, technical and commercial areas.
- The programme builds on your previous learning and experience, giving you the opportunity to produce work of a professional standard within your music specialism.

- The programme includes opportunities to develop skills in project management and also apply these to real-life scenarios. You will develop the knowledge and skills required to start a career as a freelance musician.
- The department has significant partnerships with local venues and music service providers to ensure that professional experience is embedded within your programme.
- The programme provides the opportunity to work collaboratively across different disciplines, creating a professional and vocational experience at every opportunity.
- The department is fully equipped with industry standard equipment and facilities. Apple Logic Pro, Ableton Live, Pro-Tools and Sibelius are all available to students. The IT equipment is all Apple Mac-based, as is the norm in the music industry.
- There is live sound and production equipment available, including a two control rooms and a live room. The PA equipment is of professional standard, with RCF speakers, Allan & Heath and Behringer digital mixing desks and industry standard microphones.
- A recently installed mixing/recording suite provides access to professional standard recording and mixing facilities, with Neve pre-amps and Avid control surfaces available to the students.
- The programme offers significant opportunities to enhance your learning: overseas trips, visiting guest lecturers, live performance opportunities and professional commissions have all taken place previously.
- The department offers you a high level of pastoral and academic support with accessible and helpful tutors.
- The College is committed to working in partnership with students - recognising the importance of the student voice and providing regular and timely informal and formal feedback to all students to support their learning experience and development as a practitioner.

Programme learning outcomes

K. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of the programme successful students will be able to demonstrate systematic knowledge and understanding of:

K1. key practitioners, practices and trends that are reflective of the workings of the music industry and its related conventions.

K2. the creative industries, related careers and their relevance to the academic study of music.

K3. professional standards related to music performance and production, both with regards to personal development and the perceived conventions of the industry.

K4. a range of concepts, knowledge and skills relating to music performance and/or production.

K5. musical performance and/or production evaluation and implementation and related marketing and promotional techniques.

C. Cognitive, intellectual or thinking skills

On completion of the programme successful students will be able to demonstrate the ability to:

C1. Employ critical self-reflection and make justified independent judgments within both the written and practical elements of the programme.

C2. Create effective solutions to solve problems within the subject area and the wider field of study.

C3. Critically apply appropriate theories and skills relevant to the field of study and clearly defined subject specific criterion.

C4. Evaluate and critically appraise theoretical approaches and models, and synthesise contrasting ideas.

C5. Apply research and investigative skills as well as the use of alternative sources of information.

C6. Relate the knowledge and skills obtained during projects to new subject areas and disciplines.

P. Practical, professional or subject-specific skills

On completion of the programme successful students will be able to demonstrate the ability to:

P1. Employ appropriate music performance and production skills, structures and working methods reflecting those of current industry practices.

P2. Plan, prepare and create innovative and original work.

P3. Apply a range of professional competencies, skills, techniques, personal qualities and attributes essential for a successful career within their chosen field in the Music/creative industries.

P4. Critically evaluate current marketing, self-promotion and entrepreneurialism within the creative economy, particularly with regards to self-employment and small business development.

T. Transferable, key or personal skills

On completion of the programme successful students will be able to demonstrate the ability to:

T1. Employ research and evaluation skills to present critically reflective work and communicate ideas orally, visually, creatively and in written form to others.

T2. Critically analyse material independently and in a manner that reflects the level of study.

T3. Evaluate personal strengths, areas for improvement and development needs based on performance and production based projects.

T4. Construct, sustain and communicate coherent arguments using visual, verbal and written forms language appropriate to a variety of musical topics.

T5. Demonstrate effectiveness as a collaborative team member and leader on large scale projects, combining professionalism and creativity in making artistic work.

Programme structure

The programme is intended to be cohesive and reflect the regional, national and international requirements of the music industry. There is an emphasis on ensuring that students are ready to make the step into employment, either as a freelance or employed musician. The Independent Project is a key part of the programme, allowing students to choose an area of interest and make it the focus to ensure that they are working towards something vocational and professional. Finally, there are specialist modules in Creative Music Technology and Ensemble Musicianship which will encourage students to continue their development in these areas to ensure that they are at a level expected by the industry.

Full-Time route

Semester 1	Semester 2
Creative Music Technology (20 credits)	Independent Project (40 credits)
Pre-Production Portfolio (20 credits)	
Ensemble Musicianship (20 credits)	
Freelance Working and Self-Employment in the Creative Industries (20 credits)	

Part-Time route

Year 1

Semester 1	Semester 2
Creative Music Technology (20 credits)	
Ensemble Musicianship (20 credits)	
Freelance Working and Self-Employment in the Creative Industries (20 credits)	

Year 2

Semester 1	Semester 2
Pre-Production Portfolio (20 credits)	Independent Project (40 credits)

Module Code	Module title	Core/ Option (C/O)	Credits	Length (1, 2 or 3 periods)
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HNUB60025	Creative Music Technology	Core	20	1 semester
HNUB60028	Ensemble Musicianship	Core	20	2 semesters
HNUB60026	Pre-Production Portfolio	Core	20	1 semester
HNUB60030	Freelance Working and Self-Employment in the Creative Industries	Core	20	2 semesters
HNUB60027	Independent Project	Core	40	1 semester

Learning and teaching strategies

This programme underpins the development of your practical skills as a musician with key theories, context and the development of academic skills. The programme is intended to be predominantly practical in its assessment and delivery, but with key theories and contextual information delivered to underpin these practices. You will develop vocational skills that will help you to learn in 'real world' and vocational scenarios. This could be through putting on a performance project or working with students from a different department to produce assessed work.

A range of teaching and learning methods is used throughout the programme including the following:

- Rehearsals and workshops
- Small group discussions;
- Seminars, tutorials and practical sessions;
- Group work;
- Self-directed learning;
- Independent and group projects;
- Lectures;
- VLE-based exercises;
- Presentations; and
- Workshops.

The e-learning strategy will enhance the learning experience by using technology within some of the sessions for composition and production. You may also notate pieces of written work by creating a blog or website. You will also utilise the College's VLE to further your learning experience away from the classroom. All the resources are posted on the VLE and written assignments are submitted via 'Turnitin'.

Tutorial sessions are incorporated in each module to ensure that you are offered one-to-one support with your transition to Higher Education and that you have a clear understanding of what is required in each module. You will be supported through regular assessment workshops to deal with any questions you may have in terms of your progress on the module and the assessment.

There will be guest masterclasses from visiting professionals periodically throughout the programme to give further context to the content delivered in the lectures.

Learning activities (KIS entry)

Course Year	HE6
Scheduled learning and teaching activities	37%
Guided independent study	63%
Placement/study abroad	0%

Assessment strategy

The programme specific approach to assessment follows University regulations ensuring a robust standard of practice and enables students to constructively use assessment to promote their own learning and achievement. Assessment procedures are rigorously monitored internally and externally to ensure they are valid and reliable. Comprehensive information is relayed to students in the programme handbook/specification, module handbooks/specifications and teaching programmes, in tutorials and at induction.

Information is posted on programme notice boards, the VLE and can be sent to individual students by e-mail and/or MS Teams.

Within each module handbook, an assessment brief will give you detailed information about what is required, when each assignment is handed out, and when it needs to be submitted. This also allows you to plan your time and manage your workload effectively.

The module calendar has been designed to ensure that assessment submission deadlines have been spread out to avoid 'bunching' of assessment within the programme. The careful design of the programme means that there is a relatively even split of modules across both semesters. This will ensure that the programme and assessment workload is balanced throughout the academic year. The assessment calendars built into each module handbook have clear formative deadlines that allow for students to benefit from early and timely assessment to support their learning and progression.

The format of the assessed work must reflect the assignment brief in the module handbook. This could be in the form of an essay, presentation, performance or portfolio. Across the programme, a range of assessment methods will be utilised that will reflect the nature of the module (theory or practical) and account for different learning styles.

There will be collaborative work with students from your programme and from other areas of the School of Art. The assessment methods for these projects will be in the form of a finished piece of work that is of a professional standard. This could be in the form of a collaborative performance with an accompanying journal, a recorded song with music video, or a short film for which you have composed the score.

Critical reflection forms a major part of the assessment for all modules, with the development of portfolios providing much of the evidence for your reflection. This should also help provide you with a completed portfolio of work that could help you to enter employment on graduation.

This project-based learning allows for ongoing formative assessment throughout a module. Your tutors will maintain close contact with you throughout these projects, giving feedback as the module progresses.

Assessment methods (KIS entry)

Course Year	HE6
Written exams	0%
Coursework	53%
Practical	47%

Assessment regulations

Assessment Regulations for Undergraduate Programmes apply to this programme.

Regulations can be found at:

<https://www.bolton.ac.uk/student-policy-zone/>

Grade bands and classifications

Degree

Grade	Mark
First Class	70 - 100%
Upper Second Class	60 - 69%
Lower Second Class	50 - 59%
Third Class	40 - 49%

Role of external examiners

External examiners are appointed for all programmes of study. They oversee the assessment process and their duties include: approving assignment briefs, viewing assessed samples of work with corresponding feedback/feed forward, reviewing assessment marks, attending assessment boards and reporting to the University on the assessment process.

Support for student learning

Induction comprises a full programme of events designed to welcome you to the College and make you familiar with your surroundings. The process of establishing effective relationships between students and the teaching team begins at this point and activities are geared towards establishing and promoting a cohort identity. All students are provided with a Student and Programme Handbook and supported in gaining access to on-line resources.

At induction, all students are provided with a library-user education programme involving a general introduction to the library and the use of electronic information sources.

Students are informed at induction of the College's central Student Services offering the following:

- Confidential counselling services;
- Careers guidance;
- Financial advice;
- The enrichment programme (leisure, sport etc.);
- Accommodation advice;
- Childcare;
- Health service;
- Support for disabled students;
- Multi-faith support.

The College is committed to promoting equality and diversity in all aspects of student life, ensuring that everyone is treated in a fair and consistent manner throughout their time on the programme. Further information is included in the Programme and Student Handbooks.

Programme Level:

Students enrolled on the BA (Hons) Music for the Creative Industries (Top-Up) have access to the College's Virtual Learning Environment. Appropriate information relating to lecture notes and other resources is available across all modules.

Students have access to the main David Hockney Library where a comprehensive range of resources is available. The Subject Specific Librarian at the College liaises closely with teaching staff and with students to ensure regular monitoring and updating of resources.

Other areas of student support include:

- English and Maths workshops;
- Information and Communication Technology facilities throughout the College.

Students will receive one individual tutorial per semester to track their progress on the programme and discuss any issues regarding their studies. Further tutorials are available upon request. There are systems in place to account for any difficulties that students might encounter on the programme, including the option to apply for mitigation and extensions to deadlines.

Methods for evaluating and enhancing the quality of learning opportunities

- Student Experience Surveys (post-induction and end of stage).
- National Student Survey (NSS).
- Student module evaluations.
- Tutor module evaluations.
- Annual programme monitoring and evaluation reports - including analysis of key performance indicators e.g. admissions, retention, achievement, degree classifications, employment destinations, etc.
- Student Councils.
- Student Staff programme committees.
- Focus groups.
- Professional development programme for staff - REBEL.
- Peer review of learning, teaching and assessment.
- Student staff liaison through Programme Committee meetings.
- External Examiners reports.
- Module/programme exam boards.

Other sources of information

- Bradford College website: <https://www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/>
- HE Student Handbook: <https://www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/180057-BC-HE-STUDENT-Handbook-2022-A4.pdf>
- College Regulations: <https://www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/help/knowledge-base/academic-regulations/>
- VLE - Moodle: <https://moodle.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/>
- Student Portal: <https://learnerportal.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/>
- Students' Union: <https://www.bradfordcollegesu.co.uk/>
- External Examiners reports: <https://moodle.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/mod/book/view.php?id=302018&chapterid=7993>
- Library Services: <https://www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/help/knowledge-base/library-services/>
- College careers advice: <https://www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/about-us/careers-advice/>

Document control

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Learning Outcomes Map *(D - Developed; T - Taught; A - Assessed)*

Module title	Module Code	Status C/O	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	P1	P2	P3	P4	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
Ensemble Musicianship		C				TDA		D	D	TD					TD							D
Independent Project		C				D	TDA	TDA	TDA				TDA	TDA	TD							TDA
Creative Music Technology		C	TD					D	D	TDA			D	TD	TDA							D
Pre-Production Portfolio		C	TDA		TDA				D		TDA	TDA						TDA	TDA	TD	TD	
Freelance Working and Self-Employment in the Creative Industries		C		TDA								TD				TDA	TDA	TD	D	TDA	TDA	

K. Knowledge and understanding P. Practical, professional and subject specific skills C. Cognitive, Intellectual and thinking skills T. Transferable, key or personal skills

Module Listing and Assessments Map

Module title	Module Code	New ? ✓	Level	Credits	Type	Core/Option/ Elective C/O/E	Pre-requisite Module	Assessment 1			Assessment 2		
								Assessment type	Assessment %	Add Y if final item	Assessment type	Assessment %	Add Y if final item
Ensemble Musicianship	TBC	✓	6	20	Practical	Core	No	Ensemble performance portfolio (minimum 30 minutes)	100%	Y			
Independent Project	TBC	✓	6	40	Project	Core	No	Project based on student's submission for 'Pre- production Professional Portfolio'.	100%	Y			
Creative Music Technology	TBC	✓	6	20	Practical	Core	No	Project Portfolio	100%	N			

Pre-Production Portfolio	TBC	✓	6	20	Project	Core	No	Project Proposal (2,000 words)	50%	N	Pre-production portfolio containing relevant documentation and supporting evidence	50%	Y
Freelance Working and Self-Employment in the Creative Industries	TBC	✓	6	20	Standard	Core	No	Personal career/ business plan (2,000 words)	50%	N	Professional portfolio	50%	Y