

Programme Specification

Programme Title: FdA Music for the Creative Industries

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):	Foundation Degree (FdA)		
Exit or Fallback award(s)	Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) Music for the Creative Industries - Exit/Fallback Award Level 4		
Programme title(s)	FdA Music for the Creative Industries		
JACS Code	W300		
University Course Code(s)	PFFB001 - Full-time PFFB001 - Part-time		
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 QAA Characteristics Statement - Foundation Degree University of Bolton Awards framework		
Language of study	English		
Mode of study and normal period of study	Full-time - two years		
	Part-time - four years		
Admissions criteria			
80 UCAS points or equivalent from:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A BTEC, or UAL Level 3 qualification in Music. 			

- A GCE Advanced Level profile that demonstrates strong performance in a relevant subject or adequate performance in more than one GCE subject. This profile is likely to be supported by GCSE grades at A* to C (9-4) (or equivalent).
- Other Level 3 qualifications, such as a T-Level, supported by an audition or interview and evidence of previous music-related work (see below).
- An Access to Higher Education Diploma awarded by an approved institution or provider.
- Related work experience.
- An international equivalent of the above.

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

The principal aims of the programme are to:

- provide you with a professional foundation for a range of artistic and technical careers in the music industry and other related fields.
- develop you as a competent musician and music technologist who is equipped with the necessary skills to create, perform and produce music to a professional standard.
- develop the skills you require to work independently and autonomously through work-based learning, work-based experience and vocationally focused assessment.
- ensure that you are able to participate in both Music and Higher Education, regardless of your background.
- enable you to engage in a stimulating and up-to-date Music curriculum that reflects industry practice, encompasses new developments and acknowledges trends.
- 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 Level 6.
- 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.
- offer a practical course of study in Music where theory and practice are fused and in which both conceptual awareness and practical, creative skills are developed and applied in work-related contexts.
- provide you with skills in research, analysis, problem solving and critical reflection, and the visual, written and verbal communication skills required of a graduate entrant to the Music industry.
- 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 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. the historical, social, economic and political context and culture of popular music, including relevant theories and concepts.

K2. the professional requirements and conventions of the music industry, relating to both performance and production.

K3. the influence of technologies, media and commercialisation on music.

K4. performance/production techniques and interpretation in popular music styles.

K5. the broader historical, philosophical, cultural and social contexts for musical practice.

K6. a wide range of musical styles, genres and conventions relating to performance and production.

C. Cognitive, intellectual or thinking skills

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

C1. appraise complex issues and arguments and communicate understanding via a range of presentation methods.

C2. employ a range of critical listening skills, ensuring various-technical, theoretical and creative concepts are embedded within both music performance and production.

C3. apply research skills and an understanding of issues surrounding validity and reliability of sources.

C4. demonstrate independent judgements with regard to both practical and theoretical approaches.

C5. analyse and evaluate own creative processes.

P. Practical, professional or subject-specific skills

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

P1. apply the results of musical analysis to the process of performance or production.

P2. assess a variety of musical styles whilst engaging in creative and technical projects.

P3. produce musical performance and production ideas and concepts relating to, or combining with, other art forms (visual, literary or dramatic) and media (e.g. film).

P4. apply knowledge of music software to compose and arrange music, whilst embedding music theory and music production concepts.

P5. apply the understanding of conventions, traditions and techniques in individual creative work.

P6. develop music performance and production projects, to an agreed standard and deadline, which demonstrate technical mastery of the processes involved.

T. Transferable, key or personal skills

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

T1. demonstrate time management skills and reliability in a work based scenario, making the most of every opportunity and ensuring consistency of achievement.

T2. create opportunities using effective interpersonal skills (for example listening, influencing, and negotiation), and apply organisational skills to maximise these opportunities.

T3. apply problem-solving skills (for example reacting to new situations, decoding information and ideas, working with others under pressure) to complex situations.

T4. manage a creative project from conception through to delivery.

T5. Construct, sustain and communicate coherent arguments using visual, verbal and written forms appropriate to a variety of musical topics, demonstrating proficient and coherent written English.

T6. appraise self-management, self-promotion, interpersonal and other employability skills necessary for successful employment or self-employment in the music industry.

Programme structure

The programme is intended to be cohesive and reflect the regional, national and international requirements of the music industry. Support for the growing live music scene and other events in Bradford, whilst developing performance ability is a key strand, but also other skills around staging, marketing, and promoting a live event will be developed. With Bradford to be the UK's City of Culture in 2025, graduates will be well placed to take advantage of the many performance-related opportunities during that event, and in the years that follow.

The first year of the programme focusses on developing both the practical and academic skills that are required to be successful, both on the programme and on graduating. The modules encourage creativity, expression and criticality. Where possible, the modules have been brought together to ensure that project-based learning takes place. This will encourage real world industry practice, and also mean that students from a performance and production background can collaborate and participate fully. Students will be encouraged to develop original material wherever possible, especially in the 'Creative Music Portfolio', which will teach the skills required to do this.

The second year of the programme will allow you to implement these skills in further vocational modules, such as Work-Based Experience, Collaborative Project and Music Studio Technology. You will also learn compositional techniques and explore solo performance, thus ensuring your education is as well rounded and diverse as possible.

Full-time

Year 1

Semester 1	Semester 2
Live Performance Project (30 credits)	Creative Music Portfolio (30 credits)
Music Analysis and Arranging (20 credits)	Music Marketing and Promotion (20 credits)
Creative Industries Context (20 credits)	

Year 2

Semester 1	Semester 2
Music Composition Project (30 credits)	Music Studio Technology (30 credits)
Exploring Solo Performance (20 credits)	Collaborative Project (20 credits)

Work-Based Experience (20 credits)

Part-time

Year 1

Semester 1	Semester 2
Live Performance Project (30 credits)	Music Marketing and Promotion (20 credits)
Creative Industries Context (20 credits)	

Year 2

Semester 1	Semester 2
Music Analysis and Arranging (20 credits)	Creative Music Portfolio (30 credits)

Year 3

Semester 1	Semester 2
Exploring Solo Performance (20 credits)	Collaborative Project (20 credits)
Work-Based Experience (20 credits)	

Year 4

Semester 1	Semester 2
Music Composition Project (30 credits)	Music Studio Technology (30 credits)

Module Code	Module title	Core/ Option (C/O)	Credits	Length (1, 2 or 3 periods)
4	Live Performance Project	C	30	1
4	Creative Music Portfolio	C	30	1
4	Music Analysis and Arranging	C	20	1
4	Creative Industries Context	C	20	2
4	Music Marketing and Promotion	C	20	1
5	Music Composition Project	C	30	1
5	Exploring Solo Performance	C	20	1
5	Collaborative Project	C	20	1
5	Music Studio Technology	C	30	1
5	Work-Based Experience	C	20	2

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 work related 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 will create your own 'Digitalspace' website and develop basic web design skills in order to upload your work as a blog. 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'.

The second year of the programme includes a 'Work-Based Experience' module which will help provide potential networks and opportunities for employment when you graduate. There is a vocational emphasis to the modules to ensure that other skills, such as collaboration, team-working, entrepreneurship and marketing are developed. Graduates from the programme will be able to demonstrate the skills required to produce high quality work to deadlines in a professional format, whilst collaborating with other students across related disciplines. This will enable you to apply the skills and knowledge you have acquired in a work-based scenario.

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	HE4	HE5
Scheduled learning and teaching activities	34%	33.9%
Guided independent study	66%	62.8%
Placement/study abroad	0%	3.3%

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 an 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 to 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 to

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	HE4	HE5
Written exams	0%	0%
Coursework	32%	40%
Practical	68%	60%

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

Foundation Degree

Grade	Mark
Distinction	70 - 100%
Merit	60 - 69%
Pass	40 - 59%

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 FdA Music for the Creative Industries 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 are 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

Author(s)	
Approved by:	
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Learning Outcomes Map (*D – Developed; T – Taught; A – Assessed*)

Level 4

Module title	Module Code	Status C/O	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	K6	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6
Live Performance Project	TBC	C	TD	TDA		TDA	D	TDA	D				D	TD	TD			TDA	TDA	TDA	TDA	TDA	TD	D	D
Creative Music Portfolio	TBC	C	D	D	TD	D	D	TD	D			TDA	TDA	TD	TDA	TDA	TDA	TD	TD	D		TD	TD	D	D
Music Analysis and Arranging	TBC	C	D	D	D	D	D	TD		TDA			TD	TDA	TD	TD	TD	D	D	D		D	TD		
Creative Industries Context	TBC	C	TDA		TDA		TDA		TDA		TDA	D												TDA	
Music Marketing and Promotion	TBC	C	D	TD	TD							D	D							D	TDA	TD	TDA		TDA

Level 5

Module title	Module Code	Status C/O	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	K6	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6
Music Composition Project	TBC	C	TDA			D		D	TDA	TDA	D	TD	TDA	TD	TDA	TDA	TDA	TDA	TD		D	D	TD	TD	D
Exploring Solo Performance	TBC	C				TDA	TDA	TDA	D	TD	D	TD	TD	TDA	TD	D			D			D	D	D	D
Collaborative Project	TBC	C							D		TDA	TDA	TD	D	D	D	D	D	TDA	TD	TD	TD	TDA	TD	TD
Work-Based Experience	TBC	C		TDA					D		D									TDA	TDA	TDA		TDA	TDA
Music Studio Technology	TBC	C			TDA	D		D				TD	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D		D	TD	D	D

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 ? <input type="checkbox"/>	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
Live Performance Project	TBC		4	30	Project	Core	None	Project portfolio, including blog	100	Y			
Creative Music Portfolio	TBC		4	30	Project	Core	None	Project portfolio, including blog	100	Y			
Music Analysis and Arranging	TBC		4	20	Practical	Core	None	Analysis of a track or performance (1,500 words or 15 mins)	50	N	Arrangement of the track, song or performance with a comparison (500 words or 5 mins)	50	Y
Music Marketing and Promotion	TBC		4	20	Project	Core	None	Marketing and promotion portfolio, including blog	100	Y			
Creative Industries Context	TBC		4	20	Practical	Core	None	Seminar presentation (12-15 mins)	50	N	1,500 word essay OR 1,500 word blog OR 12-15 minute podcast/vlog	50	Y

Module title	Module Code	New? <input type="checkbox"/>	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
Music Composition Project	TBC		5	30	Project	Core	None	Project Portfolio, including blog	100	Y			
Music Studio Technology	TBC		5	30	Practical	Core	None	Submission of recording portfolio (2 tracks)	75	N	Written evaluation of process (1,000 words)	25	Y
Exploring Solo Performance	TBC		5	20	Practical	Core	None	Performance portfolio and evaluation	100	Y			
Collaborative Project	TBC		5	20	Project	Core	None	Proposal (1,000 words)	25	N	Portfolio, including reflective journal, presenting the project	75	Y
Work-Based Experience	TBC		5	20	Placement	Core	None	Presentation evaluating potential work placement providers - 10 mins	25	N	Work placement portfolio including blog and reflection (Reflection - 1,500 words)	75	Y