UNIVERSITY OF PORTSMOUTH

COURSE SPECIFICATION

BSc (Hons) Music Computing

Academic Standards, Quality and Partnerships
Department of Student and Academic Administration

March 2018

COURSE SPECIFICATION

Course Title	***BSc(Hons) Music Computing***
Final Award	*BSc (Hons)*
Exit Awards	*CertHE, DipHE, BSc*
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	*U2554PYC, C2554S*
Mode of study	*Full Time*
Mode of delivery	*Campus*
Normal length of course	*3 years, 4 years with placement*
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	*September 2019 intake onwards*
Awarding Body	*University of Portsmouth*
Teaching Institution	*University of Portsmouth*
Faculty	*Creative and Cultural Industries*
School/Department/Subject Group	*Creative Technologies*
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	*School of Creative Technologies*
Course webpage including entry criteria	*No longer recruiting*
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	*JAMES Joint Audio Media Education Support* *ACC Type 10101*
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	*Level 6*

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.

This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the Module Web Search for further information on the course structure and modules.

Educational aims of the course

The Music Computing Programme aims to equip students with a critical and reflective knowledge and understanding of their subject and the appropriate skills to enter the creative industries in various thematic areas, including games, multimedia, music, film, studio recording, programming, sound installation, sound engineering, studio technician/management and independent sound production, education and software design.

Students will follow a curriculum balanced between the development of skills in sound design, programming, recording, analysis, composition and production set within a structure that supplies a choice of development in media, studio or computer applications.

In addition and more generally, the course aims to:

- Provide a challenging, stimulating and supportive study environment.
- Provide a framework whereby individual study paths may be forged based on choice from a range of options.
- To equip students with the necessary transferable skills for lifelong learning, employability and flexibility in the context of changing global labour markets.
- Develop a range of key skills by means of opportunities provided in the study units.
- Accommodate student needs in relation to maximizing their career potential by enabling them to develop knowledge, understanding and skills in their chosen subject area.
- Promote career aspirations by including study topics on general professional practice and study skills.

Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their Framework for Higher Education Qualifications document.

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	The principles of acoustics, digital audio, sound production and sound manipulation. (M)	Lecture Seminar Project Supervision Demonstration Practical Classes and Workshops Supervised Time in Studio/Workshop	Written assignment including essay Report Portfolio Project Output (other than dissertation) Set exercise (coursework)
A2	Computational thinking including its relevance to everyday life. (C)	Lecture Seminar Project Supervision	Written assignment including essay Report

			Project Output (other than dissertation) Set exercise (coursework)
A3	Essential facts, concepts, principles and theories relating to Computing and computer applications as appropriate to the programme of study. (C)	Lecture Seminar Project Supervision Practical Classes and Workshops	Written assignment including essay Project Output (other than dissertation) Portfolio Set exercise (coursework)
A4	Intellectual property rights: the legal, ethical and other regulatory frameworks that are relevant to music production, manipulation, distribution, circulation and reception. (M)	Lecture Seminar Project Supervision	Written assignment including essay Report Portfolio
A5	Sound recording and engineering theory, practice and creative applications. (M)	Lecture Seminar Project Supervision Demonstration Practical Classes and Workshops Supervised Time in Studio/Workshop	Written assignment including essay Report Portfolio Project Output (other than dissertation) Set exercise (coursework)

B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	Critically manage and evaluate creative music technology artefacts and projects. (M, C)	Lecture Seminar Tutorial Project Supervision	Report Portfolio Dissertation Project Output (other than dissertation) Set exercise (coursework)
B2	Examine assumptions, concepts and hypotheses critically in the light of evidence, to make informed choices, and to apply insights and discoveries in one area of study to another. (M)	Lecture Seminar Tutorial Project Supervision	Report Portfolio Dissertation Project Output (other than dissertation) Set exercise (coursework)
B3	Critical understanding: the ability to assimilate	Lecture	*Report*

	information and insights from scholarly discourse (including from other arts or sciences), and relate them to the practice and experience of music. (M)	Seminar Tutorial Project Supervision Practical Classes and Workshops Supervised Time in Studio/Workshop	*Dissertation* *Project Output (other than dissertation)*
B4	Assimilate different theoretical and aesthetic systems of thought and to relate theory to practice. (M3.6)	Lecture Seminar Tutorial Project Supervision Practical Classes and Workshops Supervised Time in Studio/Workshop	Report Written assignment including essay Dissertation Portfolio Project Output (other than dissertation)
B5	Research and exploration: the ability to gather, synthesize and evaluate evidence, including the ability to quote from and acknowledge written sources (M)	Lecture Seminar Tutorial Project Supervision Practical Classes and Workshops Supervised Time in Studio/Workshop	Report Written assignment including essay Dissertation Project Output (other than dissertation)

C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	Specify, design and construct reliable, secure and usable computer-based systems. (C)	Lecture Seminar Project Supervision Demonstration Practical Classes and Workshops Supervised Time in Studio/Workshop	Written assignment including essay Report Portfolio Project Output (other than dissertation) Set exercise (coursework)
C2	Work with co-creators, including those from different artistic disciplines. (M)	Lecture Seminar Project Supervision Practical Classes and Workshops	Report Portfolio Project Output (other than dissertation) Set exercise (coursework)

		Supervised Time in Studio/Workshop	
C3	Digital capture: the ability to capture, publish, analyse and edit music using appropriate technological (digital recording) resources, whether visual or aural (including web-streaming/hosting, livecast, interactive media). (M)	Lecture Seminar Project Supervision Demonstration Practical Classes and Workshops Supervised Time in Studio/Workshop	Written assignment including essay Report Portfolio Project Output (other than dissertation) Set exercise (coursework)
C4	Digital expression: the harnessing of technological resources (including software development) for the purposes of composition, performance, music production, instrument creation, sound synthesis, notation and dissemination. (M)	Lecture Seminar Project Supervision Demonstration Practical Classes and Workshops Supervised Time in Studio/Workshop	Written assignment including essay Report Portfolio Project Output (other than dissertation) Set exercise (coursework)
C5	Digital innovation: the ability to design and build technological resources through computer coding, programming and audio electronics for the purpose of interface design, as well as composition and performance. (M)	Lecture Seminar Project Supervision Demonstration Practical Classes and Workshops Supervised Time in Studio/Workshop	Written assignment including essay Report Portfolio Project Output (other than dissertation) Set exercise (coursework)

D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Gather, synthesize and evaluate evidence, including the ability to quote from and acknowledge written sources. (M)	Lecture Tutorial Project Supervision	Written assignment including essay Report Dissertation
D2	Synthesize inputs (knowledge, materials, information) in order to generate outputs in written, aural or practical format.(M)	Lecture Tutorial Project Supervision	Written assignment including essay Report Dissertation
D3	Examine assumptions, concepts and hypotheses critically in the light of evidence, to make informed choices, and to apply insights and discoveries in one area of study to another.(M)	Lecture Tutorial Project Supervision	Written assignment including essay Report

			Dissertation
D4	Manage projects to meet defined or conceived briefs and specifications, agree targets and plan how these will be met, reviewing the progress of one's own learning and agree actions for improvement.(C)	Lecture Tutorial Project Supervision	Written assignment including essay Report Dissertation Portfolio Project Output (other than dissertation)

Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth Academic Regulations will apply to this course.

Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the MyPort student portal.

In addition to these University support services this course also provides access to:

CCI Creative Careers: Support to add degree-related and relevant work experience for CV building including a work placement year, summer or short internships and part-time work.

CCI Creative Skills: One to one support sessions and group tutorials in creative software and skills relevant to CCI courses and future careers.

CCI Academic Skills: Access to resources to support learning strategies and techniques through one to one tutorials or group workshops.

CCI Student Support Advisor: Help to find appropriate academic, pastoral or practical support.

Specialist equipment and facilities relevant to the course.

Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice where you can also find further information.

Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

- University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification
- University of Portsmouth Education Strategy 2016 - 2020
- University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning
- Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements
- Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statements: Music (M); Computing (C)
- Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications

- Requirements of Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Bodies: Joint Audio Media Education Services (JAMES)
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff
- National Occupational Standards

Disclaimer

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

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