

Music and Audiovisual Media MA

COURSE DETAILS

- Full-time: 12 months
- Part-time: 24 months

KEY DATES

- Apply by: [29 August 2025](#)
 - Starts: 22 September 2025
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Course overview

This programme provides you with flexible advanced training that will develop your knowledge and expertise in music and audiovisual media. It offers two pathways; one academic and one practical, which enables you to develop skills according to your own interests and specialisms.

INTRODUCTION

Utilising the industry standard facilities within the Department of Music, this course allows you to specialise in areas such as composition for moving image, sound design, screen music analysis, film studies, and sound studies.

You can develop your knowledge and research skills through approaches to audiovisual media including musicology, critical theory, and textual analysis. Students present their research in essays, audiovisual essays, podcasts, soundwalks, and other audiovisual formats.

Film, television, gaming, and web-based audiovisual content creation are all expanding areas of employment for music graduates. The subject is also a burgeoning field of academic study. The MA Music and Audiovisual Media responds to these developments by offering both practice-based and critical studies pathways.

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- To compose and produce screen music to a high standard
- To critically reflect on relevant literature, methodologies, and theories of music in audiovisual media
- To analyse screen music in an engaging manner, drawing on appropriate terminology and theoretical concepts
- To prepare and present original research in a professional and appropriate manner using the necessary tools and resources

- To produce original compositions for a professional recording session or concert
 - To work both under supervision and independently; justify and defend decisions taken in the construction and prosecution of research tasks
 - To demonstrate the ability to plan, organise, review, and deliver a large-scale independent project
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Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

SEMESTER ONE

The programme offers two core pathways – one academic and the other practical – enabling you to tailor your studies to suit your career ambitions.

For the **academic** pathway, you will take MUSI567 in semester one, and MUSI554 in the second semester.

For the **practical** pathway, you will take MUSI569 in semester one, and MUSI552 in the second semester.

All students will take MUSI552 and the major project module (MUSI550). You will also choose three optional modules.

COMPULSORY MODULES

ANALYSING SCREEN MUSIC 1 (MUSI567)

Credits: 30 / Semester: semester 1

This module will introduce students to the skills needed to research, analyse, critically assess, and write about music and audiovisual media at a postgraduate level. Students will learn historical and technological approaches to synchronising music to moving images across a broad range of media, from silent and narrative cinema to pop music videos, video games, and more.

COMPOSING TO PICTURE 1 (MUSI569)

Credits: 30 / Semester: semester 1

This module will introduce students to a range of professional practices and applications of screen composition. Students will master the technical skills and storytelling strategies required to synchronise their music to picture in an appropriate and considered way. The module encourages students to build a portfolio of work consisting of a range of audiovisual media. Sessions will be delivered as lectures and workshops in the Mac Suite, and students will be assessed on their curated practical work. During the module, students will gain skills and experience with Logic Pro X.

OPTIONAL MODULES

COMPOSING FOR NEW MEDIA (MUSI557)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module will introduce students to the process of composing sound and music for cutting-edge interactive media. Topics will include composing for video games, web content, and other forms of modern content. Prominent theories will be discussed and formative exercises will provide practical experience, culminating in a final creative project. During the module, students will gain skills and experience with software such as Unity and FMOD.

CREATIVE SOUND DESIGN (MUSI559)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module will introduce students to the creative application and choreography of sound in audiovisual media. Topics will include Foley sound, storytelling with sound, the relationship between music and sound, and mixing. Sessions will be delivered in a combination of seminars and practical studio workshops in our new Foley stage. During the module, students will gain skills and experience with software such as Logic Pro and Pro Tools.

SOUND AND DIGITAL CULTURES (MUSI551)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module will introduce students to the use of music in digital media, from music videos to social and interactive media. Students will learn how the circulation of music on the Internet has affected music production, dissemination, and reception. Topics may include music and apps/streaming, music/sound/voice and AI, and other forms of modern media and digital communication. The module will culminate in a case study of a digital audiovisual media work.

SOUNDSCAPES AND SCREEN MEDIA (MUSI565)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module will introduce students to the concepts and creations of soundscapes in screen media. Students will learn how different musical genres and sound effects create ambience and environments in media from films to video games. Topics will include a select history of music and sound design, and the relationship between music and sound. The module will culminate in a creative project that explores or creates soundscapes in audio-visual media.

Any optional modules listed above are illustrative only and may vary from year to year. Modules may be subject to minimum student numbers being achieved and staff availability. This means that the availability of specific optional modules cannot be guaranteed.

SEMESTER TWO

COMPULSORY MODULES

ANALYSING SCREEN MUSIC 2 (MUSI554)

Credits: 30 / Semester: semester 2

Building on from Analysing Screen Music 1, this module prepares students for the delivery of academic conference papers. Students will develop a conference paper to be given in a symposium with fellow students and staff. This module will also continue to introduce students to recent techniques, theories, and scholarly debates in music in audiovisual media, such as the use of pre-existing popular music in film and television, and the creation of digital music videos.

Students should have taken MUSI553 or have equivalent experience as approved by the instructor.

BRANDING AND COLLABORATION (MUSI552)

Credits: 30 / Semester: semester 2

This module will prepare students on both pathways for a career after the MA course. Students will learn to professionally promote themselves and their work; to communicate and collaborate with clients and colleagues effectively; to find, acquire, and sustain jobs, grants, and working relationships. The module will encourage students to work together to present their music and research in a variety of multimedia formats.

OPTIONAL MODULES

COMPOSING TO PICTURE 2 (MUSI556)

Credits: 30 / Semester: semester 2

Building on from Composing to Picture 1, this module will prepare students for a professional recording session. It offers students the opportunity to develop their music and have it recorded by live musicians in a studio setting. The module takes students from the spotting session all the way through to the delivery of a mixed and mastered soundtrack. During the module, students will gain skills and experience with software such as Logic Pro X, Pro Tools, and Sibelius.

Any optional modules listed above are illustrative only and may vary from year to year. Modules may be subject to minimum student numbers being achieved and staff availability. This means that the availability of specific optional modules cannot be guaranteed.

FINAL PROJECT

COMPULSORY MODULES

MAJOR PROJECT: MUSIC AND AUDIOVISUAL MEDIA (MUSI550)

Credits: 60 / Semester: summer

The Major Project marks the culmination of the student's MA course. Depending on individual pathways, students will deliver either a portfolio of original music-to-picture compositions, a written dissertation, or a research project that combines practical and written work. Students will each be assigned a supervisor with whom they will liaise throughout the semester.

Any optional modules listed above are illustrative only and may vary from year to year. Modules may be subject to minimum student numbers being achieved and staff availability. This means that the availability of specific optional modules cannot be guaranteed.

HOW YOU'LL LEARN

The MA Music and Audiovisual Media programme is split into two pathways: research and practical. Teaching on the MA programme is delivered primarily through a combination of lectures, workshops, and seminars, as well as guest lectures and workshops with external partnerships. All teaching takes place on campus. In semester 3, students develop portfolios and research projects with guidance from a specialist supervision team. Assignments encompass a wide range of topics and can be focussed towards written or audiovisual research projects, or more practical projects involving music composition, VR environments, and/or sound design. Lectures and seminars focussing on career development and professional skills encourage students to think about and prepare for employment (or self-employment) after the course.

HOW YOU'RE ASSESSED

Students on the MA Music and Audiovisual Media programme are assessed through a combination of formative and summative coursework, including screen music portfolios, self-reflective commentaries, essays, audiovisual essays, and musical scores.

LIVERPOOL HALLMARKS

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

Careers and employability

The MA Music and Audiovisual Media develops key skills to those working or wishing to work in a variety of fields related to music and media. The MA programme is particularly suitable for graduates looking to pursue careers in filmmaking as, for example, music composers, orchestrators, music supervisors/editors, or sound designers. Equally, the MA is designed to prepare students for further research at PhD level, and to enable them to enter further postgraduate study, thus offering a first step towards a career in academic teaching and research.

Career support from day one to graduation and beyond

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Career planning

[Our Careers Studio and career coaches can provide tailored support for your future plans.](#)

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From education to employment

Employability in your curriculum for a successful transition

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Networking events

[Make meaningful connections with like-minded professionals](#)

YOUR FUTURE

Students from this course can pursue careers in a wide range of professions. These include:

- Composer
 - Music supervisor
 - Orchestrator
 - Sound designer
 - Academic researcher
 - Lecturer
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Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

TUITION FEES

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)	
Full-time place, per year	£11,700
Part-time place, per year	£5,850

International fees	
Full-time place, per year	£24,100
Part-time place, per year	£12,050

Fees stated are for the 2025-26 academic year.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support.

- You can [pay your tuition fees in instalments](#).
- All or part of your tuition fees can be [funded by external sponsorship](#).
- International applicants who accept an offer of a place will need to [pay a tuition fee deposit](#).

If you're a UK national, or have settled status in the UK, you may be eligible to apply for a Postgraduate Loan worth up to £12,167 to help with course fees and living costs. [Learn more about fees and funding](#).

ADDITIONAL COSTS

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This could include buying a laptop, books, or stationery.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

We offer a range of scholarships and bursaries that could help pay your tuition and living expenses.

We've set the country or region your qualifications are from as United Kingdom. [Change it here](#)

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POSTGRADUATE GLOBAL ADVANCEMENT SCHOLARSHIP – ACHIEVEMENT

◦ [International students](#)

[If you're an international student joining a master's course with us, you could be eligible to receive a tuition fee discount of £2,500, based on your prior academic achievement, choice of course, and you not having studied with us before.](#)

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POSTGRADUATE GLOBAL ADVANCEMENT SCHOLARSHIP – COUNTRY

◦ [International students](#)

◦ [Antigua and Barbuda](#)

◦ [Australia](#)

◦ [Bangladesh](#)

◦ [Barbados](#)

◦ [Belize](#)

◦ [Brunei](#)

◦ [Canada](#)

◦ [China](#)

◦ [Cyprus](#)

◦ [Dominica](#)

◦ [Egypt](#)

◦ [Ghana](#)

◦ [Grenada](#)

◦ [Guyana](#)

◦ [India](#)

◦ [Jamaica](#)

◦ [Japan](#)

◦ [Kenya](#)

◦ [Malaysia](#)

◦ [Mauritius](#)

◦ [Mexico](#)

◦ [New Zealand](#)

◦ [Nigeria](#)

◦ [Pakistan](#)

◦ [Saint Kitts and Nevis](#)

◦ [Saint Lucia](#)

◦ [Saint Vincent and The Grenadines](#)

- [Singapore](#)
- [South Africa](#)
- [South Korea](#)
- [Sri Lanka](#)
- [Tanzania](#)
- [Thailand](#)
- [Trinidad and Tobago](#)
- [Turkey](#)
- [Uganda](#)
- [Vietnam](#)

If you're an international student joining a master's course with us, you could be eligible to receive a tuition fee discount of £2,500, based on your nationality, choice of course, and you not having studied with us before.

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GRADUATE LOYALTY ADVANCEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

- [Home and international students](#)

If you're a University of Liverpool graduate starting this master's degree with us, you could be eligible to receive a loyalty discount of up to £2,500 off your master's tuition fees.

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CHILEAN NATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (ANID) SCHOLARSHIP

- [International students](#)
- [Chile](#)

If you're a Chilean student joining a master's degree, you could be eligible to apply for a 20% discount on your tuition fees with a Chilean National Agency for Research and Development (ANID) Scholarship. Scholarship.

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CHEVENING SCHOLARSHIPS

- [International students](#)
- [Albania](#)
- [Algeria](#)
- [Anguilla](#)
- [Antigua and Barbuda](#)
- [Argentina](#)
- [Australia](#)
- [Azerbaijan](#)
- [Bangladesh](#)
- [Barbados](#)
- [Belize](#)
- [Bolivia](#)
- [Brazil](#)
- [British Virgin Islands](#)
- [Brunei](#)
- [Canada](#)

- [Cayman Islands](#)
- [Chile](#)
- [China](#)
- [Columbia](#)
- [Costa Rica](#)
- [Cuba](#)
- [Dominica](#)
- [Ecuador](#)
- [Egypt](#)
- [El Salvador](#)
- [Ghana](#)
- [Guatemala](#)
- [Guyana](#)
- [Honduras](#)
- [Hong Kong](#)
- [Iceland](#)
- [India](#)
- [Indonesia](#)
- [Iraq](#)
- [Jamaica](#)
- [Japan](#)
- [Jordan](#)
- [Kazakhstan](#)
- [Kenya](#)
- [Libya](#)
- [Malaysia](#)
- [Mauritius](#)
- [Mexico](#)
- [Moldova](#)
- [Mongolia](#)
- [Montserrat](#)
- [Morocco](#)
- [Nepal](#)
- [New Zealand](#)
- [Nicaragua](#)
- [Nigeria](#)
- [Pakistan](#)
- [Panama](#)
- [Paraguay](#)
- [Peru](#)
- [Philippines](#)
- [Russia](#)
- [Saint Kitts and Nevis](#)
- [Saint Lucia](#)
- [Saint Vincent and The Grenadines](#)
- [Serbia](#)
- [Singapore](#)
- [South Africa](#)

- [South Korea](#)
- [South Sudan](#)
- [Sri Lanka](#)
- [Sudan](#)
- [Taiwan](#)
- [Tanzania](#)
- [Thailand](#)
- [Trinidad and Tobago](#)
- [Turkey](#)
- [Turks and Caicos Islands](#)
- [Uganda](#)
- [Ukraine](#)
- [Uruguay](#)
- [Venezuela](#)
- [Vietnam](#)
- [Zimbabwe](#)

[If you're an international student from an eligible country, joining a one-year master's course, you could be eligible to apply for a Chevening Scholarship. If your application is successful, you could expect to have your master's fees paid, up to a maximum of £18,000, and receive additional help with living costs.](#)

CONSEJO NACIONAL DE CIENCIA Y TECNOLOGIA (CONACYT) AWARD

- [International students](#)
- [Mexico](#)

[If you're a Mexican student joining a master's degree, you could be eligible to apply for a 30% discount on your tuition fees with a CONACyT Award.](#)

FUND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES (FIDERH) AWARD

- [International students](#)
- [Mexico](#)

[If you're a Mexican student joining a master's degree and you're in receipt of a FIDERH graduate loan, you could be eligible to benefit from a 20% discount on your tuition fees with a FIDERH Award.](#)

FUNED AWARD

- [International students](#)
- [Mexico](#)

[If you're a Mexican student joining a master's degree and you're in receipt of a FUNED loan, you can apply to be considered for a 20% tuition fee discount. A total of up to 50 awards will be available to master's and PhD students per academic year.](#)

HONG KONG GRADUATE ASSOCIATION & TUNG FOUNDATION POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

- [International students](#)
- [China](#)
- [Hong Kong](#)

[If you're a master's student from Hong Kong or the People's Republic of China who can demonstrate academic excellence, you may be eligible to apply for a scholarship worth up to £10,000 in partnership with the Tung Foundation.](#)

HRH PRINCESS SIRINDHORN UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL SCHOLARSHIP (THAILAND)

- [International students](#)
- [Thailand](#)

[If you're a student from Thailand joining a one-year master's degree, you might be eligible to apply to have your tuition fees paid in full and receive help with living costs. One award is available and only students who are new to the University will be considered.](#)

HUMANITARIAN SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MASTER'S PROGRAMMES

- [International students](#)

[Do you have recognised status as a refugee or person with humanitarian protection outside the UK? Or are you a Ukrainian who's sought temporary protection in the EU? You could be eligible to apply for the full payment of your master's fees and additional financial support.](#)

JOHN LENNON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

- [Home students](#)

[If you're a UK student, either born in or with strong family connections to Merseyside, you could be eligible to apply for a fee discount of up to £4,500. You'll need to demonstrate an active interest in global, community and environmental issues to be considered.](#)

JUVENTUDES GTO SCHOLARSHIP

- [International students](#)
- [Mexico](#)

[If you're a resident of the state of Guanajuato in Mexico joining a master's degree, you could be eligible for a 10% discount on your tuition fees with a JuventudEsGto Scholarship.](#)

KAPLAN DIGITAL PATHWAYS EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP

- [International students](#)

[Completed a Kaplan Digital Pathways Pre-Master's? We're offering a £5,000 fee discount off the first year of master's study for a maximum of two high achieving students joining one of our non-clinical master's courses from an online Kaplan Pre-Master's programme.](#)

MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP

- [International students](#)

- [United States](#)

[If you're a USA student joining an eligible master's with us, you could be eligible to apply for a Marshall Scholarship. If your application is successful, your master's tuition fees will be paid in full. One Marshall Scholarship for master's study is available in each academic year.](#)

- **[MARTHA VIDOR SCHOLARSHIP FOR MUSIC AND AUDIOVISUAL MEDIA](#)**

- [Home students](#)

[If you're a UK student joining our Music and Audiovisual Media MA and can demonstrate your music ambitions, you could be eligible to receive a £5,000 discount off your tuition fees. One award will be available in each academic year.](#)

- **[POSTGRADUATE OPPORTUNITY BURSARY](#)**

- [Home students](#)

[If you're a UK University of Liverpool graduate joining a master's degree with us, you could be eligible to receive £3,000 off your tuition fees. You must have graduated in the last two years and received a widening access scholarship during your undergraduate studies.](#)

- **[SPORT LIVERPOOL PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME](#)**

- [Home and international students](#)

[Apply to receive tailored training support to enhance your sporting performance. Our athlete support package includes a range of benefits, from bespoke strength and conditioning training to physiotherapy sessions and one-to-one nutritional advice.](#)

- **[THE AZIZ FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP](#)**

- [Home students](#)

[If you're a British Muslim, active within a Muslim community and dedicated to bringing positive change to society, you could apply to potentially have the full cost of your master's tuition fees covered by an Aziz Foundation Scholarship.](#)

- **[TURKISH MINISTRY OF EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP](#)**

- [International students](#)

- [Turkey](#)

[If you're a Turkish student joining a master's degree, you could be eligible to apply for a 20% discount on your tuition fees with a Turkish Ministry of Education Scholarship.](#)

- **[UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP](#)**

- [International students](#)

[Completed a Pre-Master's at University of Liverpool International College \(UoLIC\)? We're offering a £5,000 fee discount off the first year of master's study to some of the highest achieving students joining one of our non-clinical master's courses from UoLIC.](#)

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UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE IMPACT PROGRESSION SCHOLARSHIPS

- [International students](#)

[If you're a University of Liverpool International College student awarded a Kaplan Impact Scholarship, we'll also consider you for an Impact Progression Scholarship. If selected, you'll receive a fee discount worth £3,000 off the first year of your master's course.](#)

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VICE-CHANCELLOR'S INTERNATIONAL ATTAINMENT SCHOLARSHIP FOR MAINLAND CHINA

- [International students](#)
- [China](#)

[Are you a high-achieving graduate from the People's Republic of China with a degree from a Chinese university? You could be eligible to apply for a £5,000 fee discount if you're joining an eligible master's course. Up to 15 eligible students will receive this scholarship.](#)

Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

Your qualification	Requirements About our typical entry requirements
GCSE	4/C in English and 4/C in Mathematics
Postgraduate entry requirements	We accept a 2:2 honours degree from a UK university, or an equivalent academic qualification from a similar non-UK institution. This degree should be in Music Technology (or a closely related subject e.g. Sound Production, Composition or Creative Media).
International qualifications	If you hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent, but don't meet our entry requirements, a Pre-Master's can help you gain a place. This specialist preparation course for postgraduate study is offered on campus at the University of Liverpool International College , in partnership with Kaplan International Pathways. Although there's no direct Pre-Master's route to this MA, completing a Pre-Master's pathway can guarantee you a place on many other postgraduate courses at The University of Liverpool.

THE ORIGINAL

REDBRICK