UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

BA (Hons)

Music and Technology

UCAS code W370

Entry requirements	Study mode	Duration
A level: ABB	Full-time	3 years

Apply by: **29 January 2025**
Starts on: **22 September 2025**

About this course

Our Music and Technology programme allows you to specialise in the vocational areas of recording and production, electronic music, sound design and composition for film and video gaming. You'll have access to recently refurbished, industry-standard facilities, including several recording and production studios.

Introduction

The programme focuses not only on technical areas such as sound recording and music production, but also allows you to explore other creative and experimental applications of music technology. You will underpin your technology practice with specialist theoretical, historical and contextual modules, and will have the option to develop your performance skills in either popular or classical music.

Alongside your technology-focused modules, you will be able to choose from a wide range of popular and classical music modules. This means you can also study classical or popular music performance, classical or popular music composition, or the music industry; or more specialist topics such as music psychology and music for film, TV and games.

Your first year will comprise of three compulsory modules which will introduce you to the foundations of sound technology, sound recording, production, and electronic

music. In your second and final years, you will have the opportunity to focus on the areas that interest you most, and to undertake an independent project in creative music technology.

Year in industry

Undergraduate students in the Department of Music have the opportunity to spend a year in industry, either in their third year, or by adding a 'follow-on year' at the end of their academic studies. These are paid placements within an organisation in industry, broadly defined, and you will receive support from the Department and the School of the Arts to source and apply for opportunities. Find out more about the difference between these options, including how to apply.

What you'll learn

- Advanced understanding of sound and music technology theory
- Practical and vocational skills in sound recording and production
- Academic research skills
- Critical and cultural awareness
- The ability to devise and sustain complex arguments
- Written and oral communication and presentation
- Creativity
- Time management and organisations skills

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Course content

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

Year one

Students take three compulsory modules worth 45 credits, and five optional modules.

You may take EITHER **MUSI102 (Classical Performance 1)** or **MUSI104 (Popular Performance 1)**.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL AUDIO WORKSTATIONS (MUSI109)	15
INTRODUCTION TO SOUND AND TECHNOLOGY (MUSI171)	15
INTRODUCTION TO SOUND RECORDING AND PRODUCTION (MUSI108)	15
THE HISTORY OF ELECTRONIC MUSIC (MUSI172)	15

Optional modules	Credits
FOUNDATIONS IN TONAL HARMONY (MUSI181)	15
INTRODUCTION TO CLASSICAL MUSIC HISTORY (MUSI130)	15
INTRODUCTION TO POPULAR MUSIC HISTORY (MUSI140)	15
MUSIC IN CONTEXTS: WHY MUSIC MATTERS (MUSI121)	15
POPULAR MUSIC THEORY IN PRACTICE (MUSI182)	15

Optional modules	Credits
WRITING FOR INSTRUMENTS (MUSI105)	15
CLASSICAL COMPOSITION 1 (MUSI106)	15
INTRODUCTION TO SOUND AND MUSIC IN AUDIOVISUAL MEDIA (MUSI170)	15
MUSIC AS AN INDUSTRY (MUSI150)	15
POPULAR COMPOSITION 1 (MUSI107)	15
THEORY IN PRACTICE: EXPLORING MUSIC'S CONSTRUCTION (MUSI180)	15
CLASSICAL PERFORMANCE 1 (MUSI102)	15
POPULAR PERFORMANCE 1 (MUSI104)	15

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Year two

Your second year will comprise entirely of optional modules.

There may be some restrictions on which modules can be taken in conjunction with others, which will be explained during module registration.

Students wishing to spend their third year in industry must take SOTA260 (Professional and Career Development).

Modules

Optional modules	Credits
CLASSICAL PERFORMANCE 2A (MUSI201)	15

Optional modules	Credits
EARLY MUSICAL CULTURES FROM THE ISLAMICATE COURT TO THE ENGLISH REFORMATION (MUSI219)	15
EXPLORING HARMONY, CHORD PROGRESSION AND PITCH (MUSI280)	15
FOLEY AND SOUND DESIGN (MUSI208)	15
GLOBAL POP: POPULAR MUSICS OF THE WORLD (MUSI261)	15
INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC PSYCHOLOGY (MUSI290)	15
LIVE SOUND (MUSI214)	15
MAX AND ABLETON LIVE (MUSI209)	15
MUSIC IN GAMING (MUSI273)	15
OPERA AND POLITICS (MUSI232)	15
POPULAR MUSIC COMPOSITION 2 (MUSI210)	15
POPULAR PERFORMANCE 2A (MUSI203)	15
PROFESSIONAL AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT (SOTA260)	15
SOUND RECORDING AND PRODUCTION 2 (MUSI243)	15
WORKING IN MUSIC INDUSTRY (MUSI252)	15
BECOMING ENTREPRENEURIAL (ULMS254)	15
CLASSICAL COMPOSITION 2 (MUSI207)	15
CLASSICAL PERFORMANCE 2B (MUSI202)	15

Optional modules	Credits
COMPOSITION FOR DIGITAL GAMES (MUSI206)	15
COMPOSITION FOR FILM AND TELEVISION (MUSI205)	15
CONTEMPORARY GENRES (MUSI263)	15
INTRODUCTION TO CONDUCTING (MUSI200)	15
LIVE IMPROVISATION WITH ABLETON (MUSI217)	15
MUSIC IN EVERYDAY LIFE (MUSI291)	15
MUSIC IN WORLD CINEMA (MUSI270)	15
MUSIC, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY (MUSI220)	15
MUSICAL THEATRE (MUSI274)	15
ORCHESTRATION (MUSI216)	15
POPULAR PERFORMANCE 2B (MUSI204)	15
POST-WAGNERIAN MUSIC AND PHILOSOPHY (MUSI230)	15
RECORD LABEL MARKETING, PROMOTION AND DISTRIBUTION (MUSI215)	15
SAMPLING AND REMIXING (MUSI213)	15
SOUND, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIETY (MUSI241)	15
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS WORK PLACEMENTS MODULE (SOTA300)	30

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Final year

You will choose your modules from a wide range of options.

There may be some restrictions on which modules can be taken in conjunction with others, which will be explained during module registration.

Modules

Optional modules	Credits
AESTHETICS OF MUSIC (MUSI320)	15
COMPOSING ELECTRONIC MUSIC (MUSI308)	15
FROM HARDWARE-HACKING TO HYPER-INSTRUMENTS (MUSI318)	15
JAZZ (MUSI341)	15
POPULAR PERFORMANCE CONTEXTS (MUSI303)	15
RECORD LABEL RECORDING, PRODUCTION AND PROJECT PLANNING (MUSI314)	15
SELF-MANAGEMENT FOR THE MUSIC INDUSTRIES (MUSI319)	15
SOUND STUDIES (MUSI322)	15
ADVANCED LIVE SOUND (MUSI316)	15
CURATION AND HERITAGE (MUSI353)	15
EXPLORING RHYTHM, FORM, AND MUSICAL TIME (MUSI380)	15
POPULAR MUSIC COMPOSITION 3 (MUSI310)	15

Optional modules	Credits
RECORD LABEL MANAGEMENT (MUSI315)	15
THE FILM MUSIC OF JOHN WILLIAMS (MUSI370)	15
INDEPENDENT PROJECT: CLASSICAL PERFORMANCE (MUSI395)	30
INDEPENDENT PROJECT: COMPOSITION (MUSI397)	30
INDEPENDENT PROJECT: CREATIVE MUSIC TECHNOLOGY (MUSI396)	30
INDEPENDENT PROJECT: POPULAR COMPOSITION (MUSI394)	30
INDEPENDENT PROJECT: POPULAR PERFORMANCE (MUSI398)	30
INDEPENDENT PROJECT: RESEARCH (MUSI399)	30
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS WORK PLACEMENTS MODULE (SOTA300)	30

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Combined degree

Choosing this subject as a combined degree

In Years Two and Three you develop your skills in areas such as electronic composition, MAX/MSP, audio visual composition, or sound recording.

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

We employ a range of teaching methods, including lectures, seminars, tutorials, workshops, master classes, 1-2-1 instrumental lessons, ensemble coaching, and online tasks and projects. The emphasis is on student participation and interaction. We fit the most appropriate mode of teaching to the particular subject, conscious that the

learning process needs to be enjoyable, enabling you to acquire useful and marketable skills and knowledge.

How you're assessed

Each module has an individually determined system of assessment (by coursework, written paper, test, recital, composition or technology portfolio, presentation or podcast, examination, and combinations of these), and we select the method that best suits the nature of the module.

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.

The Liverpool Curriculum framework sets out our distinctive approach to education. Our teaching staff support our students to develop academic knowledge, skills, and understanding alongside our **graduate attributes**:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three **Liverpool Hallmarks**:

- Research-connected teaching
- Active learning
- Authentic assessment

All this is underpinned by our core value of **inclusivity** and commitment to providing a curriculum that is accessible to all students.

Careers and employability

Studying music opens up many career opportunities. As well as jobs in music (from performance, composition, and production, through to teaching, music therapy and community arts), employers in many sectors are increasingly seeking arts and humanities graduates for their transferable skills.

As a music student you will achieve creative flair and imagination, confidence in expressing yourself, an openness to new ideas, a capacity for hard work and an ability to analyse data. You will learn the value of working with others towards a shared, finished product and a whole range of flexible, professional skills.

As a student in the School of the Arts, you will be supported to maximise your employability from day one.

The School has its own placements and employability officer, and you will have the opportunity to undertake the following work experience opportunities:

- Work placement or a year in industry as part of your programme
- Work in our student-run record label to gain practical experience of all aspects of the music industry – from contract negotiation and project planning, through to promotion and distribution.

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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 - £9,535
Year in industry fee - £1,905
Year abroad fee - £1,430 (applies to year in China)

International fees

Full-time place, per year - £24,100
Year in industry fee - £1,905
Year abroad fee - £12,050 (applies to year in China)

The tuition fees shown are correct for 2025/26 entry. Please note that the year abroad fee also applies to the year in China.

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

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.

Entry requirements

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

As part of our application process, applicants are normally required to attend an Applicant Interview and Music Experience Day where you will either have an interview or a short audition with an academic member of staff. This is your chance to demonstrate your passion for the subject and allow us to make a decision on your application. (There is an option for phone or Skype interviews).

A levels

ABB including A level Music or A level Music Technology grade B, or ABRSM Grade 8 in Music Theory at Pass. If an applicant is taking grade 8 in any instrument (or singing), a dual offer can be made: ABB or BBB with grade 8 Distinction. Some of our optional modules require academic demonstration of ability.

Applicants with the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) are eligible for a reduction in grade requirements. For this course, the offer is **BBB** with **A** in the EPQ.

You may automatically qualify for reduced entry requirements through our contextual offers scheme. Based on your personal circumstances, you may automatically qualify for up to a two-grade reduction in the entry requirements needed for this course. When you apply, we consider a range of factors – such as where you live – to assess if you're eligible for a grade reduction. You don't have to make an application for a grade reduction – we'll do all the work.

Find out more about how we make reduced grade offers.

T levels

T levels are not currently accepted.

GCSE

4/C in English and 4/C in Mathematics

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma

BTEC applications are encouraged. We evaluate each BTEC application on its merits and may make offers at DDM.

International Baccalaureate

33 including Higher Level 6 in Music, with no score less than 4

Irish Leaving Certificate

H1, H2, H2, H2, H3, H3 including H2 in Music

Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher

Scottish Highers at AABBB plus Scottish Advanced Highers grade B in Music or Music Technology, combinations are also welcome.

Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced

Accepted including 2 A levels at BB (including Music or Music Technology)

Access

Not acceptable without an A level in Music or Music Technology, or ABRSM Theory Grade 8

International qualifications

Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.

If you hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent, but don't meet our entry requirements, you could be eligible for a Pre-Master's course. This is offered on campus at the University of Liverpool International College, in partnership with Kaplan International Pathways. It's a specialist preparation course for postgraduate study, and when you pass the Pre-Master's at the required level with good attendance, you're guaranteed entry to a University of Liverpool master's degree.

English language requirements

You'll need to demonstrate competence in the use of English language, unless you're from a majority English speaking country.

We accept a variety of [international language tests](#) and [country-specific qualifications](#).

International applicants who do not meet the minimum required standard of English language can complete one of our [Pre-Sessional English courses](#) to achieve the required level.

IELTS

6.5 overall, with no component below 5.5

TOEFL iBT

88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 17, writing 17, reading 17 and speaking 19. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

TOEFL Paper

Grade 7 at Standard Level or grade 6 at Higher Level

Duolingo English Test

125 overall, with speaking, reading and writing not less than 105, and listening not below 100

Pearson PTE Academic

61 overall, with no component below 59

LanguageCert Academic

70 overall, with no skill below 60

Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0500

Grade C overall, with a minimum of grade 2 in speaking and listening. Speaking and listening must be separately endorsed on the certificate.

Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0990

Grade 4 overall, with Merit in speaking and listening

Cambridge IGCSE Second Language English 0510/0511

0510: Grade B overall, with a minimum of grade 2 in speaking. Speaking must be separately endorsed on the certificate. 0511: Grade B overall.

Cambridge IGCSE Second Language English 0993/0991

0993: Grade 6 overall, with a minimum of grade 2 in speaking. Speaking must be separately endorsed on the certificate. 0991: Grade 6 overall.

Cambridge ESOL Level 2/3 Advanced

176 overall, with no paper below 162

LanguageCert

Grade 5 at Standard Level or grade 5 at Higher Level

Pre-sessional English

Do you need to complete a Pre-sessional English course to meet the English language requirements for this course?

The length of Pre-sessional English course you'll need to take depends on your current level of English language ability.

Pre-sessional English in detail

If you don't meet our English language requirements, we can use your most recent IELTS score, or the equivalent score in selected other English language tests, to determine the length of Pre-sessional English course you require.

Use the table below to check the course length you're likely to require for your current English language ability and see whether the course is available on campus or online.

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
6.0 overall, with no component below 5.5	6 weeks	On campus
5.5 overall, with no component below 5.5	10 weeks	On campus and online options available
5.5 overall, with no more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0	12 weeks	On campus and online options available
5.5 overall, with no component below 4.5	20 weeks	On campus
5.0 overall, with no component below 4.5	30 weeks	On campus
4.5 overall, with no more than one component below 4.5, and no component below 4.0	40 weeks	On campus

If you've completed an alternative English language test to IELTS, we may be able to use this to assess your English language ability and determine the Pre-sessional English course length you require.

Please see our guide to Pre-sessional English entry requirements for IELTS 6.5 overall, with no component below 5.5, for further details.

Alternative entry requirements

- If your qualification isn't listed here, or you're taking a combination of qualifications, contact us for advice

- Applications from mature students are welcome.

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