DSA Study Needs Assessment
Course information for assessors: BA (Hons) Music (Film)

Course Overview

The BA (Hons) Music (Film) degree is usually studied over three years (an additional foundation year may be available for students who do not meet the standard entry requirements and/or who need additional time and support to achieve conservatoire-standard musicianship). The course comprises Specialist Study, Specialist Group Study, Contextual Studies and Professional Studies and focuses on advancing compositional skills, understanding the narrative function in film, practical and theoretical understanding of Digital Audio Workstation software, and the use of sequencing, sampling and synthesis performance software. Professional studies modules cover topics such as marketing and self-promotion, digital and media literacy, and legal and commercial issues.

Methods of Assessment

Modules on the BA (Hons) are assessed via ongoing coursework through a combination of music recordings with supporting written work and presentations, essay-style written assignments and practical work in various studios both in and out of college. Assessments will be practical and written and will involve composing, arranging and producing film music. Periodically students will be required to produce notated scores (handwritten or Sibelius) to accompany their work.

Conservatoire Facilities and Resources

The conservatoire has a programme of continuous investment in high-end facilities for our students to work with. Both Mac and Windows computers are used for teaching and learning. We have a number of Mac computer suites that students can access. These facilities are available until 3am on weekdays and during the daytime at weekends. Students have access to our music production Macs when teaching is not taking place (normally only between 7pm and 3am) – these are open access for students.

The core music software package Apple Logic Studio 10, which runs solely on the Mac platform, and students take additional Apple-authorised training qualifications on the Logic software. Sibelius music notation software is also used – this is cross-platform and files are compatible across both Mac and Windows platforms.

All course information and lecture notes are accessed only via Space, the online Virtual Learning Environment. The majority of assignments are submitted online via the VLE and use of the internet for research is also required.

For notetaking and lecture recording purposes, all main lectures in large groups taught in classroom and lecture theatres are captured by Panopto and made available online via Space, the college intranet. However, it is not possible to record one-to-one tuition, small group sessions, studio sessions and seminars, thus a digital recording device with a built-in two-way microphone may be a useful aid to learning.

Mind Genius mind-mapping software is available for all students to use on the additional PC clusters in the Learning Resources room and the Library, with MS Office provided for producing assignments. TextHelp Read & Write Gold software is available on the PCs in the Learning Support Service room only, for use during sessions with students having One to One Specialist Study Skills Support (DSA NMH Support Band 4).

Extended library loans are available.

Disabled Students studying music

Students with specific learning difficulties that affect their working memory or information processing speed often experience extra difficulty in reading music, accurately handwriting musical scores or inputting information into music writing software. Coping with the high density multiple screen set-up of information in the music software programmes, especially Logic, can be challenging. This is similar to the difficulties experienced when producing word-processed written work and the process of working with music goes alongside working with other written information as a core part of the learning process on our courses.

Mental health or other difficulties causing concentration problems can also make specialist music software more difficult to use due to the volume and complexity of information the user is required to input and manipulate.

Further information on the support available at Leeds College of Music is available on our website:
https://www.lcm.ac.uk/student-life/student-services/disability-support/

Contacts

The Student Disability Advice Team is located in Student Services in room 401.

Phone 0113 2223421
Email disability@lcm.ac.uk.