

Module Specification

Module Title: Contextual Studies 2: Music and Ideology

Module code:	HBASHR005	NQF level:	Level 5
Credit value:	20 credits	Semester of study:	1 and 2
Applicable pathways:	Business, Classical, Film Music, Folk, Jazz, Popular, Production and Songwriting	Pre-requisites:	None

Module overview

The module will be split into two areas: cultural theories and musical movements. Semester one will provide students with a grounding in cultural theory most specifically relating to the consideration and use of ideology as a key framework for understanding and analysis. Taught content for semester one will include ideology theory, hegemony, Marxism, the works of Adorno and Benjamin, cultural capital and the systems model of creativity. These will all be studied in relation to a wide range of musical repertoire that seeks to better understand and contextualise such practice. Semester two will be focussed on specific musical and artistic movements and will use the knowledge acquired in the first semester to better understand contextual issues throughout. Taught content will include modernism, postmodernism, opera and politics, and jazz-rock fusion.

Throughout the module students will engage in a range of tasks including aural analysis, group discussion and debate.

Aims

This option is designed to address cultural studies, music analysis and critical musicology so that the student may understand how their practice has developed over the years (cultural trends etc.). It is particularly useful grounding for those students wishing to undertake a practice-based research project for the Final Project at level 6.

The module aims to:

1. Introduce students to a wide range of ideas concerned with how we make, consume and talk about a wide range of musics.
2. Incorporate a mixture of cultural studies, music analysis and critical musicology to culminate in students developing a wider appreciation for musical practice and context.
3. Develop the students' ability to apply key theories to musical practice and to identify and analyse how cultural trends impact the creative process.
4. Explore how and why musicians create music for different purposes, how audiences place different value on varied musical forms and how such ideas may, in turn, affect students' own creative practice.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Analyse and understand stylistic and aesthetic trends.
2. Evaluate the application of key repertoire upon its social context, production and reception.
3. Evaluate and identify structural, cultural, historic and social elements.
4. Contextualise historical events on art and culture.

Learning and teaching methods

The module will be delivered through sessions that combine **lecture** and **seminar** delivery.

Lecture. Key concepts and theories will be introduced through formal taught presentations. Taught content and tasks should lead towards an enhanced understanding of the area and an ability for individual research during private study time to aid the development of coursework.

Seminar. Students will take part in a range of discussions, analyses and group exercises to enhance their understanding of each area. Students will also be encouraged to share their unfolding ideas in sessions, and to learn from the development of each other's research.

Contact hours and directed study (over semesters 1 and 2)

Delivery type	Student hours
Indicative hours for learning and teaching activities	30 hours
Indicative hours of directed study	170 hours
Total hours (100hrs per 10 credits)	200 hours

Opportunities for formative feedback

Students will receive regular formative feedback from peers and tutors that will be delivered in seminars.

Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Coursework – students will choose a prescriptive essay title from a number of potential questions relating to key theoretical ideas from semester one	2000 words	50%	1, 2, 3
Coursework – students will identify an area for individual research and develop their own research question with support from the module tutor	2000 words	50%	1, 2, 3, 4

Re-Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Coursework – students will choose a prescriptive essay title from a number of potential questions relating to key theoretical ideas from semester one	2000 words	50%	1, 2, 3
Coursework – students will identify an area for individual research and develop their own research question with support from the module tutor	2000 words	50%	1, 2, 3, 4

Indicative Reading List

- Auslander, P. (2008) *Liveness: Performance in a Mediatized Culture*. Oxford: Routledge.
- Bailey, G. and Gayle, Noga. (2003) *Ideology: Structuring Identities in Contemporary Life*. Ontario: Broadview.
- Csikszentmihalyi. (1996) *Creativity Flow and the Psychology of Discovery and Invention*. New York: Harper Perennial.
- Horner, B and Thomas Swiss (eds). (2008) *Key Terms In Music and Popular Culture*. Malden: Blackwell.
- Negus, K. (1999) *Popular Music in Theory: An Introduction*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
- Paddison, M. (1996) *Adorno, Modernism and Mass Culture*. London: Kahn and Averill.
- Shuker, R. (2005) *Popular Music: The Key Concepts*. Oxon: Routledge.
- Shuker, R. (2008) *Understanding Popular Music Culture*. Oxon: Routledge.
- Storey, J. (1993) *An Introductory Guide to Cultural Theory and Popular Culture*. Hertfordshire: Harvester Wheatsheaf.