

Module Specification

Module Title: Electronic Music Composition 2

Module code:	TBC	NQF level:	Level 5
Credit value:	20 credits	Semester of study:	1 and 2
Applicable pathways:	Foundation Degree – Electronic Music Production	Pre-requisites:	None

Module overview

The module will expand upon topics covered in Electronic Music Composition 1 and will introduce remixing, synthesis, sampling and arranging for live performance. The module content will include advanced programming techniques such as warping, slicing, advanced quantisation, parallel and serial compression, side-chain compression, gating and filtering, transient shaping, 'glitching', rises and falls and an examination and application of stock and third party computer music software synthesisers and plugins in a composition and production context. Students will not only be expected to understand the technical attributes of such processes, but also apply these creatively to their original work.

Aims

The module is designed to further develop and expand on the techniques and skills acquired through the Electronic Music Composition 1 module, including genre specific analysis of contemporary and historical works. Students will learn to evaluate and apply these techniques across a broad range of sources and be equipped with a comprehensive knowledge, understanding and command of appropriate electronic music composition and production techniques. Students will be introduced to the concepts of remixing, analogue synthesis and arranging electronic music for performance. Students will be encouraged to develop their emerging artistic voice and consider the place of their work within the music industry.

The module aims to:

1. Expand upon composition and production techniques in relationship to specific styles and trends.
2. Introduce students to remixing techniques and arranging for live performance.
3. Explore vintage and contemporary hardware sound modules (e.g. for subtractive synthesis).
4. Evaluate compositional and production techniques in electronic music including its place within the music industry.

Learning outcomes

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

1. Expand upon composition and production techniques attained in Electronic Music Composition 1 through the development of a creative portfolio.
2. Explore and apply remix techniques.
3. Analyse and evaluate electronic music composition and production techniques.
4. Apply practical skills and theoretical understanding to industry relevant software and hardware in the creation of original work.

Learning and teaching methods

The sessions in this module will be delivered as tutor led workshops in a computer music suite and will include technical demonstrations and in-class practical exercises. There will be lecture elements to the module as a way of providing context to topics. Students will be assigned tasks that will be supported by digital worksheets and will be expected to engage in-group discussions. Assignment design and assessment will take place in collaboration with industry practitioners. The work produced by students in this module will be used to develop the student's emerging professional profile (e.g. show-reel).

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

Delivery type	Student hours
Indicative hours for learning and teaching activities	40 hours
Indicative hours of directed study	160 hours
Total hours (100hrs per 10 credits)	200 hours

Opportunities for formative feedback

Regular formative assessment through workshops, in class tasks and supported by electronic worksheets.

Assessment method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Presentation of Composition Production Analysis	10 minutes	30%	1, 3
Portfolio (Remix)	8 minutes	30%	2
Portfolio (Composition and Vlog)	10 minutes	40%	1, 3, 4

Re-Assessment method*

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Presentation of Composition Production Analysis	10 minutes	30%	1, 3
Portfolio (Remix)	8 minutes	30%	2
Portfolio (Composition and Vlog)	10 minutes	40%	1, 3, 4

*Where practicable, assessments may be delivered through the conservatoire's VLE or by video to ensure that overseas students are not disadvantaged or incur unnecessary travel costs. Assessments delivered through the VLE will be timed and invigilated.

Indicative Reading List

- Manzo, V, J. (2015) Interactive Composition: Strategies Using Ableton Live and Max for Live Paperback Oxford University Press.
- Moore, A. (2016) Sonic Art Paperback Routledge.
- Esch, R. (2016) Electric City: The Dusseldorf School of Electronic Music Paperback Omnibus Press.
- DeSantis, D. (2015) Making Music: 74 Creative Strategies for Electronic Music Producers.
- Stavrou, M. (2003), Mixing With Your Mind. Flux research.
- Dvorin, D. (2015) Logic Pro X Advanced Audio Production, Composing and Producing Professional Audio. Peachpit Press.
- Katz, B. (2014) Mastering Audio – The Art and Science. Focal Press.
- Savage, S. (2014) Mixing and Mastering In the Box: The Guide to Making Great Mixes and Final Masters on Your Computer. Oxford University Press.

e-resources

- <http://www.emusician.com> – for electronic musicians
- <http://electronicsound.co.uk> – Contemporary electronic music and culture
- <http://www.musicradar.com/futuremusic> – Electronic Music Magazine Website
- <http://globetronica.org> – Electronic Music Magazine Website
- <http://igloomag.com> – Electronic Music Magazine Website
- <http://www.synthzone.com/mags.htm> – Magazines, Publications and Journals
- <http://www.soundonsound.com> – Pro audio, recording & production