

Module Specification

Module Title: Specialist Group Study 2 (Popular)

Module code:	HBAAPO007	NQF level:	Level 5
Credit value:	30 credits	Semester of study:	1 and 2
Applicable pathways:	Popular	Pre-requisites:	None

Module overview

Students will demonstrate thorough musical and analytical understanding of relevant stylistic issues and performance practices in popular music. They will work collaboratively as part of an effective audible and visual unit, with effective stage presence and placement, communication with an audience, sensitivity to venue, appropriate volume levels and technical understanding. Students will be expected to contribute original material for rehearsals and performances and, where appropriate, to improvise convincingly and effectively. They will be able to acquire and transmit musical material effectively, both aurally and by means of appropriate forms of notation. Students will also critically engage with the issues and processes involved in ensemble performance, demonstrating thorough knowledge and understanding of, and engagement with, material introduced in the module. Composition students will contribute to the writing of original material.

Artistry and Performance will be developed from the previous year to include more performance-specific communication techniques including eye contact, gesture, interpretation and characterisation.

Aims

Building on the work undertaken in Specialist Group Study 2, this module is designed to further develop their understanding of the techniques and skills of ensemble performance and/or composition. In this module, students will be expected to take responsibility for their contribution to both the rehearsal process and performance in addition to demonstrating greater technical command in regard to the range of skills appropriate to the chosen musical idiom. This module will also be undertaken by composers on the classical, jazz, folk, songwriting and new music pathways, who will be specifically composing and/or arranging for group ensembles. Differences in genre are understood and popular music students will be assessed through ensemble performance.

The module aims to:

1. Enable students to further develop their understanding of the techniques and skills of ensemble performance and/or composition.
2. Enable students to take responsibility for their contribution to both the rehearsal process and performance.
3. Enable students to demonstrating greater technical command in regard to the range of skills appropriate to the chosen musical idiom.

Learning outcomes

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

1. Critically apply relevant instrumental/vocal, musicianship and/or compositional skills within an ensemble to an appropriate level.
2. Perform more demanding original material and/or works drawn from the repertoire as appropriate or, arrange and/or compose original material of an appropriate level.
3. Apply relevant skills to the interpretation and/or performance of more demanding ensemble repertoire demonstrated with a heightened awareness of appropriate musical vocabulary (for example, where relevant, reading and notation skills).
4. Evidence a heightened awareness of individual and group responsibility through participation in rehearsal in order to evidence contributions to group work through assignment specific contribution targets.

Learning and teaching methods

The module will be delivered through **small/medium musical ensembles** as appropriate to the specialist pathway. The groups will be tutor led but will encourage students to develop autonomous musical leadership and rehearsal techniques. Classical and Jazz composition students on this module will be supported and led by the designated tutor. This tutor will be responsible for helping composition students with their original works and suggesting/supporting the way in which that work is developed through collaboration. Where appropriate, composition students also explore original material, which will be brought to sessions and workshopped with their tutor, with a view to developing a strong identity. The objective is to build a working unit that would sit confidently within the current spectrum of public, profiled performance spaces.

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	270 hours
Total hours (100hrs per 10 credits)	300 hours

Opportunities for formative feedback

Students will receive regular formative assessment through weekly workshops.

Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Exam Performance/Composition (semester 1)	8 minutes	50%	1, 2, 3, 4
Exam Performance/Composition (semester 2)	20 minutes	50%	1, 2, 3, 4

Re-Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Exam Performance/Composition* (semester 1)	8 minutes	50%	1, 2, 3, 4
Exam Performance/Composition* (semester 2)	20 minutes	50%	1, 2, 3, 4

*may be assessed by video submission.

Indicative Reading List

- Where appropriate indicative repertoire per specialism will be provided by the tutor.