



Leeds Conservatoire

Audition Requirements

2021 Entry

BA (Hons) Music (Songwriting)

BA (Hons) Music (Songwriting) with Foundation Year

Introduction

Due to current social distancing guidelines, we are asking all of our applicants to submit their audition materials online this year, rather than attend an audition in-person.

This guide will set out what you will need to submit when applying to our Songwriting courses at Leeds Conservatoire.

Application Process

Following submission of your application to the conservatoire via UCAS, you will receive details on how to send your materials to us. This email may not arrive until after the 15 January 2021 UCAS deadline so do not be concerned if it isn't immediately sent to you. You should submit your materials to us within four weeks of receiving this email.

We will then review and assess your materials, and you may be asked to attend an online interview with a member of our faculty if they require further information to aid their decision.

Following our assessment, we will then update UCAS with our decision.

Video Submission Tips

1. **Quality:** We recognise that self-taped auditions will not be 'movie quality' and we will not judge your performance based on this. Please ensure that when filming the camera or filming device is placed on a stable surface (on a stand or propped up on a table would be ideal) so that the image is not moving around when shooting.
2. **Lighting:** Choose a room that's well-lit and try not to position the light source behind you, as we'll need to see your face and performance technique.
3. **Background:** We recognise that you may have limited space when filming at home but we recommend you choose a background that's not distracting, as we want to focus on your performance.
4. **Framing:** Please ensure that you are clearly visible in the frame. If you have accompanists you should ideally try to position the camera so that your technique is displayed (such as hands and arms for percussionists).
5. **Sound:** Ensure that sound is as clear as possible when performing and talking to camera.
6. **Clothing:** We don't have any specific regulations on what clothing to wear for an audition but we recommend that you wear something that you feel comfortable performing in – we want to see the real you shine through!
7. **Identify yourself:** At the start of the recording please clearly state your name and which course(s) you are auditioning for. If you are submitting multiple video files please include this on each.
8. **Make a checklist:** Please make sure that you record and submit all the requirements that are outlined in this document for the course(s) which you are applying for.

Audition

Please send the following items so that our songwriting specialists can assess the standard of your writing:

1. Recordings of three full songs that you have written entirely by yourself

- At least one of these songs must be submitted in the form of a video of you singing, or performing it with an instrument you play. This is so that we can see the standard of your performance ability which will be relevant for the modules where you will write on an instrument as a member of a band in a writing room. You may submit all audition songs in this format if you wish.
- You may perform as a soloist or with accompaniment.
- Any remaining songs not submitted as videos should be submitted as audio recordings with accompanying lyric sheets.

2. A short video with your answers to the following questions (please speak to camera)

- Why do you want to study at Leeds College of Music?
- Who are your influences as a songwriter and how/why do they influence you?
- What music are you currently listening to and why?
- Tell us about your experience of playing/performing solo/or in bands.
- Tell us about your experience of using music recording technologies.
- Please briefly analyse one of your audition pieces/songs to demonstrate your knowledge of music theory.
- Tell us about an issue facing songwriters that you think is particularly important at the moment.
- Why do you believe we should offer you a place? What can you bring to the conservatoire?
- What do you want to do once you've finished your studies?

