

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	MA Musicology
2	BCU Course Code	PT1277 (FT) PT1278 (PT)
3	Awarding Institution	Birmingham City University
4	Teaching Institution(s) (if different from point 3)	
5	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation (if applicable)	

6	Course Description
	<p>Whatever your interests, our MA Musicology course gives you the unique opportunity to pursue your own research project within a lively and exciting Conservatoire environment. Our flexible postgraduate course enables you to mould a course of study to your own needs and aspirations and may be approached as preparation for a research degree in music.</p> <p>It is important that a musicologist also develops complementary skills and/or knowledge outside their specialism which will help equip them for a future career: professional musicologists typically find themselves, amongst other things, teaching, managing and administering; some even maintain parallel careers as professional performers or composers.</p> <p>Therefore, we provide you with a choice of Professional Development Options (shared across our postgraduate courses) alongside your musicological work to give you the opportunity to develop and/or expand your interests across a range of complementary areas.</p> <p>The Conservatoire team, which comprises a large number of research-active staff, has a vast array of expertise, allowing us to supervise a wide range of projects, and we are particularly keen to attract those interested in pursuing Masters-level research in our specialist areas. These include: Late Medieval Music; French Music of the 17th, 18th and 20th centuries; Italian Baroque Music; 18th and 19th Century British, Russian or Austro-Germanic Music; Contemporary Film and Television Music; Theory and Analysis; 20th-Century Music Theory and Analysis; and Music Critics and Criticism. Royal Birmingham Conservatoire also hosts a significant collection of historical instruments and we welcome studies with a focus on performance practice and/or critical editing.</p> <p>Recent research projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Exploration of Music Performance Anxiety in a Conservatoire Woodwind Department. • The Music of Hans Zimmer, US Military Intervention and "The Other" in Film; the Sound of the Ungrievable. • Easy Listening: Jerry Lanning and the BBC Radio Orchestra 1979-81. • The Emergence and Evolution of the Piano Study in the Years 1797-1837. • Voices from a Non-Place: An Investigation into Language, Space and the Sung Voice. • The Lute and Non-Nobility in Elizabethan England.

- Alexei Stanchinsky (1888-1914): Context and Influences.
- Clara Schumann as Pedagogue.
- Italian Film Music During the 1930s: Political Appropriation and Socioeconomic Agendas.
- Constructive or Destructive? Assessing the Impact of Feedback in Instrumental Piano Lessons.
- Irish Rebel Music 1969-1995: Appropriation and Hidden (?) Agendas.

Our MA Musicology course can be studied as a standalone course, but it is also intended to help prepare you for a research degree.

What's covered in the course?

Most postgraduate conservatoire degrees are focused on performance or composition, and don't cater for musicologists. This is not the case at Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, where this course provides you with the opportunity not only to develop your skills as a musicologist, but to supplement them with complementary studies unique to a Conservatoire environment. Your own research project will be at the heart of your course, and alongside this you will choose from the Conservatoire's menu of postgraduate Professional Development options, which will allow you either to hone your skills in complementary areas, or to develop and expand your interests, providing the opportunity to interact and network with fellow musicians and a range of staff, as well as enjoying the excellent facilities the Conservatoire boasts. You will benefit from the Conservatoire's excellent library resources, as well as the opportunity to get involved with our performance departments, and our wider research community of students and staff through seminars, study days, social activities and other events.

Core Modules

The core modules on the MA Musicology course are designed to underline the course philosophy, equipping you with the essential skills required of a musicologist in the 21st Century. While they have been designed to complement one another holistically, allowing skills and knowledge developed in one to inform and be utilised in another, and likewise for the taught sessions and tutorials to support more than one module, the specific focus of each ensures that you develop a different skill-set in the 'armoury' of the professional musicologist. Underpinning them all is the ongoing development of specialist knowledge, expertise and research skills in your chosen area. However, specifically, the 'Concepts' module contributes to your acquisition of a comprehensive knowledge of musicology as a discipline; the 'Proposal' module enables you to develop essential skills in constructing a project proposal; the 'Conference Paper' module provides invaluable training in presenting your research in this professional context; and the 'Dissertation' module represents the culmination of your studies, demonstrating your ability to present a completed research project. The development of skills in these distinctive areas is essential in enabling you to advance your expertise as a musicologist beyond the course, and especially if you are planning to pursue a future career in this area.

7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Master of Arts Musicology	7	180
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	Postgraduate Diploma Musicology	7	120
	Postgraduate Certificate Musicology	7	60

8	Derogation from the University Regulations		
	Not applicable		

9	Delivery Patterns		
	Mode(s) of Study	Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study
	Full Time	Royal Birmingham Conservatoire	1 year
	Part Time	Royal Birmingham Conservatoire	2 years

10	Entry Requirements
The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/ .	

11	Course Learning Outcomes
Knowledge and Understanding	
1	You will be able to demonstrate detailed knowledge within your specialist area and an awareness of scholarly issues relevant to that field.
2	You will be able to demonstrate the ability to engage critically with, and to evaluate, existing scholarship, methodologies and (where relevant) current practice as context for your own independent research.
3	You will be able to show a deep understanding of the context in which the 21st-century musicologist operates, and an awareness of where you fit within this context.
4	You will be able to supplement expertise in your specialist area with knowledge and experience in complementary areas as a means of encouraging and enhancing your own professional development.
Cognitive and Intellectual Skills	
5	You will be able to work autonomously on formulating and developing an extended research project, including the ability to deal with ethical issues appropriately, if relevant.
6	You will be able to organise and structure your research findings as appropriate to the context.
7	You will be able to situate your own practice as a musicologist within a broader context through critical engagement with relevant scholarship, theory and/or practice.
8	You will be able to critically evaluate your own practice and that of others and apply that judgement to your own learning.
Practical and Professional Skills	
9	You will have the potential to progress to further study in your specialist area.
10	You will be able to initiate, manage and complete projects independently and/or collaboratively.
11	You will be able to communicate ideas and/or arguments clearly, accurately and effectively in a medium appropriate to the context and/or audience.
12	You will be able to demonstrate a professional attitude to all aspects of your work, including a willingness to engage in ongoing personal and professional development.
Key Transferable Skills	
13	You will be able to employ a well-developed sense of autonomy and self-reliance.
14	You will be able to demonstrate effective organizational skills, including self-organization.
15	You will be able to demonstrate skills of reflection and self-reflection.
16	You will be able to employ problem-solving and decision-making skills.

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12a	<p>Level 7:</p> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 140 credits):</i></p> <table><tr><th>Module Code</th><th>Module Name</th><th>Credit Value</th></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Career Development</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Concepts in Musicology</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Conference Paper</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Dissertation Proposal</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Dissertation</td><td>60</td></tr></table> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 40 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules.</i></p> <table><tr><th>Module Code</th><th>Module Name</th><th>Credit Value</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>The Emerging Researcher:</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Research Project</td><td>40</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Critical Edition</td><td>40</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Lecture-Recital</td><td>40</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>The Reflective Practitioner There are two pathways through this module: 1. Professional Placement 2. Creative Interdisciplinary Artist</td><td>40</td></tr></table> <p>OR two of the following Professional Development Modules:</p> <table><tr><th></th><th>Conservatoire Based Modules</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Contemporary Music Concepts and Practice</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Creative Interactive Music Technology Performance</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Critical Editing Techniques</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Documentation</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Experimental Performance in Context(s)</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Historical Instrument Performance</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Historical Performance Practice</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Independent Scholarship in Music*</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Music and Ideas</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Music Technology Contexts</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Orchestration</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Performing and Producing in the Studio</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Professional Music Criticism</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Self-Promotion Project</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>MUS7XXX</td><td>Teaching Matters: Principles and Practice</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>ADM7001</td><td>Work Placement</td><td>20</td></tr></table>	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	MUS7XXX	Career Development	20	MUS7XXX	Concepts in Musicology	20	MUS7XXX	Conference Paper	20	MUS7XXX	Dissertation Proposal	20	MUS7XXX	Dissertation	60	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value		The Emerging Researcher:		MUS7XXX	Research Project	40	MUS7XXX	Critical Edition	40	MUS7XXX	Lecture-Recital	40	MUS7XXX	The Reflective Practitioner There are two pathways through this module: 1. Professional Placement 2. Creative Interdisciplinary Artist	40		Conservatoire Based Modules		MUS7XXX	Contemporary Music Concepts and Practice	20	MUS7XXX	Creative Interactive Music Technology Performance	20	MUS7XXX	Critical Editing Techniques	20	MUS7XXX	Documentation	20	MUS7XXX	Experimental Performance in Context(s)	20	MUS7XXX	Historical Instrument Performance	20	MUS7XXX	Historical Performance Practice	20	MUS7XXX	Independent Scholarship in Music*	20	MUS7XXX	Music and Ideas	20	MUS7XXX	Music Technology Contexts	20	MUS7XXX	Orchestration	20	MUS7XXX	Performing and Producing in the Studio	20	MUS7XXX	Professional Music Criticism	20	MUS7XXX	Self-Promotion Project	20	MUS7XXX	Teaching Matters: Principles and Practice	20	ADM7001	Work Placement	20
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MUS7XXX	Writing Music for Media	20
	School of Art Based Modules	
ART7899	Art and Ecologies	20
ART7877	Contemporary Philosophy and Aesthetics	20
ART7880	Discourses in Art and Design	20
ART7881	Models and Methods of Curatorial Practice	20
ART7900	Queer Strategies in Practice	20
ART7883	Small Arts Business Set Up	20
ART7901	Social Practice in the Visual Arts	20
	School of Media Based Modules	
MED7339	Live Events and Festival Management	20
MED7325	Social Media as Culture and Practice	20
	Conservatoire Based BMus module	
MUS6XXX	Music, Community and Wellbeing	20

Please note that the above list of optional modules is indicative only. Students' choice will not be guaranteed for optional modules but a fair and transparent process will be adopted and shared with students.

Modules marked * must be chosen by negotiation with the Course Leader, to ensure that the proposed project is complementary to your Dissertation work.

12b Structure Diagram

Full-Time

Semester 1		Semester 2	MA Stage
Concepts in Musicology (20 Credits; Core)			
	Dissertation Proposal (20 Credits; Core)		
		Conference Paper (20 Credits; Core)	
Career Development (20 credits; Core)			
2 x 20 Credit Professional Development Options OR 1 x 40 Credit Option from the 'MMus Option' List			
			Dissertation (60 Credits; Core)

Part-Time

There is some flexibility in how the course can unfold over the two years, though typically all core modules (except the Dissertation) will be taken in the first year.

13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

Level 7

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	273
Directed Learning	1167
Private Study	360
Total Hours	1800

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	85.7%
Exam	
In-Person	14.3%