

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

A LEVEL

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

This course offers a range of exciting opportunities to learn about music recording, composition through using technology and learners will be encouraged to engage in a wide range of music technology techniques, whilst understanding historical and cultural contexts of the use of music technology in the creation and production of music.

Area 1 will underpin the practical applications needed to submit a recording and a technology based composition whilst also understanding through listening and analysis and producing and analysing the recording and production techniques needed for both corrective and creative purposes. Topics covered will be capture of sound, synthesis, sampling, sequencing, audio editing, automation, pitch and rhythm correction and manipulation, dynamic processing, stereo, EQ, effects, balance and blend and mastering.

Area 2 will focus on the theoretical principles of sound and audio technology through both the listening and analysing and producing and analysing exam papers. Topics covered will include acoustics, leads and signals, numeracy and levels.

Area 3 will focus on specific set studies of technology from 1950 to the present day through the listening and analysing exam paper. Topics covered will be software and hardware (digital) and hardware (analogue). Sub-categories for these will include understanding of Digital Audio Workstations, Digital recording formats both consumer and professional, Tape based recording systems and other analogue consumer products, analogue synthesizers, electric instruments etc.

WHAT NEXT?

This course is excellent preparation for students who would like to pursue the subject into Higher Education within both a creative (BA) and technical (BSc, BEng) study. Students have continued their studies in the subject at institutions such as the University of Surrey, the Brighton Institute of Modern Music (BIMM), Bath Spa University, Royal Welsh College, and Leeds College of Music. In recent years students went on to various destinations including university places at Keele and Salford as well as being given places at the BIMM and ACM institutes for contemporary music.

Students may consider direct entry into employment or further training, or decide to pursue a career in the music industry.

ASSESSMENT

Exam (100%)

DURATION

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Standard entry requirements plus grade 4 GCSE Music. Applicants set a task to complete prior to interview.

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL

COSTS

£50 per year for textbooks and exam materials.