PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

KEY FACTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme name</th>
<th>MA Music by Research</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Award</td>
<td>MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>School of Communication &amp; Creativity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department or equivalent</td>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme code</td>
<td>PSMUSI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of study</td>
<td>Full Time or Part Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total UK credits</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total ECTS</td>
<td>90</td>
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PROGRAMME SUMMARY

The MA Music by Research programme develops skills within the broad fields of music, including contemporary composition and sound practices (encompassing notated and digital music, sound arts, and interdisciplinary practices), performance (including classical, jazz, improvisation, popular, and other musical traditions), and scholarship (including historical musicology, ethnomusicology, music analysis, and sound studies). The course embraces music and sound in all its plurality and provides a critical context for exploring key topics and issues that bridge its increasingly overlapping sub-disciplines.

Engagement with professional practice lies at the core of the course taught by world-leading artists and scholars who are active creators and researchers. You will collaborate with international visitors in workshops and masterclasses and have the opportunity to present your work and research in public concerts and conferences. The programme is focused and rigorous, and designed to enhance your creative, critical, and technical skills as well as develop your thinking about contexts of composition, sound practices, performance practices, music research, and the broader humanities. It provides ideal training for those wishing to proceed to a research degree, and prepares you for the professional world.

The MA programme provides exceptional training in a research-oriented environment externally validated as one of the leading centres for musical research. The programme helps you understand and evaluate the traditions and trajectories of music and sound disciplines and appreciate how our own perceptions and values in relation to them are shaped by a wide range of contextual, historical and aesthetic influences. You receive training in fundamental research skills, culminating in a major project in creative practice or scholarly research. In close consultation with an individual supervisor, you will refine and develop a topic of your choice, commensurate with staff expertise, as detailed here: https://www.city.ac.uk/about/schools/arts-social-sciences/music/research/staff-research-interests.
The programme accords with City, University of London’s declared aim to encourage research and enterprise activities which add to disciplinary understanding, while also providing a high standard of curricular content, particularly in providing academically-excellent education for the business and professions. It is informed by the School of Arts and Social Sciences Learning and Teaching Strategy, as well as by external guidelines and frameworks, including the QAA ‘Master’s Degree Characteristics’ (March 2010) and the framework for higher education qualifications. The MA is closely linked with the Music Department’s research strategy, and the wide-ranging research and related professional activities of academic staff.

Exit Qualifications

Following successful completion of the MA, you will be able to formulate a systematic and comprehensive understanding of advanced scholarship and a critical awareness of issues within the broad areas of music and sound. You will have developed originality in the application of knowledge, and an advanced understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline. You will be able to evaluate, critique and apply research methodologies, deal with complex issues in a systematic and creative fashion, and communicate your conclusions to non-specialist audiences. You will be able to plan a self-directed and independent approach to tackle and solve problems.

Aims

The aims of the programme are to:

- develop your creative and critical thinking and imagination as well as technical skills to a professional level.
- develop advanced thinking about issues related to the contexts of music and sound.
- provide the necessary training to pursue advanced research in an area related to your interests.
- develop the professional skills required to make informed, relevant and valuable contributions to contemporary intellectual and musical life.

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

On successful completion of this programme, you will be expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding:

- Identify and critically evaluate theories and contexts that inform music and sound practice in areas such as analysis, aesthetics, historiography, interpretation, cultural theory, literature and other art forms, and computer science.
- Establish links between research into music, sound practice, and other disciplines.
- Contribute to research-based knowledge pertinent to the current concerns of, and developments within, your discipline.
- Synthesise concepts, concerns and methods driving current musical practice, as evidenced in scholarship, other theoretical writings, and repertoires.
- Investigate a range of documentary and oral evidence relevant to the study of music and sound (historical documents, music scores, recordings, iconographic evidence, instruments, technologies, oral testimonies, etc.).
- Develop a sophisticated awareness of the implications, contexts and consequences of the evaluation of sources.
• Collect the cultural conventions and symbolic meanings associated with selected repertoires, styles, genres, instruments and voices, and other musical technologies.
• Formulate methods and strategies relevant to musical interpretation, performance, or production informed by historical, pedagogical, or technical understanding.

Skills:
• Employ a wide range of imaginative strategies in the production of creative and scholarly work through experiment, speculation and rigorous investigation.
• Apply rigorous techniques to musical and sonic materials – notated, recorded, or orally-transmitted – using acoustic or technological tools as appropriate to your creative or research focus.
• Design and execute a series of independent creative and/or research projects using appropriate methods, opportunities and resources.
• Work in a variety of collaborative or interdisciplinary contexts.
• Identify and solve complex technical and interpretative problems with flexibility and resourcefulness.
• Plan and implement tasks with self-motivation and initiative, as well as organize and manage a personal schedule of learning.
• Assemble and analyse concepts critically, and exercise independent thought.
• Work cooperatively, effectively and creatively with your peers and other professionals, employing social skills in the conduct of research when appropriate, and develop skills of communication and persuasion.

Values and attitudes:
• Respect and acknowledge the ideas and work of others.
• Plan research that is sensitive to the cultural and ethical implications of musical practice.
• Develop a professional attitude to scholarship, creative work and performance.

HOW WILL I LEARN?

The educational aims are achieved through a combination of seminars, interactive sessions, practical workshops and one to one tutorials. You are encouraged to undertake extensive reading and listening in order to understand the topics covered in lectures and seminars and to broaden and deepen your knowledge of the subject. Your work contributing to the final major project submission is developed throughout the programme through a combination of individual tutorials and group tutorials, as well as workshops and masterclasses with international practitioners in composition, performance, and scholarship.

In general, in the autumn term you will refine your topic in coordination with your individual supervisor and learn research and methodological skills through seminars and group tutorials. In the spring term you will continue to refine your skills through seminars and meet your supervisor regularly for individual tutorials. And in the summer term you will prepare your final project for submission through regular meetings with your supervisor.

This programme will include an average of 3 contact hours per week and around 65 contact hours per year. In addition, you will be expected to undertake an average of 33 independent study hours per week, around 1,735 per year. Some of these hours will include use of online learning tools such as Moodle.
WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

Assessment and Assessment Criteria
Summative assessment of the programme outcomes occurs across the coursework module (30 credits) and the major project component (150 credits)

The assessment methods for both modules MUM124 Contexts of Music and Sound Practice, and MUM123 Major Project, are detailed in their respective module specifications.

Formative assessment occurs in class discussion of tasks set, tutorial review of your progress as well as written and oral feedback.

Assessment Criteria are descriptions, based on the intended learning outcomes, of the skills, knowledge or attitudes that you need to demonstrate in order to complete an assessment successfully, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured. Grade-related Criteria are descriptions of the level of skills, knowledge or attributes that you need to demonstrate in order achieve a certain grade or mark in an assessment, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured and placed within the overall set of marks. Assessment Criteria and Grade-related Criteria will be made available to you to support you in completing assessments. These may be provided in programme handbooks, module specifications, on the virtual learning environment or attached to a specific assessment task.

Feedback on assessment
Feedback will be provided in line with our Assessment and Feedback Policy. In particular, you will normally be provided with feedback within three weeks of the submission deadline or assessment date. This would normally include a provisional grade or mark. For end of module examinations or an equivalent significant task (e.g. an end of module project), feedback will normally be provided within four weeks. The timescale for feedback on final year projects or dissertations may be longer. The full policy can be found at: https://www.city.ac.uk/about/education/quality-manual/6-assessment

Assessment Regulations
In order to pass your Programme, you should complete successfully or be exempted from the relevant modules and assessments and will therefore acquire the required number of credits.

The Pass mark for each module is 50%. If you fail an assessment component or a module you will normally be offered one resit attempt. If you are successful in the resit, you will be awarded the credit for that module. The mark for each assessment component that is subject to a resit will be capped at the pass mark for the module. This capped mark will be used in the calculation of the final module mark together with the original marks for the components that you passed at first attempt.

If you do not meet the pass the requirements for a module and do not complete your resit by the date specified you will not progress and the Assessment Board will require that you be withdrawn from the Programme.

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at City, please see the full version of the Assessment Regulations at: https://www.city.ac.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/453652/s19.pdf
WHAT AWARD CAN I GET?

Master's Degree:

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>HE Level</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major Project</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taught</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>17</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>% required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>With Distinction</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With Merit</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With Pass</td>
<td>50</td>
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WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Taught component:
MUM124 Contexts of Music and Sound Practice (30 credits)

Research component:
MUM123 MA Major Project (150 credits)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>SITS Code</th>
<th>Module Credits</th>
<th>Core/Elective</th>
<th>Can be Compensated?</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contexts of Music and Sound Practice</td>
<td>MUM124</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>Major Project</td>
<td>MUM123</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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You are normally required to complete the taught module successfully before submitting the Major Project. While the structure of the programme does not allow the possibility to exit with a lesser qualification, the 30 credits of the taught module could be transferable to another institution should you complete that module without completing the programme.

TO WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON?

Music MA alumni have gone on to compose, perform, and research music in a wide variety of settings, and are also employed in music publishing, teaching, broadcasting, music management, arts administration, and further musical study at MPhil or PhD level.

If you would like more information on the Careers support available at City, please go to: https://www.city.ac.uk/careers/your-career

WHAT STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE?
N/A

WHAT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?
N/A
HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?

You should hold (or expect to gain) an honours degree (2:1) from a UK university, or an equivalent qualification, accompanied by a creative or scholarly portfolio. We consider applicants with a degree in music, or a related subject if they can demonstrate musical expertise and experience. We also consider applicants with commensurate professional experience in lieu of an academic qualification.

English Language Requirement: For students whose first language is not English, the following qualifications will meet the English language requirement for entry to a postgraduate course of study:
* A first degree from a UK university or from the CNAA.
* A first degree from an overseas institution recognised by the University as providing adequate evidence of proficiency in the English language, for example, from institutions in Australia or the USA.
* GCE O-level/GCSE English language or English literature, grade C minimum.
* Cambridge ESOL CPE (Certificate of Proficiency in English) at grade C or above.
* An overall score of 6.0 in the English Language Testing System (IELTS) with a minimum of 5.5 for each subtest.
* Satisfactory standard in the verbal section of the Princeton Test (GMAT).
* US SAT with 500 in verbal performance.
* Warwick English Language Test (WELT) with pass grades of BBC minimum.
* Other evidence of proficiency in the English language which satisfies the board of studies concerned.

Overseas Qualifications: Equivalent qualifications from an overseas university will be considered.

Equal Opportunities: The Programme is committed to equal opportunities. The admissions decision will rest on the qualifications, needs and aspirations of the applicant.

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For use from: 2022-23

Information is provided subject to Terms and Conditions for study at City, University of London.