



## LEWISHAM AND SOUTHWARK COLLEGE

### UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

#### *Foundation Degree in Music and Production*

***This programme is only offered at: Lewisham and Southwark College***

<b>Final award</b>	<i>FdA Music and Production</i>
<b>Intermediate awards available</b>	<i>Cert HE</i>
<b>Mode of delivery</b>	<i>Lewisham and Southwark on campus</i>
<b>UCAS code</b>	<i>OJ46</i>
<b>Details of professional body accreditation</b>	<i>N/A.</i>
<b>Relevant QAA Benchmark statements</b>	<i>MUSIC</i>
<b>UEL Academic School</b>	<i>School of Arts and Digital Industries</i>
<b>Date specification last updated</b>	<i>July 2017</i>

## **The summary - UCAS programme profile-**

### **BANNER BOX:**

A unique vocational and academic programme for students wishing to enter the music industry.

### **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

Applicants will usually be 18+ years of age and have an educational attainment equivalent to 200 UCAS tariff points at A2, i.e. at least two A-levels at grade D or an overall MMP at a National Diploma. Applicants whose first language is not English would be expected to have a minimum IELTS (International English Language Testing System) of 5.5 with no skill level below 5.0

It is expected that you will have completed a relevant vocational level 3 qualification in a suitable field, and you will be expected at audition to demonstrate relevant music or music sequencing skills at an appropriate level.

While entry qualifications would usually be expected to be in a subject related to that for which they are applying, applicants qualified in other areas will be considered subject to an appropriate level of aptitude and interest being demonstrated.

Applicants who do not satisfy the formal academic requirements noted above but who have relevant industry experience or can demonstrate a level of aptitude, ability and interest, may be deemed suitable and offered a place on the programme. These applicants will need to have worked within the music industry (equivalent to at least one year of full time work, employed or self-employed), or to have gained a level of appropriate skills similar or higher to that offered by academically qualified candidates on entry to the Foundation Degree Programme.

Consideration of eligibility will include:

- the meeting of entry requirements
- the recommendation of the employer/supervisor
- a commitment to completing programme requirements
- evidence of a desire for professional development
- a history of work in the music industry equivalent to at least one year's full time employment
- demonstrable skills similar to those offered by academically qualified candidates

Interview/Audition required

Wherever possible applicants will be interviewed. International applicants may be interviewed via telecoms systems.

Portfolio/Evidence Required

Where appropriate applicants may be asked to submit a portfolio of creative work. This can be submitted by post or email as well as other on-line means such as via personal web pages.

Students may be admitted through Accreditation of Experiential Learning (AEL) or Accreditation of Certificated Learning (ACL) processes.

Issues arising from applications that reference these routes will be considered at interview.

In the case of applicants whose first language is not English, the University's English Language requirements as detailed on the website at time of application must be met – see

<http://www.uel.ac.uk/international/application/english-language-requirements/>

At UEL we are committed to working together to build a learning community founded on equality of opportunity - a learning community which celebrates the rich diversity of our student and staff populations. Discriminatory behaviour has no place in our community and will not be tolerated. Within a spirit of respecting difference, our equality and diversity policies promise fair treatment and equality of opportunity for all. In pursuing this aim, we want people applying for a place at UEL to feel valued and know that the process and experience will be transparent and fair and no one will be refused access on the grounds of any protected characteristic stated in the Equality Act 2010.

Students with disabilities and/or particular learning needs should discuss assessments with the Programme Leader to ensure they are able to fully engage with all assessment within the programme.

Disability is assessed at the application stage: applicants who declare a disability are referred to the College's disability coordinator who assesses their support needs and makes any arrangements that might be necessary for them to study on the programme.

## **ABOUT THE PROGRAMME**

### **What is the Foundation Degree in Music and Production at Lewisham and Southwark College?**

The programme offers a unique opportunity to develop specialist skills while engaging with a broad range of music practices, thus equipping producers and musicians for the complexities of early 21st century music production. At the same time, the degree provides students with a history, culture and theory modules that enable students to contextualise their music production skills and develop essential skills in writing and analysis. Throughout the programme, students are encouraged to develop their individual creativity and capacity to work in a range of collaborative situations.

#### **Programme structure**

##### **Level 4**

Students have modules that introduce a range of computer-based music production & music software skills, cultural theory, sound design techniques, and forms of composition, arrangement and collaboration. The programme also provides students with an overview of music genre history and the key skills for success in studying music production.

##### **Level 5**

Students take modules in recording studio techniques (which introduces students to professional recording studio software and hardware), performance skills and songwriting, developing a career in the music business and contextual studies focussing on the meaning and impact of technologies and developments in the music industry.

## **Learning environment**

Modules are taught in the music department at Waterloo, a brand new, purpose-built facility in central London, adjacent to London's creative hub at the South Bank. The department is a vibrant, creative area that includes full recording studios, sound design audio edit suites, live rehearsal rooms and apple mac computer labs. The department has a wide supply of musical equipment and instruments that students can book out. Students are encouraged to book practice and studio time in order to work on their music.

Live performances are staged in performance spaces at our Waterloo and Lewisham Way, or at external venues in the locality. The TV, radio, film-making, dance and drama departments are situated next to music, facilitating creative collaboration between students making creative work.

Arriving from a wide range of musical and social backgrounds, music and production students are attracted by the span of the foundation degree: they are seeking to broaden their musical horizons in order to succeed in the 21st century music environment. Students are also keen to develop their skills by exploring the culture and history of music.

Attracted to living in London, one of the most important music-making cities in the western world, music students value their situation right at the core of the creative scene in London. They find themselves within a five-minute walk of The Young Vic, The Old Vic, The Royal Festival Hall, The Queen Elizabeth Hall, The Purcell Rooms, The Hayward Gallery, The National Theatre, The National Film Theatre and the Tate Modern. In addition the area is host to several of London's cutting-edge dance clubs and live music venues.

## **Assessment**

Assessment is via coursework – there are no exams. Coursework consists of collaborative creative projects, audio and visual work, presentations and written work.

Students with disabilities and/or particular learning needs should discuss assessments with the Programme Leader to ensure they are able to fully engage with all assessment within the programme.

## **Project work**

Project work involves:

- Group composing, arranging, rehearsing and performing
- Staging public performances

- Collaborating with dance, drama and moving image students on show or video production
- Writing and recording original material to a releasable standard

## **Added value**

The FdA in Music and Production aims for its graduates to develop a high level of analysis and musicianship. FdA graduates can pursue careers working as creative musicians, songwriters, producers or DJs. A series of programming, studio and internet options are also available to graduates, alongside careers in teaching or working for local community organisations. Alternatively, graduates can pursue employment in the music industry working for an independent or major label, or in music journalism, seeking employment with a specialist music publication or production company. Finally, the FdA Music and Production equips students to enter the UEL BSc (Hons) Music Technology, or the BA (Hons) Music Performance and Production at level six and to graduate with either of those qualifications. Successful students can also apply to other relevant degree programmes with a view to entry at Level 6. The rigorousness of the FdA means the award empowers graduates, whatever their chosen path.

## **IS THIS THE PROGRAMME FOR ME?**

### **If you are interested in...**

- professional practice in music
- how the music industry works
- recording and programming
- arranging
- songwriting
- music for film and TV
- the marketing and distribution of music
- live music performance

### **If you enjoy....**

- working individually or in groups on cutting edge projects
- organising and developing your own ideas as well as working with others on theirs
- challenges and innovation
- performing and producing
- being creative

### **If you want....**

- to begin building a career at the same time as you are studying
- to record with a thorough understanding of every creative decision you make;
- to gain two years of music industry experience
- to learn traditional and new skills to increase your chances of employment in a very competitive industry
- to understand the way popular music has developed, and its place in the world,
- to improve your academic skills and gain a valuable degree

## **Your future career**

If you are interested in the latest trends and think you could set the next one, then this is the programme for you!

The course will open up a wide range of career opportunities for you in the music industry. Over two years you will gain a huge range of skills through hands-on experience. You will also gain a full and thorough understanding of the theoretical and academic perspectives involved in popular music, which will inform both your understanding of the industry and your own approach to your professional work. The degree programme will also give you a wide range of transferable skills. Skills that you will need in any kind of employment;

- How to communicate your ideas clearly and effectively, both in written and spoken form;
- How to have the confidence to critique your own work and performance;
- Leadership skills
- Independent decision making
- How to work effectively as part of a team.

When you have completed Level 5 of the programme you will have gained a Foundation Degree in Music and Production, at which point you will be ideally placed to seek employment in your chosen area of musical activity: or should you wish to continue with your studies you will be eligible to enrol with UEL for the third year of the BSc (Hons) in Music Technology, or the BA (Hons) in Music Performance and Production.

After this course you can find work as a producer or engineer, as a musician, as a composer, as a teacher or carrying out a business role in the music industry.

## **How we support you**

Throughout your programme of study you will have a course tutor who will support you via tutorials. There is an entitlement and support team who will help you with advice on student funding, housing and benefits as well as access to counselling, dyslexia support and childcare issues. As well as the resources available in the music department you will have access to our Learning Centre offering ICT facilities and study skills support. As a part of our validation link you will also have access to the library and student union services at UEL Docklands campus.

## **Bonus factors**

The programme is located at the centre of London's creative hub. You will have the opportunity to participate in professional projects with outside agencies, as well as with students from other disciplines. The college is a founder member of the National Skills Academy: this link provides opportunities to visit and participate backstage at various live music events and music industry forums.

## **Programme aims and learning outcomes**

### **What is this programme designed to achieve?**

This programme is designed to give you the opportunity to:

- Learn and develop a wide range of production skills
- Develop performance and songwriting skills to a professional standard
- Learn how to work collaboratively with other musicians and producers
- Formulate a practical career development plan

### ***What will you learn?***

#### **Knowledge and understanding**

- Contemporary music production and performance practices
- Computer music production techniques that include recording studio production, producing music for the moving image and the integration of live instrumentation with electronic sound.
- Theory of musical arrangement composition
- Detailed knowledge of music genre, technology, digitisation and global music culture
- Detailed knowledge of the functioning of the music industry

#### **Thinking skills**

- Expression and analysis, synthesis, evaluation and argument

#### **Subject-Based Practical skills**

- Use of professional software tools
- Studio recording skills
- Musical arranging, songwriting and compositional skills
- Midi sequencing and audio production, post-production and mastering
- Group management of creative projects
- Reading music, notation, development of harmony, composition, arrangement
- Delivery of music across different media forms (video, film, internet)
- Live and recorded music making and performance
- Critical listening and analytical writing
- Business planning

#### **Skills for life and work**

- Ability to work independently and in collaboration with others, demonstrating skills in leadership, negotiation, listening, critical self-awareness, teamwork, organisation of self and others, decision making

- Intellectual curiosity and the potential for continuing artistic and creative development
- High level of competence in the use of music equipment and technology

## The programme structure

### Introduction

All programmes are credit-rated to help you to understand the amount and level of study that is needed.

One credit is equal to 10 hours of directed study time (this includes everything you do e.g. lecture, seminar and private study).

Credits are assigned to one of 5 levels:

- 3 equivalent in standard to GCE 'A' level and is intended to prepare students for year one of an undergraduate degree programme
- 4 equivalent in standard to the first year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- 5 equivalent in standard to the second year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- 6 equivalent in standard to the third year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- 7 equivalent in standard to a Masters degree

### Credit rating

The overall credit-rating of this programme is 240 credits.

### Typical duration

The expected duration of this programme is two years full-time.

### How the teaching year is divided

The teaching year begins in September and ends in June  
A typical student, in full-time attendance mode of study, will register for 120 credits in an academic year.

### What you will study and when

A student registered in a full-time attendance mode will take 120 credits per year. Typically this will be comprised of four 30 credit modules. A foundation degree student will complete modules totalling 120 credits at level four, modules totalling 120 credits at level five.

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Distance learning Y/N	Credits	Status*
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4	PA4300	Electronically Produced Music	N	30	Core
4	PA4308	Introduction to the Music Industry: Your first release.	N	30	Core
4	PA4301	Music Skills 1: Practical Musicianship	N	30	Core
4	PA4305	Contextual Studies 1: History of Music Genre, 20th-21st Century	N	30	Core
5	PA5306	Contextual Studies 2: Music Technology, Industry and Writing	N	30	Core
5	PA5308	Performance Skills 2: Live Performance	N	30	Core
5	PA5305	Music Business Plan: the Music Industry	N	30	Core
5	PA5303	Audio Technology; Studio Production	N	30	Core

### Requirements for gaining an award

In order to gain a Foundation Degree you will need to obtain a minimum of 240 credits including:  
A minimum of 120 credits at level four or higher  
A minimum of 120 credits at level five or higher  
(A Foundation degree is linked to a named Honours degree onto which a student may progress after successful completion of the Foundation degree)

In order to gain a Certificate of Higher Education you will need to obtain 120 credits at level four or higher

## **Degree Classification**

### **Foundation degree classification**

Where a student is eligible for a Foundation degree, the award classification is determined by calculating the credit-weighted arithmetic mean of all marks obtained for modules at level 4 or higher on the current enrolment for the programme and applying the mark obtained as a percentage, with all decimal points rounded up to the nearest whole number, to the following classification;

70% - 100%	Distinction
55% - 69%	Merit
40% - 54%	Pass
0% - 39%	Not passed

## **Teaching, learning and assessment**

### **Teaching and learning**

#### **Knowledge and understanding is developed through**

- Practice and development of audio production skills, music composition and performance
- Lectures, seminars, and discussion
- Reading, writing and critical reflection on practice

#### **Practical skills are developed through**

- Hands-on activity under the guidance of tutors
- Peer sharing of ideas and feedback
- Individual practice
- Group rehearsals
- Planning and executing group and individual projects

#### **Skills for life and work are developed through**

- Researching, planning, developing, rehearsing and evaluating assignments, practical and written
- Collaboration with other music producers and musicians
- Independent study, research and musical practice

### **Assessment**

Knowledge is assessed by

- Coursework
- Project work

Thinking skills are assessed by

- Coursework
- Project work

Practical skills are assessed by

- Coursework
- Project work

Skills for life and work (general skills) are assessed by

- Coursework
- Group work

## **How we assure the quality of this programme**

### **Before this programme started**

Before this programme started, the following was checked:

- There would be enough qualified staff to teach the programme;
- Adequate resources would be in place;
- The overall aims and objectives were appropriate;
- The content of the programme met national benchmark requirements;
- The programme met any professional/statutory body requirements;
- The proposal met other internal quality criteria covering a range of issues such as admissions policy, teaching, learning and assessment strategy and student support mechanisms.

This is done through a process of programme approval which involves consulting academic experts including some subject specialists from other institutions.

### **How we monitor the quality of this programme**

The quality of this programme is monitored each year through evaluating:

- External examiner reports (considering quality and standards);
- Statistical information (considering issues such as the pass rate);
- Student feedback.

Drawing on this and other information, programme teams undertake the annual Review and Enhancement Process which is co-ordinated at School level and includes student participation. The process is monitored by the Quality and Standards Committee.

Once every six years an in-depth review of the whole subject area is undertaken by a panel that includes at least two external subject specialists. The panel considers documents, looks at student work, speaks to current and former students and speaks to staff before drawing its conclusions. The result is a report highlighting good practice and identifying areas where action is needed.

### **The role of the programme committee**

This programme has a programme committee comprising all relevant teaching staff, student representatives and others who make a contribution towards the effective operation of the programme (e.g. library/technician staff). The committee has responsibilities for the quality of the programme. It provides input into the operation of the Review and Enhancement Process and proposes changes to improve quality. The programme committee plays a critical role in the quality assurance procedures.

### **The role of external examiners**

The standard of this programme is monitored by at least one external examiner. External examiners have two primary responsibilities:

- To ensure the standard of the programme;
- To ensure that justice is done to individual students.

External examiners fulfil these responsibilities in a variety of ways including:

- Approving exam papers/assignments;
- Attending assessment boards;
- Reviewing samples of student work and moderating marks;
- Ensuring that regulations are followed;
- Providing feedback through an annual report that enables us to make improvements for the future.

The external examiner reports for this programme are located on the Lewisham and Southwark College virtual learning environment (eME) under the section entitled 'External Examiner Reports & Responses'.

### **Listening to the views of students**

The following methods for gaining student feedback are used on this programme:

- Module evaluations;
- Programme evaluations;
- In tutorials, both group and one-to-one
- Student representation on programme committees (meeting 2 times per year).

Students are notified of the action taken through:

- Circulating the minutes of the programme committee
- Feedback via student course representatives
- Individual responses to students as required

### **Listening to the views of others**

The following methods are used for gaining the views of other interested parties:

- Questionnaires to former students;
- Meeting employers and collaborators

## **Where you can find further information**

Further information about this programme is available from:

- The UEL web site (<http://www.uel.ac.uk/undergraduate/specs/music-prod-fd/>)
- The Lewisham and Southwark College website (<http://www.lesoco.ac.uk/courseshome-adults/higher-education/subjects/foundation-degrees/courses/music->)
- The programme handbook (<http://eme.lewisham.ac.uk/>)
- Module study guides (<http://eme.lewisham.ac.uk/>)
- UEL Manual of General Regulations (<http://www.uel.ac.uk/qa/policies/manual/>)
- UEL Quality Manual (<http://www.uel.ac.uk/qa/policies/qualitymanual/>)