

Programme Specification for BA (Hons) Creative Musicianship

This programme is offered at The Institute for Contemporary Music Performance, London.

Final award	BA (Hons)
Intermediate awards available	Cert HE, Dip HE
UCAS code	W3C5
Details of professional body accreditation	N/A
Relevant QAA Benchmark statements	QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications QAA Music subject benchmark statements In addition these documents were also referenced; Dublin Descriptors SEEC Level Descriptors
UEL Academic School	Arts and Digital Industries
Date specification last up-dated	June 2015

Location	Which elements?	Taught by UEL staff	Taught by local staff	Method of Delivery
The Institute of Contemporary Music Performance (ICMP)	The whole programme is taught at ICMP only.	No	Yes	Full-time

BANNER BOX:

The BA (Hons) Creative Musicianship focuses on developing students' creativity and expressing their own unique 'creative voice' through performances, composition of original material and multimedia interdisciplinary collaborations. Along with the development of musicianship and performance skills the course also focuses on the essential entrepreneurial and critical business skills that the creative musician needs to forge a successful career.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants will typically have GCE /VCE A levels equivalent to 200 UCAS points, ICMP Higher Diploma BTEC level 5 or equivalent qualifications in suitable subject areas.

Applicants will be expected to possess at least a grades C in GCSE Maths and English, and applicants who do not have English as a first language will need to meet IELTS 5.5 with no component below 5.5.

All applicants will be expected to attend an audition and interview.

The ICMP also welcomes applications from established practitioners who are keen to undertake study at the HE level but may not possess the required qualifications.

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

International qualifications will be checked for appropriate matriculation to UK Higher Education undergraduate programmes.

Applications will be made via UCAS or directly to the ICMP. The ICMP Admissions team will manage the process internally. Students with 300 or more UCAS points maybe eligible for an unconditional offer of admission to the course.

At the ICMP 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 the ICMPICMP 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.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

What is Creative Musicianship?

The BA (Hons) Creative Musicianship programme focuses on the development of students' unique creative 'voice'. Development of your fundamental musicianship / literacy skills, instrumental performance skills / techniques, and essential entrepreneurial and business skills, will provide the tools needed to maximise your creative ability and enjoy a 'portfolio career' in the music industry.

Creative Musicianship at the ICMP

- Develops your creative skills and unique creative 'voice'
- A personalised learning experience equips you with the knowledge, understanding and skills for successful employment in the music industry
- Learn entrepreneurial and networking skills to maximise your creative ability
- Develops your performance and musicianship skills
- One-to-one tuition in your principle instrument
- Prepares you for a portfolio career within the music industry and wider creative sector
- High-quality teaching by industry practitioners
- Extensive music industry links and access enable you to build that all important network
- A creative and inspiring learning environment
- A high level of contact teaching hours, delivered in small group in world-class facilities

Programme structure

The BA (Hons) Creative Musicianship degree is a 3 year full-time programme.

Learning environment

Your study will be at the ICMP's bespoke facilities in Kilburn, utilising the live rooms, tech suites and in-house music studio facilities as well as classrooms and lecture rooms. You will have access to use these facilities outside of class time while you are a student in order to rehearse and record your music. Your learning will be in small mixed groups for seminars and small workshop groups for practical skills. Some lectures are in larger groups.

All teaching rooms are air-conditioned and have full audio-visual equipment, including PCs and projectors to allow tutors to make use of the ICMP's Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

Assessment

Modules are assessed through a variety of means, including practical exams and performance, submission of course work, projects, examinations, essays and viva voce.

Details are clearly stipulated in the course handbook and could include a seminar presentation, essay, or project. All students must complete a dissertation.

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.

Work experience/placement opportunities

As a student at the ICMP you will be regularly offered professional practice opportunities through the Hub, our industry liaison department. This typically includes auditioning for tours, gigs or other musical projects.

Project work

The BA (Hons) Creative Musicianship focuses a lot on collaborative and individual project work around creating and performing music. In Performance Skills (levels 4 & 5) and Performance Project (level 6) you will work as part of a collaborative ensemble in writing, rehearsing and performing your work. In Making Music (levels 4 & 5) you will have the opportunity to collaborate with creative students from the wider arts whilst creating original compositions.

Added value

By studying at the ICMP you will be in a highly creative environment, with many hundreds of other like-minded students. You will find this a highly stimulating, exciting and vibrant environment!

Moreover, as the ICMP is located in London and at the heart music capital of the world, this provides you with unrivalled opportunities to experience and interact with all aspects of the music industry.

As a student on the BA (Hons) Creative Musicianship you will be offered many opportunities for collaborative work with likeminded students studying other creative programmes in London and internationally. These opportunities, offered in addition to the curriculum, are a great way for you to build your show reel.

IS THIS THE PROGRAMME FOR ME?

If you are interested in...

- Performing music within a band or ensemble
- Creating music individually or in collaboration
- Creating music for use in media or other creative contexts
- Developing your entrepreneurial skills and managing your own career
- Working within the wider music industry

If you enjoy...

- Creating original material
- Performing music
- Producing music using technology
- Collaborating with others
- Analysing broader cultural and aesthetic issues related to Music

If you want...

- To develop your unique creative voice
- To improve your musicianship and performance skills
- To improve your instrumental/vocal proficiency
- To build your own portfolio/show reel of original work

Your future career

- Recording Artist
- Band Leader/Member performer/Co-writer
- Contemporary media/multimedia Composer/Writer
- Solo Performer/Artist/Writer
- Progression to post graduate study

How we support you

You will have access to the Student Services Department for support and advice concerning welfare, finance, personal development, safeguarding etc. You also have access to 'The Hub'; the ICMP Professional Development team, who provide careers advice, student opportunities, auditions, internship, gigs, etc

You will also have access to the Learning Resource Centre, containing key texts and industry journals, online resources, listening library, PC resources etc, as well as access to the wider ICMP facilities which include rehearsal / performance studios, project studio, digital audio workstations and drum booths.

In addition, all students have 'open door' access to the Programme Leader and their personal tutor.

As a student of UEL you will also enjoy access to a range of UEL facilities, including the 24/7 multimedia libraries, with over 300,000 books, journals, audio-visual resources and archives, 500 electronic books and 25,000 electronic journals and databases.

Programme aims and learning outcomes

What is this programme designed to achieve?

This programme is designed to give you the opportunity to:

- Develop your creative skills and your unique creative voice
- Develop your entrepreneurial, business and networking skills to maximise your creative ability
- Develop your performance and musicianship skills to a professional standard
- Prepare you for a portfolio career within the music industry and the wider creative arts.

What will you learn?

Knowledge (Understanding)

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

1. Discuss the role of the creative music entrepreneur within the wider creative industries
2. Understand the dynamic and expectations inherent within the Artist/Audience relationship
3. Identify the main professional music industry practices, functions and structures

4. describe the broader role and functions of music in contemporary media and the creative industries

Thinking Skills

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

5. plan, implement and evaluate individual and collaborative projects
6. construct a reasoned, evaluative argument with independent point of view
7. reflect on and evaluate own creative processes
8. contextualise music industry practice applications

Subject Specific Practical Skills

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

9. demonstrate technical proficiency on instrument or vocals in performance contexts
10. demonstrate ability to use relevant music technology in the creation, recording and performance of music
11. manage music performance projects as Artist, MD, composer and/or arranger, producer
12. manage music/creative projects using relevant management practices

Skills for Life (general skills)

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

13. work independently, manage time and organise work effectively
14. collaborate effectively as a member of a team
15. communicate effectively orally and in writing
16. identify and manage own development needs

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 the [FHEQ](#) 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 360 credits.

Typical duration

The expected duration of this programme is 3 years full-time.

It is possible to move from full-time to part-time study and vice-versa to accommodate any extra time required to complete outstanding modules. Many of our students make use of this flexibility and this may impact on the overall duration of their study period. A student cannot normally continue study on a programme after 4 years of study in full time mode unless exceptional circumstances apply and extenuation has been granted. The limit for completion of a programme in part time mode is 8 years from first enrolment.

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. A student in a part-time mode of study may register for up to 90 credits in any academic year.

What you will study 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. The exact number may differ if the programme is comprised of 15, 45 or 60 credits modules. An honours degree student will complete modules totalling 120 credits at level four, modules totalling 120 credits at level five and modules totalling 120 credits at level six.

LEVEL	UEL Module Code	TITLE	SKILLS MODULES	CREDITS	STATUS SINGLE
4		Performance and Context I		30	Core
4		Core Principles of Music Making		30	Core
4		Music, Culture, Context and Criticism I	Y (Study Skills)	30	Core
4		Music, New Media and The Arts		30	Core
5		Performance and Context II		30	Core

5		Exploring Music Making		30	Core
5		Music, Culture, Context and Criticism II		15	Core
5		Marketing and Monetising Your Music	Y (Employability Skills)	15	Core
5		Composition for Film and Media		15	Optional
5		Entrepreneurial Practice		15	Optional
5		Live and Studio Recording Techniques		15	Optional
5		Live Performance Technology		15	Optional

6		Dissertation	Y (Research Skills)	30	Core
6		Recorded Project		30	Core
6		Performance Project		30	Core
6		Business Project		30	Optional
6		Professional Project		30	Optional

Note that 'Study Skills', 'Employability Skills' and 'Research Skills' are embedded within the modules specified above.

Requirements for gaining an award

In order to gain an honours degree you will need to obtain 360 credits including:

- A minimum of 120 credits at level one or higher
- A minimum of 120 credits at level two or higher

- A minimum of 120 credits at level three or higher

In order to gain an ordinary degree you will need to obtain a minimum of 300 credits including:

- A minimum of 120 credits at level one or higher
- A minimum of 120 credits at level two or higher
- A minimum of 60 credits at level three or higher

In order to gain a Diploma of Higher Education you will need to obtain at least 240 credits including a minimum of 120 credits at level one or higher and 120 credits at level two or higher

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

Degree Classification

Where a student is eligible for an Honours degree by passing a valid combination of modules to comprise an award and has gained the minimum of 240 UEL credits at level 5 or level 6 on the current enrolment for the programme, including a minimum of 120 UEL credits at level 6, the award classification is determined by calculating;

The arithmetic mean of the best 90 credits at level 6	x	0.8	+	The arithmetic mean of the next best 90 credits at levels 5 and/or 6	x	0.2
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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%	First Class Honours
60% - 69%	Second Class Honours, First Division
50% - 59%	Second Class Honours, Second Division
40% - 49%	Third Class Honours
0% - 39%	Not passed

Teaching, learning and assessment

Teaching and learning

Knowledge is developed through:

- Lectures
- Seminars

Thinking skills are developed through:

- Project work
- Seminars

Practical skills are developed through:

- Workshops
- Tutorials

Skills for life and work (general skills) are developed through:

- Project work
- Lectures
- Seminars

Assessment

Knowledge is assessed by:

- Course work
- Presentations

Thinking skills are assessed by:

- Course work
- Demonstrations

Practical skills are assessed by:

- Performances
- Course work

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

- Course work
- Presentation

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 field 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 UEL virtual learning environment (Moodle) on the school notice board under the section entitled 'External Examiner Reports & Responses'. External examiner reports can also be accessed under the Quality Assurance and Enhancement section of ICMP's internal virtual learning environment. You can also view a list of the external examiners for the UEL School by clicking on the link below.

- <http://www.uel.ac.uk/qa/externalexaminersystem/currentexaminers/>

Listening to the views of students

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

- Module evaluations (e-survey)
- Course evaluations (e-survey)
- Student representation on programme committees (meeting each semester)
- Academic Programme committee (meeting annually)
- Suggestions box

Students are notified of the action taken through:

- Publishing the minutes of the Student Rep meeting on the student website
- Providing details on the programme notice board

Listening to the views of others

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

- Annual student satisfaction questionnaire
- Questionnaires to former students

Where to find further information

Further information about this programme is available from:

- The UEL web site (<http://www.uel.ac.uk>)
- The student handbook (www.icmpstudent.co.uk)
- Module study guides (www.icmpstudent.co.uk)
- UEL Manual of General Regulations <http://www.uel.ac.uk/qa/>
- UEL Quality Manual <http://www.uel.ac.uk/qa/>
- Regulations for the Academic Framework <http://www.uel.ac.uk/academicframework/>
- School web pages (www.icmp.co.uk)