

Arts – Music Technology

Core technical qualification

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music Technology

What will you be learning?

This course has a strong focus on music technology. A selection of units can be taken that create a Sound Engineering route and a different selection of units that provide a Digital Music Production route.

There is one compulsory common unit:

- Digital Audio Workstation(DAW) Production

Each route has a further compulsory unit:

- Studio Recording Techniques if taking the Sound Engineering route
- Music and Sound for Media if taking the Digital Music Production route

In addition, students will undertake **three more units** from a list of options that support progression to courses in higher education and that link with jobs in the music industry (composition, technology, performance, and business).

For the Sound Engineering route these optional units include: Live Sound; Mixing and Mastering Techniques; Studio Design and Acoustics; and Working and Developing as a Production Team

For the Digital Music Production route these optional units include: Creative Synthesis and Sampling; Remixing and Reworking; and Commercial Music Production

Methods of assessment

A mixture of internally assessed (67%) and externally assessed work (33%), using projects and specific assessment periods (usually May/June).

What are lessons like?

- Working with live sound and musicians
 - Developing your knowledge of equipment, techniques and functions
 - Developing a critical musical ear in order to enhance the music
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- Setting up and using specific and high quality equipment
- Set up, lead and organise recording sessions for musicians
- Record, mix, and master the recordings
- Understand and apply advanced techniques in recordings
- Use and develop music for specific settings in the media
- Produce, manipulate and mix music creatively using DAWs
- Produce music using samplers and synthesisers
- Remixing, developing and reviewing
- Organising and promoting for music gigs on and off-site

How will we work with employers and the community?

Visits to recording studios such as Parr Street Studios in Liverpool in order to work with their sound engineers. Visits to related professional venues, such as concert venues in the local area in order to develop knowledge of how the music industry incorporates music technology. We may have visits from professional recording studio practitioners who are currently working in the industry to give advice and guidance on their work in the music industry.

Where can this pathway lead?

This qualification is designed primarily to support progression to employment following further study at university. However, it can also support students progressing to employment directly. Some examples of options beyond this course are:

- BA (Hons) Music Technology at Keele University
- BA(Hons) in Music (Production) at Leeds College of Music
- BA(Hons) UCLAN in Music Production through Lancaster & Morecambe College
- BA(Hons) Popular Music & Recording at the University of Salford
- Other accredited courses involving music performance, music business, or the performing arts
- Employment in the music industry (recording studio work)