BA (Hons) Music Production & Performance

Foundation Entry Year
2023-24

Applicant Handbook

Course Overview

This course is designed for students who have the desire and ability to study for a degree but do not have the necessary formal qualifications to enter directly into their chosen programme.

This course will give you a very good grounding in music production and performance as well as prepare you academically for study on the full degree.

UCLan's Foundation Entry students are more likely to attain a first or upper-second degree classification and to progress onto professional-level employment or graduate-level study than those undertaking a standard three-year Honours degree programme.

Key Information

Qualification
BA (Hons) Music Production & Performance Foundation Entry Year

Awarding body
University of Central Lancashire

UCAS Codes
   Course code: W375
   Institution Code: C30
   Campus Code: I

UK Student Tuition Fees
- Foundation Year at SEM £5,999
- Years 1-3: Full-time £9,250 per year
- Part-time: £1,540 per 20 credits studied

Duration
4 years full-time
- Foundation Year (Year 0) will be at SEM
- Years 1 to 3 of the full Music Production & Performance Degree at UCLan Preston
  BA (Hons) Music Production & Performance, BA (Hons)

Start Date: Monday, September 18th, 2023

Entry Requirements

Standard Entry Requirements
- Applicants must be over 18, have five GCSE's or equivalent at grade C or grade 4 including English Language.
- Ideally, applicants will have a minimum of 72 UCAS points.
- Music production and/or performance experience is desirable but not essential.

Non-UK Nationals

As SEM does not have Tier 4 authorisation, EU or Overseas students must already have status to study in the UK.

Detailed information can be found here: Student finance: Eligibility

Please contact us if you have any questions regarding your eligibility status.

International applications will require an IELTS score of 6.0.

Non-Standard Entry Requirements

We positively welcome applications from mature students who may not meet the standard entry requirements but who may have industry experience and/or can demonstrate an ability and willingness to study at this level.

Course Content

You will study 4 modules over the year:

- Music Production in Practice
- The Creative Musician
- Sound Recording & Design
- Research and Contexts

Module, credits & duration	Module Overview
Music Production in Practice Credits: 40 Duration: Semesters 1 & 2	This module is designed to enable students to develop a technical skillset covering all the main aspects of the modern DAW. It will cover the technicalities of creating and editing electronic music in a purely software-based environment. Teaching is based around practical workshops that will introduce techniques and develop creative practice. Students will learn fundamental production and sound design techniques using a range of industry-standard software applications. This module will also encourage creative experimentation and evaluation. Learning Outcomes: On successful completion of this module a student will be able to: 1. Use software to sample, synthesise and process sound in the production of music 2. Organise and back up data/project/sound files 3. Use basic sequencing techniques 4. Describe working processes using subject specific language
The Creative Musician Credits: 40 Duration: Semesters 1 & 2	This is a practical module designed to enable students to develop and extend their musical abilities. This module covers devising, performing and recording skills including improvisation, composition, arrangement and music technology. Teaching is based around a series of practical workshops that will introduce techniques and develop creative practice but will also encourage students to develop habits of independent practice, rehearsal and reflection. Within the module, students will learn fundamental compositional and performance skills, rehearsal techniques, group working practices and protocols.

	Learning Outcomes:
	On successful completion of this module a student will be able to: 1. Use basic musical techniques within a musical realisation 2. Contribute to the composition of original music 3. Use reflective practice to identify personal and group strengths and areas for development in the creation of music.
Sound Recording & Design Credits: 20 Duration: Semester 1	Students will be introduced to the basic principles and protocols of audio production. You will develop skills in the use of recording software and hardware, professional studio practice and protocols for the use of recorded music. The module will cover multi-track recording, mixing and the use of music and sound effects for audiovisual media. Students will be given a basic grounding in the ways in which sound works in relation to both music and media-related work. Learning Outcomes: On successful completion of this module a student will be able to: 1. Use audio software for multi-tracking, editing and mixing 2. Implement the basic principles of audio recording production 3. Produce audio appropriate for moving image
Research and Contexts Credits: 20 Duration: Semester 2	This module will provide a foundation in study skills to facilitate progress and success in undergraduate study within performing arts through the following: ● Researching elementary information related to the context of creative work ● Consideration of the structuring of ideas when writing reports and presentations informed by research ● Engaging with different ways to interpret creative practice Study will focus on the following areas: ● Developing independent study, research and presentation skills. ● Exploration of contemporary and historical contexts particularly in performance and media areas. ● Students will be exposed to work from a range of discipline areas ● Debates concerned with a wider understanding of the students' own practice Learning Outcomes: On successful completion of this module a student will be able to: 1. Write a contextual report focussing on an aspect of creative work 2. Deliver a presentation which discusses an aspect of creative work from an identified discipline

Expected hours of study

The normal amount of work involved in achieving a successful outcome to your studies is to study for approximately 40 hours per week – this includes 12 hours of contact time per week at SEM and time spent in self-directed study.

Course-Specific Optional Costs

As part of your course, there may be additional optional costs to consider that are not included in your tuition fees.

Useful

• A pair of production headphones with a 6.3mm / ¼ inch jack
      The most affordable option would be Sennheiser HD201 (£15-£25) or similar.
      More professional and longer-term investment examples would be Audio Technica ATH-M50x or Sennheiser HD25 (both around £120).
• A flash/pen/USB drive or external hard drive for backing up your work in excess of 16GB

Apply

Formal applications for this course are made through UCAS.
Interested candidates are welcome to book an initial Guidance Interview with us before a UCAS application.
If you need any further help or advice on the application process, please contact us at info@semmanchester.com or call us on 0161 833 4722.

Overview of Important Policies

Learning And Assessment

While your studies will involve a mixture of lectures, seminars, and independent study, this course is primarily practical. As such, you will focus on developing your skills in production, studio use, composition and performance and applying theoretical knowledge to practical projects and assignments.

Attendance Requirements

Student attendance is required at all timetabled learning activities. Notification of illness or exceptional requests for leave of absence must be made as detailed in the Course Handbook.

Students with continuous unauthorised absences may be deemed to have withdrawn from the course.

The date of withdrawal will be recorded as the last day of attendance. You may request a review of this decision if you have grounds in line with the Academic Appeals Procedure.

Tuition fees will be charged in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy: Fees and funding

Assessment

Please note that all modules will be assessed. You are expected to attempt all required assessments for each module and to do so at the times scheduled unless authorised extensions, special arrangements for disability, or extenuating circumstances have been expressly agreed by SEM to allow you to defer your assessment.

Mitigating circumstances

Some students face significant events in their personal life that occur after their course has started, which have a greater impact on their studies than can be solved by the use of an extension. If this applies to you, then SEM is ready to support you, with both your course and your personal wellbeing, through a process called Extenuating Circumstances (detailed in our Mitigating Circumstances Handbook).

Late submissions

If you submit work late and without authorisation, a universal penalty will be applied in relation to your work:

- If you submit work within 5 working days following the published submission date you will obtain the minimum pass mark for that element of assessment.
- Work submitted later than 5 working days after the published submission date will be awarded a mark of 0% for that element of assessment.
- Unauthorised late submission at resubmission will automatically be awarded a mark of 0% for that element of assessment.

You may apply to appeal this decision in accordance with the Academic Regulations.

Feedback Following Assessments

SEM is committed to giving you clear, legible and informative feedback for all your assessments. You are expected to review and reflect on your feedback and learn from each experience to improve your performance as you progress.

You will be provided with generic feedback for in-module formative and summative elements of assessment that contribute to a module within 15 working days of the scheduled submission or examination date. Generic feedback on end-of-module assessment and dissertations will be made available within 15 days of publication of results. Generic feedback may be oral, written, posted on a website, or other.

Unfair Means to Enhance Performance

SEM regards any use of unfair means in an attempt to enhance performance or to influence the standard of award obtained as a serious academic and/or disciplinary offence. Such offences can include, without limitation, cheating, plagiarism, collusion and re-presentation ('unfair means').

You are required to sign a declaration indicating that individual work submitted for assessment is your own.

More detailed information on this and on our Assessment Appeals Procedure can be found in our Assessment Handbook.

Complaints

SEM recognises that there may be occasions when you have cause for complaint about the service you have received. When this happens, SEM's Student Complaints Procedure is intended to provide an accessible, fair and straightforward system that ensures an effective, prompt and appropriate response.

University's Student Complaints Procedure

If you were dissatisfied with the provision at SEM, you should pursue your complaint in accordance with SEM's complaints procedure in the first instance. In the event of continuing dissatisfaction when you have completed the college's procedure, you will be entitled to submit your complaint to UCLan under stage 3 of the procedure.

Further Information

You can find regulations and policies relating to student life at SEM on our BA page.