

Programme Specification 2025-26

1.	Programme title	BA Hons Music
2.	Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3a	Teaching institution	Middlesex University London
3b	Language of study	English

4a	Valid intake dates and mode of study
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Mode of Study	Cohort	Delivery Location	Duration
Full-time (FT)	Semester 1	Hendon	3 Years
Part-time (PT)	Semester 1	Hendon	6 Years

4c	Delivery method	On Campus/Blended Learning
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5. Professional/Statutory/Regulatory body (if applicable)
N/A

6.	Apprenticeship Standard (if applicable)	N/A
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7. Final qualification(s) available
Target Award Title(s)
BA Hons Music
Exit Award Title(s)
DipHE Music
CertHE Music

8. Academic year effective from	2025-26
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9. Criteria for admission to the programme
Applicants are required to have demonstrable potential in at least one of the areas of: • Music practice in performance (in classical or popular music styles); composition; songwriting; music technology; • The theoretical or critical study of music. In general, the minimum conditional offer is 112 UCAS tariff points.

Our admissions criteria are sensitive to those who have not had the opportunity to study music at A-Level or BTEC. Such applicants are interviewed to ascertain appropriate skills and knowledge.

International applicants are required to present appropriate materials.

Applicants holding academic qualifications at an appropriate level may be admitted with specific credit, which will count towards the target qualification.

Students may enter directly into Level 4, Level 5 or Level 6 or be exempted from part of Level 4 or Level 5 with appropriate prior learning and/or experience in accordance with the University's regulations, including via Articulation Agreements with partner institutions such as KMMC (India) MIA (Malaysia), Xinghai Conservatoire (China) and Cavan Institute (Ireland).

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is permitted, encouraging students from non-traditional education backgrounds to access the study of music in Higher Education. Students may complete the RPL process via a claim made for Prior Accredited Learning at Level 4 & 5, and / or a claim for Prior Experiential Learning, by which a student may articulate sufficient non-credit bearing music activities that meet the entry criteria for the programme.

Applicants must have competence in the English language. The most common English Language requirements for international students are IELTS 6.0 (with minimum 5.5 in all four components). Refer to Middlesex University regulations.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

- enable a sophisticated understanding of musical context – cultural, sociological, economic, musicological and aesthetic;
- develop advanced practical and creative musical skills;
- facilitate skills of critical reflection, autonomous learning, professional practice, and the transferable skills gained from an advanced study of music;
- produce graduates who can enhance, and contribute to, the cultural experience of society, nationally and internationally, and who are employable in a wide range of industries;
- nurture environments of learning where equality, diversity, and inclusivity are central to music education.

11. Programme learning outcomes

Programme - Knowledge and Understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have a knowledge and understanding of:

1. A range of musical repertoire, according to field of study;
2. A range of musical styles and aesthetics;
3. The context of music: historical, cultural, sociological, economic, ethical and political;
4. The creative domains of musical composition/ songwriting and/or performance and/or music technology;
5. Effective approaches to music research, planning and/or rehearsing;

6. The music industries and their relationship with them;
7. Strategies for career development.
Programme - Skills
On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:
8. Demonstrate technical competence in a specific area of creative music practice;
9. Employ sophisticated reflective and critical thinking;
10. Utilise skills of communication and construct convincing written and oral arguments;
11. Research effectively in music and related fields;
12. Plan, organise and manage study, research and/or practice;
13. Utilise skills of digital technology and numeracy, in performance and other creative domains and in project work;
14. Collaborate empathetically and effectively in teams, groups and ensembles;
15. Develop their own careers in the context of maintaining personal attributes of resourcefulness, confidence and resilience.

12. Teaching/learning methods
Students gain knowledge and understanding through: • Creative workshops, which enable students to try out and apply ideas and concepts • Interactive/seminars, which allow for tutor-led introduction and exploration of ideas, concepts, approaches and repertoires • Seminars, in which students develop skills of articulation and argument as ways of developing thinking and testing ideas • Events, guest talks/seminars and master classes by visiting practitioners and industry specialists • Independent study and research, inviting students to work independently to explore materials, and broaden and deepen knowledge Students learn cognitive skills through: • Performance, in which students participate either as performers or audience, to experience and explore techniques of performance in the context of practice • Creative workshops, across a choice of practical domains, which enable students to try out and refine tools and techniques • Independent rehearsal and practice, in which students acquire the understanding and skills to rehearse effectively and productively • Independent study and research, enabling students to learn the skills of working autonomously and independently

13. Employability
13a Placement and work experience opportunities (if applicable)
All students have the opportunity to optionally undertake placement experience. This is available at Level 6, within MUS3150 Music and Sound for Screen or MUS3165 Independent Project and Work Experience.
13b Future careers / progression
Graduates from the award will be equipped to progress to a wide range of opportunities in the growing sector of creative arts industries that align to music. As well as busy freelance musician careers, the programme provides the skills required for the many jobs within the overlapping worlds of live music, audio-visual music and sound, performers for live shows, theatre and studio sessions, composers and arrangers, musical directors, music

supervisors, promoter and self-promoter, record label director, sound engineers, music producers, recording studio editors, technicians, music mixing and mastering engineers. The audio-visual industry also comprises opportunities in film, radio, television, advertising, and virtual realities including computer games. The course will also prepare for those wishing to go into classroom teaching, workshop leading and peripatetic instrumental tuition as well as music journalism, media music. The programme also prepares students for further study in a number of post-graduate settings, both universities and conservatoires, and across a range of specialist academic and music practitioner domains.

14. Assessment methods

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by:

- Performance and/or musicianship
- Musical compositions/songs or improvisations or studio production work
- Essays, reports and other written work
- Live or recorded presentations
- Portfolios of creative work
- Creative and/or research projects

Students' cognitive skills are assessed by

- Performance and/or musicianship
- Musical compositions/songs or improvisations or studio production work
- Essays, reports and other written work
- Live or recorded presentations
- Portfolios of creative work
- Creative projects

15. Programme Structure (level of study, modules, credits and progression requirements)

Structure is indicative for Part-time routes.

Students must take all of the compulsory modules and choose following programme requirements from the optional modules.

Non-compensatable modules are noted below.

Full Time

Year 1

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
PER1002	Compulsory	Creative Practices	30 at Level 4
PER1003	Compulsory	Cultures of the Performing Arts	30 at Level 4

PER1004	Compulsory	Making Performance	30 at Level 4
PER1001	Compulsory	Skilling Up: Tools and Techniques	30 at Level 4

Year 2

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
MUS2110	Compulsory	Cultures and Business of Music	30 at Level 5
MUS2120	Compulsory	Performance & Composition/ Songwriting	30 at Level 5
MUS2140	Compulsory	Performance Festival	30 at Level 5
MUS2130	Compulsory	Recording and Production	30 at Level 5

Year 3 – Compulsory Modules

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
MUS3120	Compulsory	Advanced Creative Music Practice	30 at Level 6
MUS3140	Compulsory	Degree Festival	30 at Level 6

Year 3 - Optional Group 1

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
MUS3130	Optional	Music for Dance and Theatre	30 at Level 6

MUS3110	Optional	Contemporary Debates in Music Cultures and Business	30 at Level 6
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Year 3 - Optional Group 2

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
MUS3165	Optional	Independent Project and Work Experience	30 at Level 6
MUS3150	Optional	Music and Sound for Screen	30 at Level 6

Part Time

Year 1

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
PER1003	Compulsory	Cultures of the Performing Arts	30 at Level 4
PER1001	Compulsory	Skilling Up: Tools and Techniques	30 at Level 4

Year 2

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
PER1002	Compulsory	Creative Practices	30 at Level 4
PER1004	Compulsory	Making Performance	30 at Level 4

Year 3

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
MUS2110	Compulsory	Cultures and Business of Music	30 at Level 5
MUS2120	Compulsory	Performance & Composition/Songwriting	30 at Level 5

Year 4

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
MUS2140	Compulsory	Performance Festival	30 at Level 5
MUS2130	Compulsory	Recording and Production	30 at Level 5

Year 5 – Optional Group 1

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
MUS3110	Optional	Contemporary Debates in Music Cultures and Business	30 at Level 6
MUS3130	Optional	Music for Dance and Theatre	30 at Level 6

Year 5 – Optional Group 2

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
MUS3165	Optional	Independent Project and Work Experience	30 at Level 6
MUS3150	Optional	Music and Sound for Screen	30 at Level 6

Year 6

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
MUS3120	Compulsory	Advanced Creative Music Practice	30 at Level 6
MUS3140	Compulsory (pass required)	Degree Festival	30 at Level 6

*Please refer to your programme page on the website re availability of option modules

16. Programme-specific support for learning

Students on this programme have access to the following:

- Virtual learning environment (My Learning)
- Sheppard Library and specialist resources, both physical and virtual
- Specialist staff: music technicians and specialist librarian
- Academic Advising scheme: students are supported by the same Academic Advisor through their studies to help navigate options/pathways and to offer guidance
- Music practice rooms and technical facilities in Grove Building
- Specialist Music Studio in Grove B (G172)
- Digital Media Workshop (access to Music Technology facilities)
- Technical music equipment from the 'Kit hub' (loan store for the School of Arts)
- Disability and Dyslexia support
- Mental Health, Counselling and Well-being services.

17. HECos code(s)

100070: Music

18. Relevant QAA subject benchmark

Music (2019)

19. University Regulations

This programme will run in line with general University Regulations: [Policies | Middlesex University](#)

This programme will run in line with general University Regulations.

20. Reference points

The following reference points were used in designing the Programme

- QAA Subject Benchmark and Qualifications Level Descriptors (Music 2019)
- Publications and reports of the Incorporated Institute of Musicians (ISM)
- National Association for Music in Higher Education (NAMHE)
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- Middlesex University Strategic Plan

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Middlesex University Learning Framework• Middlesex University Learning and Teaching policies and strategy• Middlesex University Regulations |
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21. Other information <i>(if applicable)</i>

None

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

21. Curriculum map for *BA Music*

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

A1	Knowledge of musical repertoires as appropriate to field of study
A2	Familiarity with a variety musical styles and aesthetics
A3	The context of Music: historical, cultural, sociological, economic, ethical and political
A4	Creative domains of musical composition/songwriting and/or performance and/or music technology
A5	Effective approaches to music research, planning and rehearsing
A6	The Music Industry and their place in it
A7	Strategies for career development

Skills

B1	Demonstrate technical competence in a specific area of creative music practice
B2	Employ reflective and critical thinking
B3	Utilise skills of communication and construct convincing written and/or oral arguments
B4	Research effectively in music and related fields
B5	Plan, organise and manage study, research and/or practice
B6	Utilise skills of digital technology and numeracy, in performance and/or creative and project work
B7	Work and collaborate effectively in teams, groups and ensembles
B8	Develop their own careers in the context of maintaining personal attributes of resourcefulness, confidence and resilience

Programme outcomes

A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8
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Highest level achieved by all graduates

6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
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Module Title	Module Code by Level	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8
Creative Practices	PER1002		X		X	X			X				X		X	
Skilling Up: Tools & Techniques	PER1001		X		X									X		
Making Performance	PER1004		X		X	X			X				X		X	
Cultures of the Performing Arts	PER1003	X	X	X		X	X			X	X	X				
Performance & Composition/Songwriting	MUS2120	X	X		X	X			X				X		X	X
Performance Festival	MUS2140	X	X		X	X			X	X			X	X	X	X
Recording & Production	MUS2130				X				X	X					X	
Cultures & Business of Music	MUS2110	X	X	X		X	X			X	X	X				X
Advanced Creative Music Practice	MUS3120	X	X		X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X
Degree Festival	MUS3140	X	X		X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X
Contemporary Debates in Music Cultures & Business	MUS3110			X		X	X	X		X	X	X				X
Music & Sound for Screen	MUS3150	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Music for Dance, Theatre & Live Shows	MUS3130		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Independent Project and Work Experience	MUS3165			X		X		X		X	X	X	X	X		X