

Music Production

UCAS Code: MP01 | Duration: 3 years | Full-time | Creative Campus | 2024/2025

Placement year opportunities available



Course Overview

The study of Music Production gives you the opportunity to investigate the creative, technical and theoretical exploration of one of the most mysterious art forms. All while being exposed to aspects of the music business and industry, as well as its many historical and theoretical concepts.

Drawing on the diverse musical heritage of Liverpool, students of Music at Liverpool Hope explore the production of musical performance and composition of music across a broad range of topics and genres, such as popular, classical, jazz and electronic. Your studies will focus on music production and will be underpinned by technical, theoretical and historical areas of enquiry, led by staff with a broad range of teaching, professional and research specialisms.

Music Production is part of our School of Creative & Performing Arts, based in the purpose-built Capstone Building at our Creative Campus. The Capstone is home to a collection of musical instruments that cater for all genres, including a Steinway Model D and a chamber organ. We also have a suite of sound-proofed practice rooms equipped with Steinway pianos, and four electronic studios.

Newly upgraded recording studio facilities, feature 16 additional preamps in the form of Audient ASP880s and a new SSL Nucleus 2 Dark console, all seated into an Argosy Halo-K Workstation. Combining this with a brand new microphone package, this room is well-equipped to record all varieties of music.

Fees and Additional Costs

The tuition fees for 2024/2025 are £9,250 for full-time undergraduate courses.

We advise you consider the cost of purchasing recording consumables, and advise you set aside around £100 per year.

You will also need to consider the cost of your accommodation each year whilst you study at university.

Visit our accommodation webpages for further details about our Halls of Residence: www.hope.ac.uk/halls

Applicants will need access to a computer if course delivery is switched to online. The University has a laptop lending service if remote study is necessary.

Entry Requirements

This course follows the standard University entry requirements. Please see the website for further information.



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CONTACT

T: +44 (0)151 291 3000

E: enquiry@hope.ac.uk

www.hope.ac.uk

Music Production Curriculum

Year One

In your first year, you will be introduced to the principles of Music Production and your studies will be directed into three broad areas; Foundations of Audio Recording; Foundations of Sound Reinforcement; and the Foundations of MIDI Programming and Automation. You will be taught holistically as you explore themes including; the physics of sound, audio signal, audio mixing, audio editing, digital signal processing and introducing automation.

You will attend the Foundations in Music Production lecture series, which will explore questions such as; understanding of microphone type and placement, principles of audio editing, mixing, post-production techniques and the preparation required to manage a live show. These lectures will be linked to two themed seminar series: The Foundations of Audio Recording Seminar allows for focussed study of practical mic placement and recording of a variety of instruments (solo and group); these seminars will also include the theory relating to audio signal flow. The Foundations of MIDI Programming and Automation Seminar will allow for the focused practical study upon the automated mixing of audio stems within a variety of genres and settings; these seminars will also include the theory relating to audio perception.

All first year students will attend a series of compulsory concerts and events throughout their first academic year. The concerts included in this series are intended to illustrate the musical genres studied in other areas of the course, and to add additional enhancement.

Year Two

You will further develop your skills, understanding and appreciation of more advanced techniques of both studio and live sound production, and MIDI programming, automation and interactive applications in music.

You will attend the Explorations in Music Production lecture series where these areas will be taught in an integrated way through shared themes such as: stylistic sound production techniques; digital signal processing techniques; automation; music interactivity; digital sound theory; sound synthesis; surround sound techniques; introduction to audio/visual (theory and practice); and introduction to generative music. This lecture series will be linked to two themed seminar series: Explorations in Studio and Live Production Seminar and Explorations in Interactive Music Programming Seminar.

In addition, you will attend a series of compulsory concerts and events. The concerts included in this series are intended to illustrate the musical genres studied in other areas of the course, and to add additional enhancement.

Year Three

In your third year, you will be encouraged to further hone your skills, understanding and appreciation of advanced studio, and live sound and digital music.

Students will attend the Advanced Studies of Music Production lecture series and explore themes such as: advanced practice and theories of: stylistic sound; sound and perception theory; sound synthesis; mixed-media, interactive and immersive music and sound; surround-sound techniques; and generative composition.

The third year lecture series will be linked to two themed seminar series: Advanced Studio and Live Production Seminar, and Advanced Digital Music Seminar. Each student will also attend a weekly tutorial with their allocated personal tutor, and be required to participate in the recording of music concerts.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Teaching on this degree is structured into lectures, seminars and tutorials. You have the opportunity to have a one-to-one meeting with your tutor on a regular basis. In your first year of study, there are approximately six teaching hours each week, which reduces to approximately five teaching hours in your second and third years.

On top of teaching hours, you are also expected to spend approximately 30 hours studying independently each week, as well as group study to prepare for any group assessments you may have.

As part of the enhanced performance programme, you will have the opportunity to take part in the extensive extra-curricular music-making opportunities. These include, Choir, Big Band, Concert Band and various smaller, student-led ensembles.

ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK

Assessments on this course will consist of creative and technical portfolios – such as recording, live music or programming projects technical examinations on areas of relevant software and hardware and programming environments.



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