



Academy of Music and Performance
BA (Hons) Music & Creative Music Technology

Module MCM603

Contemporary Issue in Music

Seminar

MODULE BOOKLET 1

2016 – 2017

Deadline for submission: 15.00h 12.12.16

Tutor: Nick Redfern

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Room: G32 Time: Thursday 11.00 to 12.00

Start date: WB 3rd October 2016 End date: WB 12th December 2016

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What will you do to complete this module?

You will research a topic which addresses a current issue in the world of music which has been accepted by your tutor. Please do not use web-based resources as these are often highly derivative and lack academic rigor.

You will be required to analyse, synthesise and apply academic critique and support the seminar with a list of references.

How will the subject be taught?

You will attend a series of seminars and take part in debating. You will also be given guidance in academic support classes on communication skills, analysis and critical thinking.

How will the seminar be submitted?

The seminar will be recorded with a video camera.

The references will be sent by email as a word document to christopher.hickling@ncn.ac.uk one week before your seminar by Friday 15.00.

How will the seminar be assessed?

It will be assessed in accordance with the [Module Learning Outcomes](#).

What is the assessment strategy?

The assessment strategy will reflect the aims and learning outcomes of the relevant module and will include:

- Evidence of Research Skills
- Seminar management
- Knowledge and understanding
- Depth of discussion
- Communication skills
- Use of resources
- Professionalism and conduct
- Answers to questioning
- Tutor Observation

What are the deadlines for this module?

Seminar: WB 3rd October 2016

End date: WB 12th December 2016

What are the penalties for late submission?

A late submission will result in a maximum grade of 40%. A submission after 5 working days of the deadline will result in failure.

What is the process for a deadline extension?

Complete the extension form and email to nick.redfern@ncn.ac.uk 5 working days before the deadline.

MODULE MANAGEMENT

Credit points and Duration:	20 credit points – 15 weeks
Module Leader:	Nick Redfern
Subject:	Contemporary Issues in Music
School:	Academy of Music and Performance
Pre- or post-requisites:	None
Site of Delivery:	ncn – Clarendon Campus
Date:	August 2016

External examiner

Dr Paul Oliver Lecturer in Music & Music Business Perth College, University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI)

Internal verification

Signature:

Date:

Module Specification 2016 to 2017

Basic Module Information		
1	Module Title	Contemporary Issues in Music
2	Module Code	MCM603
3	Credit Points	20 Credit points
4	Duration	15 weeks
5	School	Creative, Cultural & Digital Cluster
6	Date	22/08/2016

7 Pre, Post and Co-requisites

These are modules that you must have studied previously in order to take this module, or modules that you must study simultaneously or in a subsequent academic session

Pre, Co, Post Module Code Module Title

None

8 Courses containing the module

Level Core/Option Mode Code Programme Title

6 Core FT/PT MCM603 BA (Hons) Music & Creative Music
Technology

9 Overview and Aims

This module will develop your understanding of current issues in the area of music. You will develop the ability to discuss and analyse contemporary issues in music with reference to wider socio-political issues and will have a greater awareness of how to keep in touch with current issues.

10 Module content

The Module examines:

- The position of music as an art and a product in modern society
- The impact of modern technology on the creation and presentation of musical products
- The role of the internet in the marketing, promotion and distribution of music
- The impact of new delivery formats on the music industry
- Current developments in academic research into the area of sound and music perception

11 Indicative reading

1. Negus, K and Street, J. (Editors). (Quarterly). *Popular Music Journal*. Cambridge University Press
2. Herrington, T. (Editor in Chief). (Monthly). *The Wire*. Wire Magazine Ltd

12 Learning outcomes

Return to [How will the seminar be assessed?](#)

Learning outcomes describe what you should know and be able to do by the end of the module

Knowledge and understanding. After studying this module you should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a broad understanding of contemporary issues in music
2. Show an understanding of how current issues in music relate to, and are driven by, issues in other areas of society

Skills, qualities and attributes. After studying this module you should be able to:

1. Evaluate a range of views on a specific subject within the broader area of music
2. Explore the impact of current issues on techniques and practices within the music industry
3. Contribute to group discussions on specific subjects
4. Develop ideas and construct written and verbal arguments

13 Teaching and learning

Range of modes of contact

This indicates the range of direct contact teaching and learning methods used on this module, eg, lectures, seminars

Lecture	15
Seminar; preparation for assessment	10

Total contact hours 25

Range of other learning methods

This indicates the range of other teaching and learning methods used on this module, eg, directed reading, research

Self-directed learning - Directed reading, 175
individual research, internet searching,
literature search, original empirical research;
assessment production

**Total non-contact 175
hours**

14 Assessment methods

This indicates the type and weighting of assessment elements in the module

<u>Weighting</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Description</u>
70%	Essay	A 2500 essay investigating a contemporary issue of the student's choice
30%	Seminar	A seminar managed by a small group of students to discuss a contemporary issue in Music & Creative Music Technology

Diagnostic/formative assessment

This indicates if there are any assessments that do not contribute directly to the final module mark:

Throughout the module you will have the opportunity to discuss your progress with your tutor and receive informal feedback

Further information on assessment

This section provides further information on the module's assessment where appropriate

Essay: Detailed summative written feedback

Seminars: Detailed summative written and verbal feedback

Generic Assessment Criteria: Managed Seminars

SMAC = Specific Module Assessment Criteria

You will find below the kinds of areas that your tutors will be considering when assessing your written work. Remember, though, that your tutors will be looking at your piece of work as a whole when determining the final mark. They will be happy to discuss their assessment with you and show you how to maximise your strengths and firm up on your weaker points.

Each section below is split into two parts, the first indicates the general criteria used within BA (Hons), the second indicates the specific criteria (otherwise known as SMAC). The additions will be used when relevant (if a specific box is blank then refer to the generic).

	Content	Understanding the Subject	Session Management	Response to questions
Weighting	50%	30%	15%	5%
86 - 100% Upper First	An exceptional exposition of the subject & displays a deep understanding of the complexities of the subject. The student is objective. Theories are sensitively and critically applied. Own theory developed.	Demonstrates full understanding of topic within a wider context. Shows excellent critical and analytical abilities.	Professionally managed at all times. Leadership role taken, discussion maintains focus and intelligent debate stimulated throughout.	Exceptional ability to 'manage' questions. Able to develop a debate.
70 - 85%	Imaginative and thorough search for materials. Theory and practice are well	Demonstrates full understanding of topic	Well managed session that maintains focus and	Positive attempts to elicit questions, which are

First	integrated with critical and creative issues being raised for discussion.	within a wider context. Shows excellent critical and analytical abilities	direction. Considerable input from seminar leader.	enthusiastically and knowledgeably answered. Attempts to manage and prompt discussion.
60-69% 2.1	Evidence of a wider search for material and the application of critical thought to this. The main issues are competently covered and additional questions raised.	Demonstrates substantial understanding of topic within a wider context. Shows good critical and analytical abilities	Well managed session that is kept within the topic area. Leader provides input when required.	Good response to questions which indicates knowledge of the area. Responses encourage discussion and debate.
50-59% 2.2	Competent discussion of main points with evidence of reading, but limited to major texts.	Demonstrates reasonable but incomplete understanding of topic and its context. Shows limited critical and analytical abilities.	Seminar kept within the subject area with some attempt from the leader to stimulate debate.	Questions are answered competently if with little flair. Little attempt to manage discussion.

40-49% 3rd	Material has been poorly and superficially researched with little connection to brief.	Demonstrates limited or patchy understanding of the topic and its context. Little evidence of critical and analytical abilities.	Seminar kept broadly within the topic area but with little input from leader.	Halting attempts to answer questions but little enthusiasm. No attempt to manage discussion.
26 - 39% Marginal Fail	Little evidence of an understanding of the basic parameters of the subject. Difficult to relate the questions either to the topic selected or the available literature.	Demonstrates little understanding of topic and its context. Very little evidence of critical and analytical abilities.	Seminar drifts off topic on occasions. Minimal input from seminar leader.	Unable to answer questions. Insufficient time allowed.
0 - 25% Clear Fail	Does not answer the brief. No evidence of reading or research	Demonstrates very little understanding of topic and its context. No evidence of critical and analytical abilities.	Poorly managed session. No stimulation of debate and seminar drifts off topic regularly.	Questions where not asked for. Insufficient time allowed.