



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

Module MCM604

Modern Composition

MODULE BOOKLET

2016 – 2017

Deadline for submission: 15.00h 19.05.17

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Room: 125 Time: Monday 13.00 to 14.00

Start date: WB 3rd October 2016 End date: 15.00 Friday May 19th 2017

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What will you do to complete this module?

You will compose a portfolio of original compositions. The suggested length is 20 minutes. There are no stylistic requirements or restrictions. The portfolio must include one score, one arrangement and one recording must be live and unedited. The score can be traditional notation, tablature, screen shots or any system that shows the work has a clear structure and display the individual elements that contribute to the composition.

You may also submit a supplementary portfolio that will not be graded but may help to show your creative range and depth as a creative musician.

You will submit a written analysis of your graded portfolio that will discuss compositional techniques, research, compositional models and other technical data. There is no suggested word count for this but an in-depth analysis is expected.

How will the subject be taught?

You will attend a series of seminars and lectures concerning the development of composition techniques in the 20th Century to contemporary music.

How will the portfolio be submitted?

You may submit your portfolio in audio or video formats or a combination of formats.

The Modern Composition portfolio will be submitted on a DVD which will be labelled:

Name

Student ID

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The written analysis will be submitted as an electronic Word file on the portfolio DVD.

Please hand in your portfolio to Christopher Hickling, Music Office 2, where you will be issued with a receipt.

How will the portfolio be assessed?

It will be assessed in accordance with the Module Learning Outcomes.

What is the assessment strategy?

Please do not submit and work without formative feedback from your tutor.

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

- Evidence of Research Skills
- Knowledge and understanding
- Depth of understanding

- Communication skills through writing
- Use of resources

Peer assessment

There will be a series of composition seminars where you will be expected to present a 20 minute lecture on your portfolio as part of the *Music by ourselves* series starting in November 2015. The peer evaluation and feedback will be part of your formative feedback.

What are the deadlines for this module?

Start date: WB 3rd October 29016

End date: 15.00 Friday 19th May 2017

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 – 30 weeks
Module Leader:	Nick Redfern
Subject:	Modern Composition
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	Modern Composition
2	Module Code	MCM604
3	Credit Points	20 Credit points
4	Duration	30 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

<u>Pre, Co, Post</u>	<u>Module Code</u>	<u>Module Title</u>
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None

8 Courses containing the module

<u>Level</u>	<u>Core/Option</u>	<u>Mode</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Programme Title</u>
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6	Core Technology	FT/PT	MMC604	BA (Hons) Music & Creative Music
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9 Overview and Aims

This module gives you the opportunity to investigate modern compositional techniques and concepts. You will explore new technologies through both the creation and presentation of original musical products and will examine the range of creative opportunities offered by music technology applications.

10 Module content

The Module examines:

- The ability to develop and manipulate original compositional ideas
- The ability to produce musical products to suit a given brief
- Skills in arranging musical materials
- Notation techniques and methods
- A range of analytical skills and techniques
- Study of traditional and contemporary music making models
- Application of music technology in the creation, development and presentation of original compositions and arrangements

11 Indicative reading

1. Brindel, R S. (1986). *Musical Composition*. Oxford University Press
2. Middleton, R. Ed. (2000). *Reading Pop: Approaches to Textual Analysis in Popular Music*. Oxford University Press

12 Learning outcomes

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 traditional and contemporary music making models
2. Show an understanding of how music technology applications and techniques can be used to enhance and develop musical materials

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

1. Creatively apply compositional techniques in a range of forms and styles
2. Demonstrate the ability to compose original works and arrangements using stylistic conventions
3. Present and discuss complex technical data
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	30
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Practical work	45
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Total contact hours	75
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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, preparing assignment, individual research, internet searching, literature search, original empirical research	125
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Total non-contact hours	125
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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%	Portfolio	A portfolio lasting 20 minutes which must include: a recording of a live performance, an arrangement and a score of one of the submitted works using an appropriate notational technique
30%	Commentary	A written commentary on each of the pieces outlining your aims and the techniques used with some evaluation

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

Portfolio: Detailed summative written and verbal feedback

Analysis: Detailed summative written feedback

Assessment Criteria: Practical work/performance

You will find below the areas that your tutors will be considering when assessing your practical/performance work. 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.

		Process		Written Commentary		Portfolio		Evaluation
Weighting	30%		15%		40%		15%	
70 – 100% First		Exceptional understanding of the work is demonstrated with outstanding evidence of a consistently high level of commitment to the project in terms of research, time management and practical application.		An exceptionally detailed account (data/reflection/analysis) of a dynamic process of research, exploration and technical experimentation which has evolved over a period of time.		<p>Exceptional levels of creative imagination and originality in artistic choices.</p> <p>The performance/presentation skills of the students are exceptional and offer no grounds for criticism.</p> <p>The work demonstrates an exceptional ability to communicate ideas of significance through performance/presentation.</p>		Exceptional reflective, critical and analytical abilities are demonstrated in clear, concise evaluation with substantial evidence of independent thought.

60-69% 2.1		Excellent understanding of the work is demonstrated with strong evidence of a consistently high level of commitment to the project in terms of research, time management and practical application.		<p>Research is highly individual, creative, original and in depth. Evaluation and reflection within research is evident.</p> <p>An excellent account of the technical development of the project with some reflection on the problems and the means of overcoming them.</p>		<p>Excellent levels of creative imagination and strong evidence of originality in artistic choices.</p> <p>The performance/presentation skills of the students are on the whole excellent.</p> <p>The work demonstrates an excellent ability to communicate ideas of significance through performance/presentation.</p>		<p>Critical and analytical abilities are demonstrated in clear, concise continual review and evaluation.</p> <p>Evaluation contains evidence of independent thought.</p>
50-59% 2.2		A strong understanding of the work is demonstrated with evidence of a good level of commitment to the project in terms of research, time management and practical application.		<p>Research is individual, creative, original and in depth. Some evaluation and reflection within research is evident.</p> <p>An excellent account of the technical development of the project with some reflection on</p>		<p>Good levels of creative imagination and some evidence of originality in artistic choices.</p> <p>The performance/presentation skills of the students show</p>		<p>There is some evidence strong critical and analytical abilities demonstrated review and evaluation.</p> <p>Evaluation</p>

				the problems and the means of overcoming them.		some strengths. The work demonstrates some ability to communicate ideas of significance through performance/presentation.		contains some evidence of independent thought.
40-49% 3 rd		A satisfactory understanding of the work is demonstrated with some evidence of commitment to the project in terms of research, time management and practical application.		Research is individual, creative, original and in depth. Some evaluation and reflection within research is evident. A satisfactory account of the technical development of the project showing that there has been a process of development and thought.		Satisfactory levels of creative imagination and limited evidence of originality in artistic choices. The performance/presentation skills of the students are satisfactory. The work demonstrates an adequate ability to communicate ideas of significance through performance/presentation.		Limited evidence of critical and analytical abilities are demonstrated. Evaluation is descriptive and superficial and limited.
26 - 39% Marginal		Little evidence of a commitment to the project in terms of research, time management and practical application and the overall level is		Little evidence of research is evident demonstrating limited originality or creativity.		Little evidence of creative imagination and originality in artistic choices.		Minimal evidence of critical and analytical

Fail		inadequate/inappropriate/insufficient.		The evidence does not suggest that the work has evolved as a result of careful planning and research.		The performance/presentation skills of the students are fall short of the required standard. The work demonstrates an inability to communicate ideas of significance through performance/presentation.		abilities are demonstrated. Evaluation is descriptive.
0 – 25% Clear Fail		Little thought has been given to fulfil the basic requirements of the task. There are many serious errors and/or omissions resulting in poor work which is unacceptable.		Little thought has been given to fulfil the basic requirements of the task. There are many serious errors and/or omissions resulting in poor work which is unacceptable.		Little thought has been given to fulfil the basic requirements of the task. There are many serious errors and/or omissions resulting in poor work which is unacceptable.	0-2	Little thought has been given to fulfil the basic requirements of the task. There are many serious errors and/or omissions resulting in poor work which is unacceptable.