

Module Specification

Module Title: Contextual Studies 1 (Songwriting)

Module code:	X_SWR4C003R	NQF level:	Level 4
Credit value:	30 credits	Semester of study:	1 and 2
Module type:	Compulsory	Pre-requisites:	None
Available to:	BA (Hons) Music (Popular)		

Module overview

This team-taught module equips students with musicological and aural skills through the examination of repertoire, styles, literature, concepts and discourse to better understand the effect of these on society. It is delivered via lectures, workshops and seminars. Students will investigate the parameters through which we consume and construct music, how we communicate their use, the social, commercial and contextual issues surrounding them, and the manner in which we can employ these parameters in popular music practice. The module seeks to challenge the students' understanding of how music is constructed, used and interpreted within popular culture.

Aims

This module forms part of the Contextual Studies strand of the programme and addresses core musical and academic skills that support the students' specialist study with particular reference to their pathway.

The module aims to:

1. Equip students with the fundamental skills and knowledge essential to the understanding, appreciation and creation of music.
2. Explore, evaluate and apply the core musical skills (associated with relevant repertoire if appropriate).
3. Develop an understanding of repertoire and where appropriate, explore its social and cultural context.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Integrate theory and practice.
2. Identify and evaluate the structural, cultural and social aspects of key repertoire.
3. Apply and understanding of harmonic and rhythmic conventions.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of repertoire through its social and cultural context, production and reception.

Learning and teaching methods

Lectures: concepts, principles and theories will be explored in formal lectures. They will be relevant to the particular pathway.

Workshops/seminars: skills are developed in workshops and seminars along with cognitive and personal skills in open-ended problem solving exercises by working in small groups supported by members of academic staff.

Contact hours and directed study (over semesters 1 and 2)

Delivery type	Student hours
Indicative hours for learning and teaching activities	60 hours
Indicative hours of directed study	240 hours
Total hours (100hrs per 10 credits)	300 hours

Opportunities for formative feedback

Formative oral feedback will be given in tutorials and workshops.

Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Recorded Spoken analysis	10 minutes	50%	1, 3
Essay	3000 words	50%	2, 4

Re-Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Recorded Spoken analysis	10 minutes	50%	1, 3
Essay	3000 words	50%	2, 4

[Module resource lists are available via Key Links](#)