

## Module Specification

**Module Title:** Specialist Study Composition 2 (Songwriting)

<b>Module code:</b>	X_SWR5C001R	<b>NQF level:</b>	Level 5
<b>Credit value:</b>	30 credits	<b>Semester of study:</b>	1 and 2
<b>Module type:</b>	Compulsory	<b>Pre-requisites:</b>	None
<b>Available to:</b>	BA (Hons) Music (Songwriting)		

### Module overview

In this module which progresses from Specialist Study Composition 1, students will be expected to show a much greater awareness of their compositional identity and be able to focus this in particular ways, again with a sense of the context of their work relative to the music industry. The students might, for example, explore collaboration as a co-writer. This is a useful means of developing a professional attitude in that the students will be expected to produce work which involves making certain musical concessions in the service of a more proficient overall product. An alternative is the 'industry-specific simulation' in which the student works on an intensive compositional exercise (modelled on, for example, a production library brief) to compose a piece in a particular style and for particular forces. Projects undertaken by students should involve a recorded vocal performance (where appropriate) with a recorded outcome constituting the final product. In addition to the 1-1 sessions, students will also attend 'Composition in Context' sessions where they will receive advanced seminar based tuition in harmonic, melodic, and lyrical construction and will continue to have the opportunity to collaborate with other songwriters on the pathway in structured exercises that apply the skills and approaches being taught. Examples include utilising word boxes in lyrical construction, and developing melodic energy in the employment of stable and unstable tones.

### Aims

This module is designed to continue the support of the students' development in composition and arrangement practice. Recognising the importance of continual development, through one-to-one teaching opportunities, students will have opportunities to develop their emerging musical voice to prepare them for level 6.

The module aims to:

1. Enable students to further develop their understanding of the techniques and skills of musical composition and/or arrangement, showing a technical command in their execution.
2. Enable students to apply appropriate expression, creativity and presentation to their compositions and arrangements.
3. Encourage students to realise and develop their emerging musical voice.

### Learning outcomes

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

1. Critically analyse the compositional process and resulting piece of music.
2. Compose and/or arrange and present music with a secure technical command of, and fluency in, chosen compositional idioms.
3. Demonstrate refined stylistic awareness in the creation of original music, and exercise significant judgment in the organisation of a portfolio.

### Learning and teaching methods

**One to one tuition** facilitates a developmental process over two semesters. It is designed to build upon existing skills in technique and musicianship in order to establish strong composition and arrangement skills with the aim of developing expression, creativity and technique.

**Workshops/seminars** are designed to support the student's one-to-one activity and place their specialist study in the wider context of technical considerations, artistic expression and critical insight. This will inform their technical assessment and portfolio submission (which may be structured as a performance or traditional composition portfolio depending on the pathway they are undertaking).

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

Delivery type	Student hours
Indicative hours for learning and teaching activities	40 hours
Indicative hours of directed study	260 hours
Total hours (100hrs per 10 credits)	300 hours

#### Opportunities for formative feedback

Within the individual tuition process students receive verbal feedback regarding their progress on a weekly basis as part of an ongoing development process. This is the same for Composition in Context seminars/workshops (FA1) which are designed to be group focused therefore offering possibilities for peer and tutor feedback.

#### Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Recorded Spoken Analysis	5 minutes	25%	1
Portfolio	20 minutes	75%	2, 3

#### Re-Assessment Method\*

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Recorded Spoken Analysis	5 minutes	25%	1
Portfolio	20 minutes	75%	2, 3

\*Where practicable, assessments may be delivered through the conservatoire's VLE or by video to ensure that overseas students are not disadvantaged or incur unnecessary travel costs. Assessments delivered through the VLE will be timed and invigilated.

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