

Module Specification

Module Title: Contextual Studies 2 (Songwriting)

Module code:	X_SWR5C003R	NQF level:	Level 5
Credit value:	20 credits	Semester of study:	1 and 2
Module type:	Compulsory	Pre-requisites:	None
Available to:	BA (Hons) Music (Songwriting)		

Module overview

This team-taught module further enhances students' knowledge of musicology and cultural theory which is taught through a detailed examination of theory, styles, industries, concepts and discourse to better understand their effect on society. It is delivered via lectures, workshops and seminars. Through the analysis of literature and repertoire, students will be introduced to more advanced theoretical and analytical approaches, and this will inform increased sophistication and contextual awareness in each student's compositional and performative output. The scheme is largely fuelled by exploring a global perspective towards popular music and links to industry. Indicative content for this module will include discussions of authenticity, identity, music and political activism, genre development, production, collaboration, and creativity. The understanding and interpretation skills students develop in this module will complement the writing and analytical skills developed in Specialist Group Study 2. Students will be expected to work collaboratively and consider their creative work within cultural and industrial contexts.

Aims

This module continues to develop core musical and academic skills in support of the students' specialist studies and be complementary to the contextual studies optional modules at levels 5 and 6.

The module aims to:

1. Further develop students' specialised skills and knowledge essential to the understanding, appreciation and creation of music.
2. Evaluate and analyse a broad range of musical skills associated with specific creative artists, cultures and repertoires.
3. Understand the importance of social and cultural context when addressing specific creative artists and repertoire (as appropriate to the pathway).

Learning outcomes

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

1. Integrate theory and practice through detailed analysis and evaluation.
2. Apply significant judgement in a broad range of musical contexts, supported by detailed analytical application of harmonic, melodic and rhythmic concepts.
3. Generate ideas through research and analysis.
4. Analyse key repertoire within its context of style, production, reception and social context.

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 to be 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	140 hours
Total hours (100hrs per 10 credits)	200 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
Oral examination: Critical Discussion	TBC	50%	2, 4
Music Composition (2 tracks) and Group Presentation	Two tracks no longer than 7 minutes in total, presentation 10 minutes	50%	1, 3

Re-Assessment Method*

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Oral examination: Critical Discussion	TBC	50%	2, 4
Music Composition (2 tracks) and Group Presentation	Two tracks no longer than 7 minutes in total, presentation 10 minutes	50%	1, 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](#)