

Music

COURSE CODE

EDUQAS Music A Level A660QS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- 6 or above in GCSE Music.
- Instrumental or vocal lessons in at least one instrument from an outside teacher.

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

Students will study in depth a variety of genres of music from diverse musical heritages and will develop a holistic understanding of the way different pieces are structured and created. They will widen their understanding of harmony and tonal relationships through technical studies. Students will also develop their own practical musicianship as performers and composers.

ASSESSMENT

A Level

Component 1: Performance

- 25 - 35 % of the course. 6 - 8 mins (25%) or 10 - 12 mins (35%) recital, in front of a visiting examiner. The recital can be a combination of solo and ensemble pieces, or a purely solo recital.

Component 2: Composition

- 25 - 35 % of the course. Two compositions (4-6 mins, 25%), or three compositions (8-10 mins, 35%). At least one composition (for either weighting) must be in a response to a brief set by EDUQAS and reflect the musical characteristics and conventions of those covered in Area of Study A - the Western Classical Tradition.

Component 3: Appraising

- 40% of the course. This area of study is assessed through a 135-minute exam paper, sat at the end of Year 13, with questions relating to three Areas of Study:
 - A - Western Classical Tradition.
 - C - Musical Theatre.
 - E - Into the Twentieth century.

Questions will include: set work analysis with a score, extended responses on a wider context, unprepared extracts of music with and without a score and comparison questions. This component includes listening questions.

NEXT STEPS

A-Level Music students go on to study a wide range of subjects at degree level, ranging from academic musical degrees to engineering or research-based degrees. Universities and employers are keen to accept students who show the level of independent learning, dedication and attention to detail that high-standard musicians embody. Specific higher education music-related courses include Music, Music Performance, Musical Theatre Performance, Actor-Musician Studies, Sound Engineering, Sound Production, Music Therapy and Music with Computer Studies. Students interested in Sound Production or Sound Engineering need to also be taking Physics and Maths in addition to Music at A Level.

CAREER INFORMATION

Studying A-Level Music can be the starting point for a career in the multi-million pound arts industries. Students who study the subject have gone into instrumental teaching, freelance composing, school and university teaching, music therapy, conducting, sound recording, music publishing, orchestral playing, accompanying and solo professional performance. Several of our former students are performing in London's West End.