

Overview

Music Technology AS and A Level offers a range of exciting opportunities to learn about sequencing, sampling, studio recording and production, composing, and the history of recorded music.

There are three areas of study which underpin the course:

1. Recording and production techniques for both corrective and creative purposes
2. Principles of sound and audio technology
3. The development of recording and production technology

Curriculum and assessment

Awarding Organisation:
Edexcel

Minimum course requirements:
GCSE Grade 4+ in Music/Music Technology (if studied). If no Music/Music Technology at GCSE you must be able to demonstrate music technology experience.

More information:
Mr H Santer

As described above there are three areas of study which are then assessed over a series of four components:

- **Recording** – students will develop skills in capturing, editing, and mixing sounds to produce an audio recording.
- **Technology-based composition** – students develop skills in creating, editing and structuring sounds to develop a technology-based composition.
- **Listening and Analysing** – students develop listening and analysing skills through the study of a range of production techniques. These are then assessed in a listening exam which covers music from 1910 up to the current day.

- **Producing and analysing** – students study the techniques and principles of music technology through a series of written and practical tasks, in the context of audio and MIDI materials provided by Edexcel Pearson.

ASSESSMENT

Coursework is 40% of the course and takes the form of a multi-track recording and a technology based composition. The remaining 60% of the course is assessed through a listening and analysing exam and practical producing and analysing exam.

Skills that will be developed

- understand the principles of sound and audio technology and how they are used in creative and professional practice
- understand a wide range of recording and production techniques
- develop the skills to create and manipulate sound in imaginative and creative ways
- develop skills in critical and analytical listening to evaluate the use of sound and audio technology in students' own and others' work
- understand the interdependence of sound engineering knowledge, understanding and skills
- understand the basic principles of acoustics, psycho-acoustics, and the digitalisation of sound
- understand the latest developments in music technology and the impact they have on technology-based composition, performance and the tonal qualities of recordings
- develop and extend the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to create recordings and technology-based compositions which communicate effectively to the listener

Post 18 opportunities

Our students go on to study a wide range of music technology based courses which lead to careers in studio engineering, live sound, sound design, sound technician, DJ-ing, stage and set design, PA operation and acoustic design.

Destinations of students in recent years:

Bath Spa – Creative Music Technology

Bournemouth University – Music and Sound Production

University of Salford – Creative Music Technology

York University – Music Technology Systems (Electronics)

Expenses

Students need to purchase AS/A2 Edexcel Pearson Music Technology study guides.