BIMM UNIVERSITY | A university for the creative industries

BIMM Music Institute Dublin

Undergraduate Course Overviews

2026/27 v2

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Contents

Foundation Diploma Professional Musicianship 3

Foundation Diploma Music & Audio Production 5

Foundation Diploma Music Business 7

BA (Hons) Music Business, Events and Media 9

Additional Information 14

Timetables 14

Year Structure 14

Assessments: 14

Practical Assessments 14

Written assessments 14

Practical coursework 14

Multimedia coursework/ Portfolio Assessments 14

Written coursework 14

Presentations 15

Learning and Teaching 15

Teaching 15

Self-directed study 15

Formative Assessment 15

Staff 16

Language 16

Costs 16

Tuition Fees 16

Additional Costs 16

Accommodation and Living Costs 16

Disabled access 17

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Foundation Diploma Professional Musicianship

Course Specification:

Full Title of the Course & Award	Foundation Diploma Professional Musicianship
Mode of Attendance	Part Time
Length of course	This course is taught as a one-year course at level 6 (UK level 4).
Start date	September 2026
Awarding Institution	BIMM University
Teaching Institution	BIMM Music Institute Dublin
UCAS Code	N/A
Language of Study	English
Final Award	Foundation Diploma Professional Musicianship
FHEQ Level	Level 4 - 60 Credits (UK)
ECTS Level	Level 6 - 30 ECTS Credits (ROI)
Reference Points	QAA Subject Benchmark in Music (2016) FHEQ (2008) QAA Quality Code (2017)
Minimum Period of Registration	1 year
Maximum Period of Registration	2 Years
Admissions Criteria	The minimum entry requirement is Interview and successful completion of one module at Leaving Cert level (106) or QQI level 5 The primary entry requirement for mature applicants is Interview only.
Date of Course Specification Revisions:	2022

Course Structure: Foundational Diploma Professional Musicianship

	Instrumentalists		Songwriters	
Semester 1	Instrumental Skills	Performance Workshop 1	Songcraft	Song Stylistics
Semester 2	Creative Music Theory	Performance Workshop 2	Live Arrangement & Performance	Creative Music Theory

Foundation Diploma Professional Musicianship consists of the following modules:

Code	Year	FHEQ	Instrumentalists	Core/Spine/Option	Credits
DPM411	1/1	4	Instrumental Skills	Core	15
DPM412	1/1	4	Performance Workshop 1	Core	15
DPM413	1/2	4	Performance Workshop 2	Core	15
DPM414	1/2	4	Creative Music Theory	Core	15
				Total Credits	**(60)**
Code	**Year**	**FHEQ**	**Songwriters**	**Core/Spine/Option**	**Credits**
DPM415	1/1	4	Songcraft (sw)	Core	15
DPM416	1/1	4	Song Stylistics (sw)	Core	15
DPM414	1/2	4	Creative Music Theory	Core	15
DMP417	1/2	4	Live Arrangement & Performance (sw)	Core	15
				Total Credits	**(60)**

Workload:

	Average Number of Assessments		Average Expected Hours of Student Effort Per Assessment
	Songwriters	Instrumentalists	
Semester 1	2	2	20
Semester 2	2	2	20

	Average Contact Time (Hours Per Student/Year)	Average Self-Directed Study Time (Hours Per Students/ Year)
Year 1 (Level 4)	108	492

All details above are provided for guidance only but are believed to be accurate at the time of writing. Modifications may be made to the course in line with our Course Approval and Modification Policy.

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Foundation Diploma Music & Audio Production

Course Specification:

Full Title of the Course & Award	Foundation Diploma Music & Audio Production
Mode of Attendance	Part Time
Length of course	This course is taught as a one-year course at level 6 (UK level 4).
Start date	September 2026
Awarding Institution	BIMM University
Teaching Institution	BIMM Music Institute Dublin
UCAS Code	N/A
Language of Study	English
Final Award	Foundation Diploma Music & Audio Production
FHEQ Level	Level 4 - 60 Credits (UK)
ECTS Level	Level 6 - 30 ECTS Credits (ROI)
Reference Points	QAA Subject Benchmark in Music (2016) FHEQ (2008) QAA Quality Code (2017)
Minimum Period of Registration	1 year
Maximum Period of Registration	2 Years
Admissions Criteria	The minimum entry requirement is Interview and successful completion of one module at Leaving Cert level (106) or QQI level 5 The primary entry requirement for mature applicants is Interview only.
Date of Course Specification Revisions:	2022

Course Structure: Foundation Diploma Music & Audio Production

Semester 1	Audio Engineering	Audio Essentials
Semester 2	Sound Production	Mixing

Foundation Diploma Music & Audio Production consists of the following modules:

Code	Year	FHEQ	Module title	Core/Spine/Option	Credits
MAP411	1/1	4	Audio Engineering	Core	15
MAP412	1/1	4	Audio Essentials	Core	15
MAP413	1/2	4	Sound Production	Core	15
MAP414	1/2	4	Mixing	Core	15
				Total Credits	**FHEQ (60)**

Workload:

	Average Number of Assessments	Average Expected Hours of Student Effort Per Assessment
Semester 1	2	20
Semester 2	2	20

	Average Contact Time (Hours Per Year)	Average Self-Directed Study Time (Hours Per Year)
(Level 4)	109	492

All details above are provided for guidance only but are believed to be accurate at the time of writing. Modifications may be made to the course in line with our Course Approval and Modification Policy.

BIMM UNIVERSITY | A university for the creative industries

Foundation Diploma Music Business

Course Specification:

Full Title of the Course & Award	Foundation Diploma Music Business
Mode of Attendance	Part Time
Length of course	This course is taught as a one-year course at level 6 (UK level 4).
Start date	September 2026
Awarding Institution	BIMM University
Teaching Institution	BIMM Music Institute Dublin
UCAS Code	N/A
Language of Study	English
Final Award	Foundation Diploma Music Business
FHEQ Level	Level 4 - 60 Credits (UK)
ECTS Level	Level 6 - 30 ECTS Credits (ROI)
Reference Points	QAA Subject Benchmark in Music (2016) FHEQ (2008) QAA Quality Code (2017)
Minimum Period of Registration	1 year
Maximum Period of Registration	2 Years
Admissions Criteria	The minimum entry requirement is Interview and successful completion of one module at Leaving Cert level (106) or QQI level 5 The primary entry requirement for mature applicants is Interview only.
Date of Course Specification Revisions:	2022

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Course Structure: Foundation Diploma Music Business

Semester 1	Music Business Fundamentals	Live Music Industry
Semester 2	Music Publishing	Recorded Music Industry

Foundation Diploma Music Business consists of the following modules:

Code	Year	FHEQ	Module title	Core/Spine/Option	Credits
DMB411	1/1	4	Live Music Industry	Core	15
DMB412	1/1	4	Music Business Fundamentals	Core	15
DMB413	1/2	4	Music Publishing	Core	15
DMB414	1/2	4	Recorded Music Industry	Core	15
Total Credits					**FHEQ (60)**

Workload:

	Average Number of Assessments	Average Expected Hours of Student Effort Per Assessment
Sem 1	2	20
Sem 2	2	20

	Average Contact Time (Hours Per Year)	Average Self-Directed Study Time (Hours Per Year)
(Level 4)	108	492

All details above are provided for guidance only but are believed to be accurate at the time of writing. Modifications may be made to the course in line with our Course Approval and Modification Policy.

BIMM UNIVERSITY | A university for the creative industries

BA (Hons) Music Business, Events and Media

Course Specification:

Full Title of the Course & Award	BA (Hons) Music Business, Events and Media
Mode of Attendance	Full-Time
Length of course	This course is taught as a three-year course at levels 6, 7 and 8. (UK levels 4, 5 and 6)
Start date	September 2026
Awarding Institution	BIMM University
Teaching Institution	BIMM Music Institute Dublin
UCAS Code	
Language of Study	English
Final Award	Certificate of Higher Education (exit award only at Level 4) Diploma of Higher Education (exit award only at Level 5) Bachelor's Degree with Honours
FHEQ Level	120 credits at Level 4 120 credits at Level 5 120 credits at Level 6
ECTS Level	60 credits at Level 4 60 credits at Level 5 60 credits at Level 6
Reference Points	QAA Subject Benchmark in Music (2016) FHEQ (2008) QAA Quality Code (2018)
Minimum Period of Registration	3 years
Maximum Period of Registration	6 years
Admissions Criteria	**Irish Leaving Cert** 2 H5's and 4 O6's in *any* Leaving Certificate subject or equivalent **A-levels**

	A minimum of two A-levels at grade C or above (64 UCAS points). **BTEC** BTEC Extended Diploma MMP. **RSL** RSL Extended Diploma at Merit. **UAL** UAL Diploma at Merit. UAL Extended Diploma at Pass. **General Higher Education Entrance Certificate** Award of Zeugnis der Allgemeinen Hochschulreife/ Abitur, or a Fachgebundene Hochschulreife/ Fachhochschulreife) with an overall average grade of 3.0, including a minimum grade of 10 on the English component (Leistungsfach) on the Abiturprüfung. **International Baccalaureate** A minimum of 24 points. **Access to HE Diploma** Pass with 60 credits overall. At least 45 credits at level 3, with 24 credits at merit or above. **GCSE (minimum grade C/4)** At least three GCSEs to include English language. **For applicants who previously studied in Higher Education** If an applicant has previously completed at least one level of a HE course, they may be eligible to apply to join the course directly at Level 5. See here for more on Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). **For applicants with relevant sector/industry experience** Recognition of Prior Practice (RPP) is an alternative entry route onto Level 4 of the course for mature applicants (19+) who do not hold the minimum qualifications required to gain entry.
Date of Original Approval:	Subject to approval

Course Structure: BA (Hons) Music Business, Events and Media

Year 1				
Semester 1 Core Modules	The Creative Industries (15 credits)	The Music Business (15 credits)	Content Creators Toolkit (15 credits)	Music Event Planning & Promotion (15 credits)
Semester 2 Core Modules	The Creative Industries & You (15 credits)	Artist Management (15 credits)	Music Publishing (15 credits)	Event Production & Tours (15 credits)
Year 2				
Semester 1 Core Modules	Defining Your Practice in Context (15 credits)	Marketing (15 credits)	Business & Entrepreneurship (15 credits)	**+ 1 Optional Module**
Optional Modules	Releasing Music (15 credits)	Festival Management (15 credits)	Creative Video Production (15 credits)	Record Label Management (15 credits)
Semester 2 Core Modules	Exploring Your Practice Through Collaboration (15 credits)	Live Sound (15 credits)	Financing Innovation (15 credits)	**+ 1 Optional Module**
Optional Modules	Venue Management (15 credits)	Artist Development & PR (15 credits)	Rights, Management & Synchronisation (15 credits)	
Year 3				

Semester 1 Core Modules	Final Project	Industry Futures (15 credits)	Digital Design & Branding (15 credits)	**+ 1 Optional Module**
Optional Modules	Creative Industry Economics (15 credits)	Event Sustainability (15 credits)	Fashion & Music (15 credits)	
Semester 2 Core Modules	Final Project (30 credits S1+2)	Employability Toolkit (15 credits)	Creative Website Design (15 credits)	**+ 1 Optional Module**
Optional Modules	Business Ethics & Music Law (15 credits)	Technical Event Production (15 credits)	Psychology of Music (15 credits)	

Apart from the Final Project module (30 credits), all modules are worth 15 credits. Students take 120 FHEQ credits each year (60 ECTS) and will be required to have passed 360 FHEQ credits (180 ECTS) to receive the full degree. Students must pass 120 FHEQ credits each year to progress. The overall degree classification is based on grades achieved in Year 2 and Year 3.

The option modules advertised as available for BIMM University courses are subject to variation dependant on minimum student numbers and the availability of specialist resources at each campus (please refer to our Terms and Conditions for further detail).

This course is currently undergoing approval, and this may result in some changes to the course. Any changes resulting from this review will be communicated to applicants as soon as possible prior to the start of the 2026/27 Academic Year.

Workload:

	Average Number of Assessments	**Average Expected Hours of Student Effort Per Assessment**
Year 1: Semester 1	4	17
Year 1: Semester 2	4	17

Year 2: Semester 1	4	17
Year 2: Semester 2	4	20
Year 3: Semester 1	4	27
Year 3: Semester 2	4	27

	Average Contact Time (Hours Per Year)	**Average Self-Directed Study Time (Hours Per Year)**
Year 1 (Level 4)	244	957
Year 2 (Level 5)	248	952
Year 3 (Level 6)	200	1000

All details above are provided for guidance only but are believed to be accurate at the time of writing. Average figures will differ from course to course and will depend on the option modules chosen.

Additional Information

Timetables

Timetables are made available during enrolment. While every effort is made to make the timetables as student friendly as possible classes could be timetabled any time between 9am – 6pm, on Fridays, Classes may also be at different BIMM buildings depending on lecturer and resource availability.

On average, part-time students will have 4.5 class contact hours per week.

Year Structure

Years at BIMM University are divided into two 15-week semesters of which 12 weeks are dedicated to teaching. The academic year usually starts late September/early October and runs until May. For further information see here.

Assessments:

Practical Assessments

Practical assessments ask you to demonstrate a practical skill under exam conditions. These practical skills could include things such as your ability to play your instrument, your ability to perform in an ensemble setting or your ability to produce a recording or operate hardware/software. The skill being tested will depend on the module and course being taken.

Written assessments

Many students will be familiar with this type of assessment. Written assessments at BIMM University are often used for theory and listening modules and are sat under exam conditions. For more details on exam conditions please refer to the Academic Regulations.

Practical coursework

Practical coursework often asks you to demonstrate a practical skill but, unlike practical assessments, you work on the assessment piece in self-directed study time and hand in the final assessment for marking. Examples of this type of assessment include writing a song or mixing a recording.

Multimedia coursework/ Portfolio Assessments

Multimedia coursework contains a mixture of elements some written and some practical. An example of this type of assessment is creating a 3-page newspaper layout containing text and visual elements. On some courses, you may have to do portfolio assessments which you compile a mixture of audio/visual and written elements together. This is usually done using online portfolio software.

Written coursework

Written course work is used in all BIMM University courses and can take several forms:

- Research essays – in these assessments you will be expected to conduct research into the chosen topic. This could include secondary research (reading) or primary research (conducting original research such as focus groups/questionnaires etc.). You will then be required to write an essay based on this research, putting forward clear and concise arguments.
- Reflective essays – in these assessments you are required to reflect on your professional practice or development activities and identify areas for improvement. These essays do

require you to engage in adequate research which will depend on what the subject of the reflective essay is.
- Case Study – these assessments require you to research and write about a specific entity or section of the industry related to your course. For example, a case study of a record Label would require you to look at how the company works, what has made them successful etc.

In some cases, an assessment may combine two or more of these types of written work.

Presentations

In these assessments, you will be asked to make a planned presentation to an assessor or panel of assessors. Some presentation assignments ask you to reflect on your practice on the course while others are more academically focused and require you to engage in rigorous research.

Learning and Teaching

Teaching

BIMM University encourages its staff to employ a wide range of learning and teaching techniques. We provide training for new staff and many of our lecturers are qualified teachers as well as industry professionals.

Most lessons will be in classes of 10-25 students however this will depend on the number of students that apply for a course and the resources that are available.

There are some larger lectures for bigger modules which are shared across multiple courses. These classes are delivered in a more traditional university lecture style to large groups of students.

For more detail on the learning and teaching methods BIMM University employs please see our Higher Education Strategy.

Self-directed study

All courses at BIMM University have self-directed study hours associated with them. During this time, you are expected to be engaging in appropriate learning activities for your course. This could include practicing your instrument, conducting research, writing assignments and preparing for upcoming classes.

Formative Assessment

BIMM University has a number of mechanisms for formative assessment which allow you to gain feedback before the final exam or coursework deadline.

Many modules have formative assignments built into them. In some cases, these are ungraded and are there purely so you can improve your final submission.

In-class activities are also used as an opportunity to provide feedback to students. During lessons, there are often opportunities to receive feedback from peers as well as the lecturers and some lessons are heavily focused toward providing students who perform or present their work with feedback to help them improve.

Students can also take advantage of BIMM's tutorial system to gain additional feedback. The tutorial system allows you to book 1 to 1 sessions with lecturers. You can use these sessions to gain specific feedback on any aspect of your work.

Staff

BIMM University is proud of its long history of employing music industry professionals to teach at all our campuses. We believe that through this practice we provide the best opportunities to our students to learn from lecturers who understand their goals and have the knowledge and experience necessary to help make them a reality.

More information can be found regarding our lecturers on our Staff page.

Unfortunately, the University cannot guarantee which lecturer will be teaching on individual modules as this will depend on lecturer availability and when classes are timetabled.

Sometimes lecturers are granted leave to engage in industry activities such as going on tour, conducting research or other professional development activities. This is vital to ensure that our lecturers can give students the most current information, and share recent experiences, regarding a music industry that is constantly evolving and expanding into new areas.

Whenever a lecturer goes on leave, whether it is due to industry activities or unavoidable factors such as illness or maternity leave, BIMM University endeavours to ensure that lessons are covered by an industry professional with relevant experience in the subject. Through this practice, we aim to provide high quality learning opportunities throughout your course of study at BIMM University.

Language

All qualifications at BIMM University are taught and assessed in English.

Costs

Tuition Fees

Accurate tuition fees information can be found on our finance pages: Fees & Finance

Payment must be received by BIMM University 8 weeks before your course starts. See terms and conditions for more details. Payment can be paid via debit/credit card at www.bimm.co.uk/pay.

Payment can be paid via debit/credit card at www.bimm.co.uk/pay.

Any queries related to finance can be directed towards dublin@bimm.ie.

Additional Costs

Students who are thinking of applying to BIMM University should read the Essential Equipment guide which outlines what is required to successfully study at BIMM University.

Most BIMM campuses provide a limited number of rehearsal rooms, and free access to rehearsal facilities in local venues, unfortunately these can become fully booked at peak times and, at some campuses, are not available outside BIMM opening hours. Depending on when you want to rehearse and the frequency with which you want to rehearse you may need to pay for private rehearsal space.

Accommodation and Living Costs

Information about accommodation and living cost at BIMM Dublin can be found on our accommodation guide.

Disabled access

BIMM Music Institute Dublin is accessible to disabled students. There is a lift in the Francis St building ensuring access to the first floor, and a wheelchair accessible back entrance to the Coombe building. The outdoor area in the Coombe building is not accessible for wheelchairs, but the common rooms are accessible, there are accessible bathrooms available in both buildings. There is a fire refuge point on the first floor of the Francis St building in case of emergencies, linking to the emergency exit. There is an Emergency Evacuation Chair on Francis Street 1st floor beside the Refuge point at the top of the stairs.