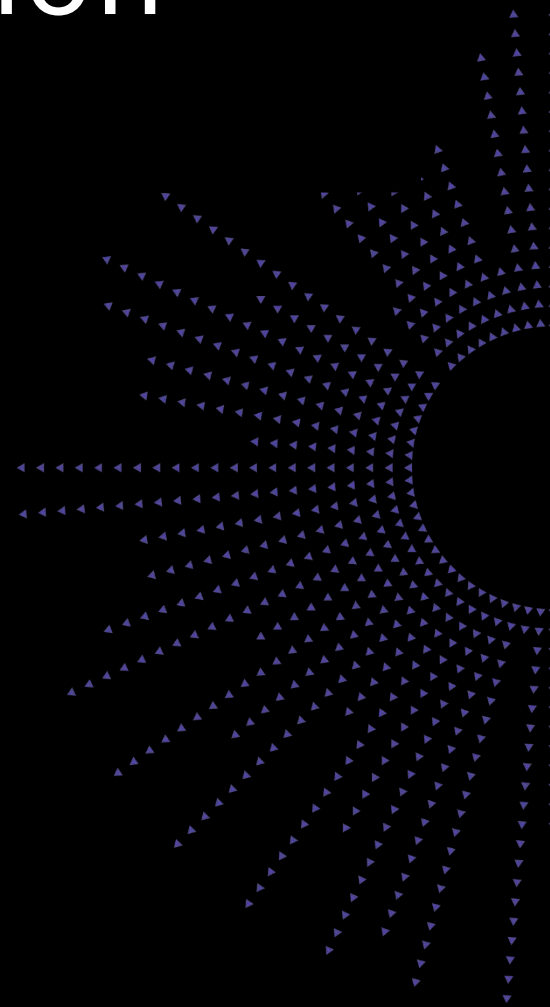


# BA (Hons) Popular Music Performance & Music Production

Introduction Pack



## Acceptance Packs – Course Information

**Course:** BA (Hons) Popular Music Performance & Music Production

### Course Welcome/ Introduction

Welcome to the BA (Hons) Popular Music Performance & Music Production course. We are glad you have chosen us as you begin your journey in your chosen field and hope you will get the most of the flexibility of studying on a joint honours course.

Combining modules from both parent courses, the joint honours is designed to enable you to hone your skills as a multi-skilled performer with engineering, programming and production skills - a necessity in the ever-changing music industries.

The joint honours course covers instrumental performance skills, instrumental technique, creative technology, recording skills backed up by theory, and a wide selection of options in your second and third years of study to best prepare you for your future career in music. At each level of study, you will undertake three modules of performance and three production related modules, along with two 'spine' modules shared across the college. The spine will help you to develop your understanding of your industry and the transferable soft skills required such as planning, critical thinking, collaboration, professionalism and an awareness of the creative industries around you.

As well as students on your course, you will also get to work with students studying towards a range of music related careers from performers and songwriters to those working within music business, events and media communications sectors, and we want you to build a network amongst your peers to allow you to thrive both as a student and as a graduate of BIMM.

You will be taught in professionally designed on-site and externally partnered recording studios, in Mac suites equipped with industry standard software and hardware, performance rooms, classrooms, and in spaces designed for other specialist areas of your studies. Your studies in-class will be supported by digital resources via our online library and our virtual learning environment, as well as masterclasses from visiting industry professionals.

The lecturers who will teach you are highly experienced in not only their areas of expertise, but also as educators who are passionate about developing your skills for a sustained career upon graduation. Creativity is at the heart of all that we do at BIMM, and your assessments will reflect this with individual and collaborative work undertaken to demonstrate your learning in real world contexts.

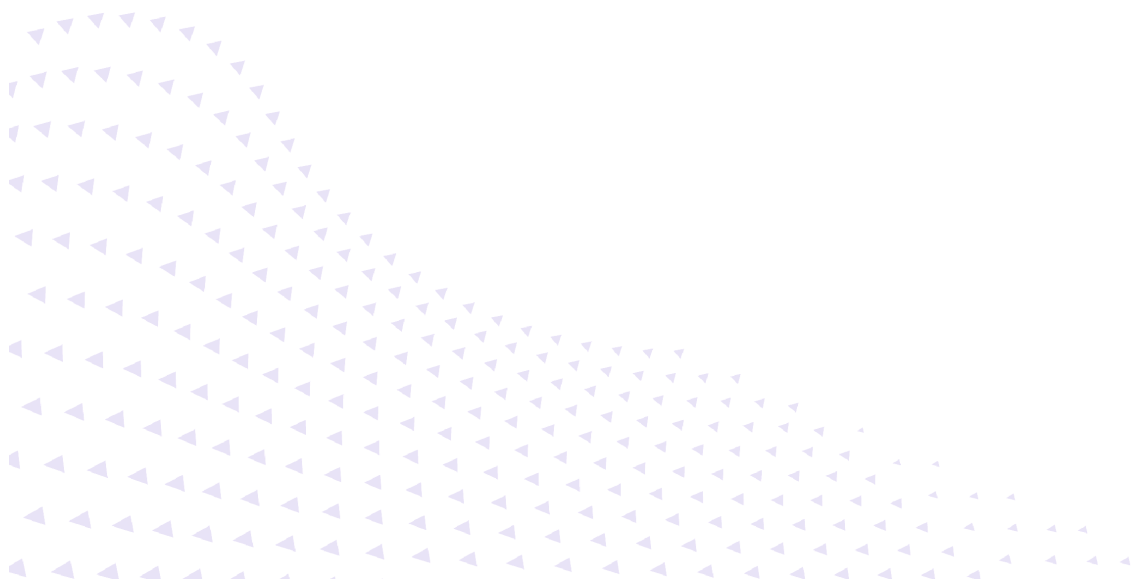
We can't wait to welcome you and see what you will achieve in your time with us and beyond.

**Essential equipment and software****What you'll need to bring with you**

- You will need your instrument:
  - Guitarists/bassists should bring their instrument and a lead to class
  - Drummers need only bring sticks to class. If it is not suitable to have drums at your student accommodation, we recommend investing in practice pads
  - Vocalists may bring their own microphone to class or use a BIMM provided microphone
- Hearing protection
- Laptop. Some of the course will be taught on software on Apple Mac only platforms (e.g. Logic Pro), but you may prefer to have a personal Windows based laptop
- Headphones for use in Mac suite (ear buds are not recommended). Recommendations include Sennheiser HD25, Beyerdynamic DT770, Audio-Technica ATH-M50x etc.

**What we will provide upon enrolment**

- Microsoft Office 365 Suite
- Licence to your chosen DAW system (e.g. AVID ProTools, Logic Pro, Ableton) on Mac/Windows platform as available



## How to prepare to get the most out of your studies

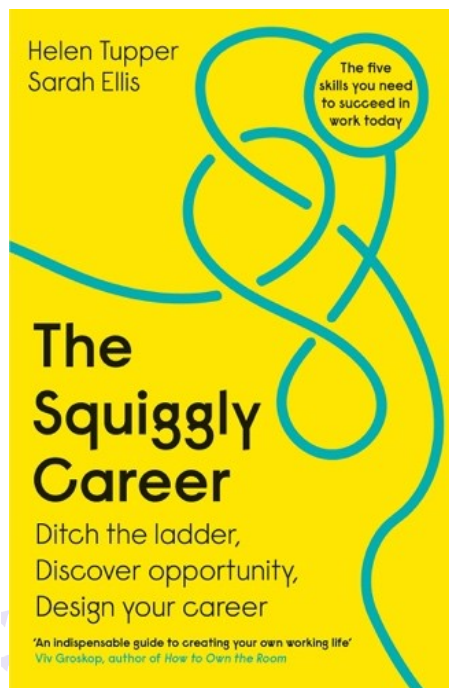
### Get a head start with reading for your course

The Course Leaders have selected one essential core text for each of your semester one modules. It's worth getting your hands on these in the summer as these are texts that you'll refer to again and again during your studies.

#### Core text for **The Creative Industries & You 1: Finding Your Path**

Tupper, H. and Ellis, S. (2020) *The Squiggly Career: - Ditch the Ladder, Discover Opportunity, Design Your Career*. London: Penguin.

ISBN-13: 978-0241385845



This bestselling book is a great place to start your journey into the Creative Industries. The Creative Industries & You modules at BIMM are all about following your passions, even if that means the path to your dream career takes some unexpected turns along the way. The *Squiggly Career* helps to put you in the right mindset for the exciting journey ahead.

Available to buy from Amazon

<https://tinyurl.com/ybjbjwme>



Core text for **Audio Fundamentals**

Owsinski, B. (2014) *The Recording Engineer's Handbook*. 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Boston, MA: Cengage Learning.

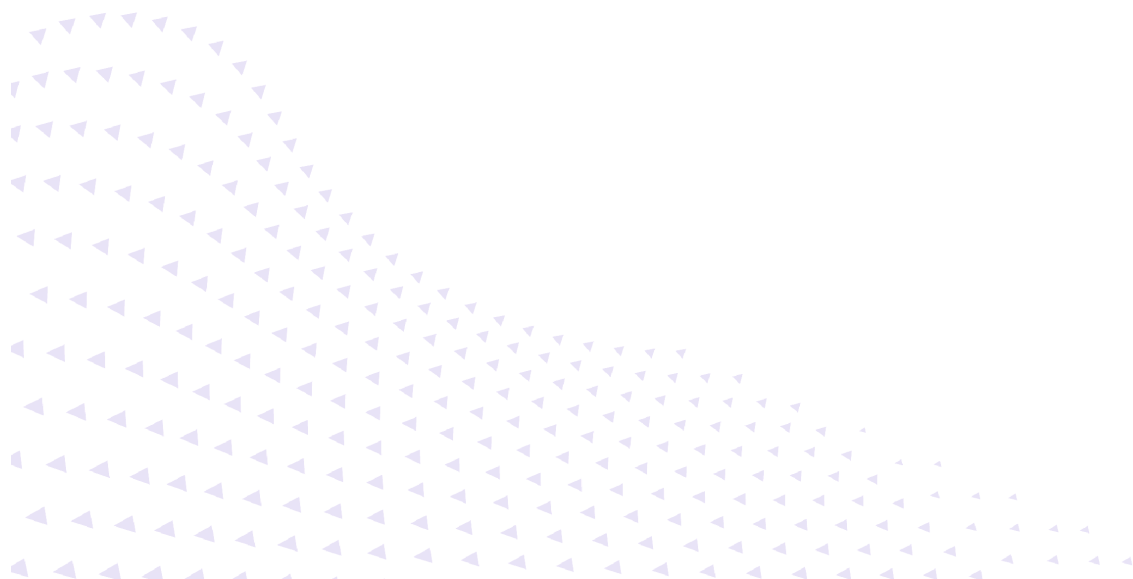
ISBN-13: 978-0998503301



The handbook has become a music industry standard, and this fully updated fourth edition once again offers the most comprehensive and up-to-date introduction to the art of audio recording. Written with special emphasis on today's technology and the evolving marketplace, *The Recording Engineer's Handbook Fourth Edition* includes a complete overview of recording as it's done by most musicians and producers today in their home studios.

Available to buy from Amazon

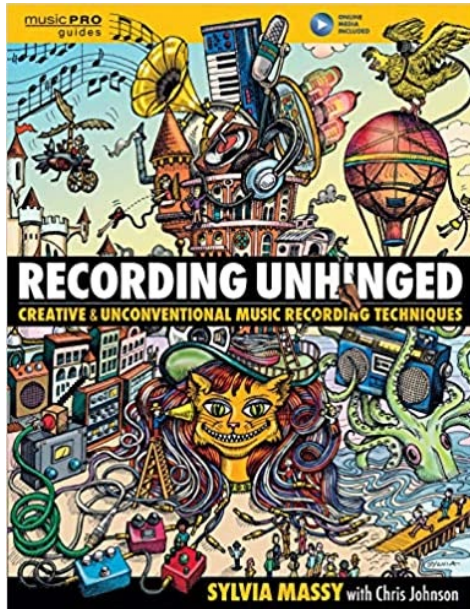
<https://tinyurl.com/EMP-402>



Core text for **Audio Capture Methods & Equipment**

Massy, S & Johnson C (2016) *Recording Unhinged*, Applause Theatre Book Publishers.

ISBN-13: 978-1495011276



*Recording Unhinged: Creative and Unconventional Music Recording Techniques* is a dare-a challenge for those who think recording music should be done a certain way. Sylvia Massy, engineer, mixer, and producer of such all-time great artists as Tool, Prince, Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, R.E.M., Oingo Boingo, Johnny Cash, Red Hot Chili Peppers, and many more, invites you to put everything you've ever known or learned about recording aside and dive head-long into the unknown.

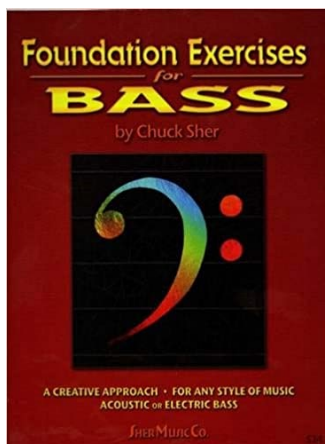
Available to buy from Amazon

<https://tinyurl.com/EMP401>

Core texts for **Core Instrument Skills**

**Foundation Exercises for Bass** by Chuck Sher

Sher, C. (2009) *Foundation Exercises for Bass*. Petaluma, CA: Sher Music Co.

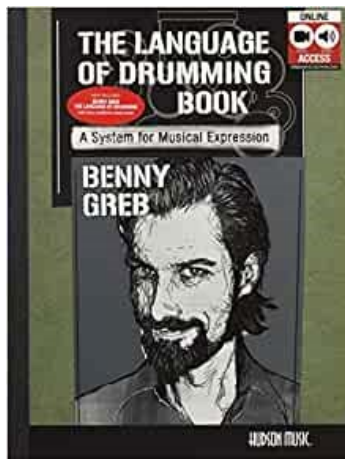


Core text for **Core Instrument Skills (Bass)**

This is a key and comprehensive method book for bass guitarists. It covers all fundamental concepts with lessons and tasks for the development of technique, theory and musicianship.

**The Language of Drumming** by Benny Greb

Greb, B. (2012). *The Language of Drumming*. 1st ed. Milwaukee: Hal Leonard Publishing Corporation.

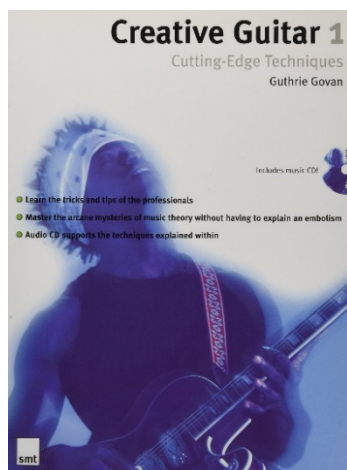


Core text for **Core Instrument Skills (Drums)**

This method book looks at the development of technique and rhythmic comprehension, to broaden vocabulary and facilitate freedom of musical expression on the drum set.

**Creative Guitar 1** by Guthrie Govan

Govan, G. (2002). *Creative Guitar 1*. London: Sanctuary.



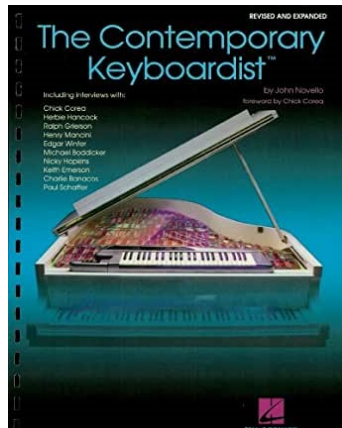
Core text for **Core Instrument Skills (Guitar)**

This book, the first in a series from world renowned guitarist Guthrie Govan, aims to provide new directions for the developing guitarist to explore his art. It focusses on how you can expand your potential by refining your playing techniques, allowing you to tackle more complex riffs and solos. A great book to supplement, support and expand on the learning you will undertake on the Core Instrument Skills module!



**The Contemporary Keyboardist** by John Novello

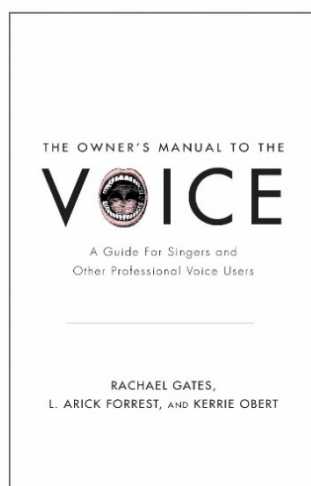
Novello, J. (2000) *The Contemporary Keyboardist*. Milwaukee: Hal Leonard Corporation

**Core text for Core Instrument Skills (Keyboards)**

*The Contemporary Keyboardist* includes interviews and opinion from a range of noteworthy keyboard figures and pioneers as well as advice on musical communication and practice disciplines. The book is also a great reference for the fundamental tools, techniques and concepts of keyboard performance, such as notation, harmony, improvisation and sight reading.

**The Owner's Manual to the Voice** by Rachel Gates & Kerrie Obert

Gates, R., Forrest, L. and Obert, K., (2013). *The Owner's Manual to The Voice*. Oxford University

**Core text for Core Instrument Skills (Vocals)**

For the vocal student, learning and understanding the biomechanics of their instrument will be paramount to their vocal health during their studies and as they emerge into a professional career. Beginning with an overview of the vocal anatomy, this book explains potential dangers and disorders for vocalists to be aware of and how to keep singing safely.





Core text for **Creative Technology**

Senior, M (2018). *Mixing Secrets*. Routledge, Abingdon

ISBN-13: 978-1138556379



Discover how to achieve release-quality mixes even in the smallest studios by applying power-user techniques from the world's most successful producers.

*Mixing Secrets for the Small Studio* is the best-selling primer for small-studio enthusiasts who want chart-ready sonics in a hurry. Drawing on the back-room strategies of more than 160 famous names, this entertaining and down-to-earth guide leads you step-by-step through the entire mixing process. On the way, you'll unravel the mysteries of every type of mix processing, from simple EQ and compression through to advanced spectral dynamics and "fairy dust" effects. User-friendly explanations introduce technical concepts on a strictly need-to-know basis, while chapter summaries and assignments are perfect for study.

*Available to buy from Amazon*

<https://tinyurl.com/SWR404>

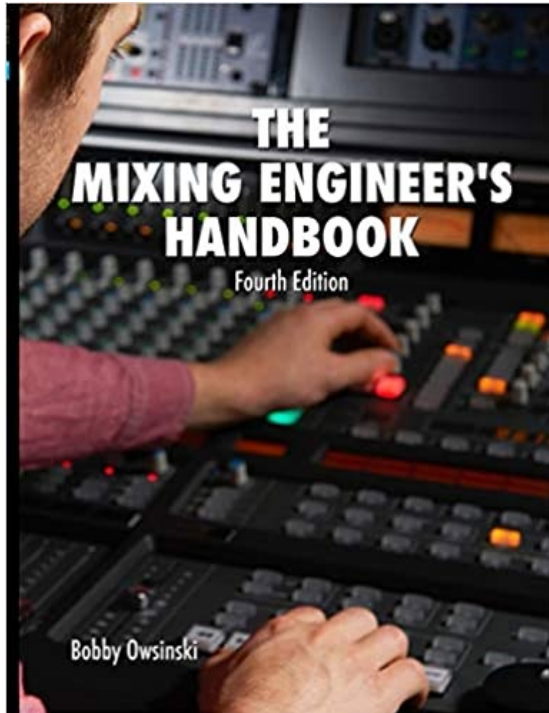




Core text for **Mixing Multitrack Audio**

Owsinski, B. (2017) *The Mixing Engineer's Handbook*. 4<sup>th</sup> edition. New York: Music Sales Limited

- ISBN-13: 978-0998503349



Mixing music—the process of combining and shaping the component parts of a song into a polished, completed recording—was once considered an unteachable art. The first edition of Bobby Owsinski's *The Mixing Engineer's Handbook* destroyed that myth forever, breaking the craft of mixing down into discrete, understandable steps and showing musicians, audio engineers, and producers exactly how to get great results in the studio. The book has since become the go-to text on mixing for recording programs in colleges and universities around the world. Now available in a completely revised fourth edition, *The Mixing Engineer's Handbook* remains the best, most up-to-date source for mastering the art and science of creating pro-quality mixes

*Available to buy from Amazon*

<https://tinyurl.com/EMP406>

