

MA Popular Music Practice - Course Specification

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| Full Title of the Course & Award | MA Popular Music Practice |
| Mode of Attendance | Full Time/Part Time |
| Length of course | 1 year full time/ 2 years part time |
| Start date | September 2019 |
| Awarding Institution | BIMM Institute |
| Teaching Institution | BIMM Institute London |
| UCAS Code | n/a |
| Language of Study | English |
| Final Award | MA Popular Music Practice (Entrepreneurship) MA Popular Music Practice (Performance) MA Popular Music Practice (Production) MA Popular Music Practice (Composition) |
| FHEQ Level | Level 7 |
| Minimum Period of Registration | 1 year (Full Time)/2 years (Part Time) |
| Maximum Period of Registration | 2 years (Full Time / 3 Years (Part Time) |
| Admissions Criteria | A good degree (normally 2.2 or above) in a creative industry related subject or significant professional experience in the creative arts/industries. All applicants will be subject to interview and a portfolio may also be requested for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). |
| Date of Course Specification: | August 2019 |

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Course Structure

Full Time

| Year 1 | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|-------------|
| Module Name | Credits | Optionality |
| Popular Music Practice and Research | 30 | Core |
| You and the Popular Music Industry | 30 | Core |
| Popular Music and Technology | 30 | Core |
| Exploring Collaborative Practice | 30 | Core |
| Major Project | 60 | Core |

Students must achieve 180 Credits to receive the award.

Part Time

| Year 1 | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|-------------|
| Module Name | Credits | Optionality |
| Popular Music Practice and Research | 30 | Core |
| Exploring Collaborative Practice | 30 | Core |
| Year 2 | | |
| Module Name | Credits | Optionality |
| You and the Popular Music Industry | 30 | Core |
| Popular Music and Technology | 30 | Core |
| Major Project | 60 | Core |

Students must achieve 180 Credits to receive the award.

Year Structure

BIMM Institute splits its years into three 15 Week Semesters:

Autumn Semester: September to January

Spring Semester: January to May

Summer semester: May to September

Work Load

Assessment and Contact Hours

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Total Assessments | 7 |
|-------------------|---|

Full Time

| Module | Mode of assessment | Duration or word length | Submission | Weighting |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Autumn Semester | | | | |
| Popular Music Practice and Research | Negotiated | Negotiated | Week 13 | 100% |
| You and the Popular Music Industry | Negotiated | Negotiated | Week 7 | 20% |
| | Negotiated | Negotiated | Week 13 | 80% |
| Spring Semester | | | | |
| Popular Music and Technology | Negotiated | Negotiated | Week 9 | 40% |
| | Negotiated | Negotiated | Week 13 | 60% |
| Exploring Collaborative Practice | Negotiated | Negotiated | Week 13 | 100% |
| Summer Semester | | | | |
| Major Project | Negotiated | Negotiated | Week 13 | 100% |

Part Time

| Module | Mode of assessment | Duration or word length | Submission | Weighting |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Autumn Semester Year 1 | | | | |
| Popular Music Practice and Research | Negotiated | Negotiated | Week 13 | 100% |
| Spring Semester Year 1 | | | | |
| Exploring Collaborative Practice | Negotiated | Negotiated | Week 13 | 100% |
| Summer Semester Year 1 | | | | |
| No assessments | | | | |
| Autumn Semester Year 2 | | | | |
| You and the Popular Music Industry | Negotiated | Negotiated | Week 7 | 20% |
| | Negotiated | Negotiated | Week 13 | 80% |
| Spring Semester Year 2 | | | | |
| Popular Music and Technology | Negotiated | Negotiated | Week 9 | 40% |
| | Negotiated | Negotiated | Week 13 | 60% |
| Summer Semester Year 2 | | | | |
| Major Project | Negotiated | Negotiated | Week 13 | 100% |

| | |
|--|----------|
| Total Contact Hours | 212 Hrs |
| Total Self-Directed Study Hours | 1588 Hrs |

*All details above are provided for guidance only but are believed to be accurate at the time of writing. Some figures could be affected by national holidays and exam timetables. If any modules are added or removed from the course before you start you will be informed prior to enrolment. Modifications may be made in line with our [course modification policy](#). This may result in slight adjustments to contact hours and assessments.

Negotiated Assessment

All assessments are negotiated on an individual basis. MA Popular Music Practice modules have learning outcomes that the students need to meet, but these allow a range of outputs and submissions. You will need to submit Assessment Proposal Forms for all assessments to ensure that your assessments are fit for purpose.

Final Award

MA Popular Music Practice is a single qualification with the capacity to provide specialist-named awards including:

- MA Popular Music Practice (Entrepreneurship)
- MA Popular Music Practice (Performance)
- MA Popular Music Practice (Production)
- MA Popular Music Practice (Composition)

The nature of your Major Project determines the naming of your Award. You are required to submit a Final Award Proposal Form in Spring Semester.

Teaching and learning

Teaching

BIMM encourages its staff to employ a wide range of learning and teaching techniques. As students on the course you will be taught by tutors who are experienced educators.

The course focuses on small group teaching with a maximum class size of 20 students. However, numbers will vary based on the number of students and resources available.

For more detail on the teaching and Learning methods BIMM employs please see BIMM Institute's [Learning and Teaching Strategy](#).

Self-directed Study

As noted above the MA Popular Music Practice has a substantial amount of independent study. During this time, you are expected to be engaging in appropriate learning activities for your course.

Formative Assessment

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

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. Some modules use graded formative

assessment, in these cases the formative assessment is only worth a small percentage of your final mark.

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 tutors 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 additional 1-2-1 sessions with tutors. You can use these sessions to gain specific feedback on any aspect of your work.

Staff

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

More information can be found regarding our tutors on our [staff page](#).

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

Sometimes tutors 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 tutors can give students the most current information, and share recent experiences, about a music industry that is constantly evolving and expanding into new areas.

Whenever a tutor goes on leave, whether it is due to industry activities or unavoidable factors such as illness or maternity leave, BIMM 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.

Language

All qualifications at BIMM are taught and assessed in English.

Costs

Tuition fees

Accurate tuition fees information can be found on our [finance page](#)

Student Finance England offer loans for Masters courses, on behalf of the UK Government – see <https://www.gov.uk/masters-loan>. These are paid directly to students in regular instalments.

Student funding is not available to Non-EU students.



BIMM alumni will receive a tuition fee discount of £1,000 on full-time courses or £500 for part-time programmes.

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

Any queries related to finance can be directed towards Financeenquiries@bimm.co.uk.

Additional Costs

It is recommended that student applying to the course have appropriate stationary for classes.

Moreover, students will need access to word processing and internet facilities as all submissions are electronic.

Accommodation and Living Costs

Information about accommodation and living can be found on the [Essential Documents](#) page.

Disabled Access

Most teaching spaces are wheelchair accessible. If access is required, all reasonable efforts will be made to schedule lessons in accessible classrooms.

For more information and details of how to apply for support please see our student disability guides (<http://www.bimm.co.uk/student-disability-guides/>)