



## Course Information

### A2 Level

(This course is only available at A2 Level)

### Non-Examined Assessment (Coursework)

#### Component 1: Recording (20%)

Using the schools own recording studio you will capture, edit, process and mix a song. You will chose your song from a list supplied by the exam board in the second year of the course. You will have to record drums, bass, guitar, vocals and backing vocals as well as 2 other optional instruments from a list of 3.

#### Component 2: Technology-based composition (20%)

Using the schools studio and individual digital audio workstations to create, edit, manipulate and structure sounds to produce a technology-based composition. You will chose 1 from a list of 3 briefs supplied by the exam board in the second year of the course. You must use synthesis, sampling / audio manipulation and creative effects to create the sounds in the composition. The piece must be 3 minutes long.



## A2 level

### Examinations

#### Component 3: Listening and analysing (25%)

Knowledge and understanding of recording and production techniques and principles, in the context of a series of unfamiliar commercial recordings. The unfamiliar (not previously studied) recordings will be provided on an audio CD that you have control of, the questions will be based on the content of the recordings in terms of: recording and production techniques; principles of sound and audio technology and the development of recording and production technology.

#### Component 4: Producing and analysing (35%)

Knowledge and understanding of editing, mixing and production techniques, to be applied to unfamiliar multi-track audio and MIDI. You will be asked to process and manipulate the supplied materials in terms of recording and production techniques (corrective and creative) and using the principles of sound and audio technology. You will import the tracks into Cubase and edit / correct them as instructed in the exam paper. You will then do a final mix and submit your audio files at the end of the exam. There will also be an essay question focusing on a specific mixing scenario, signal path, effect or piece of hardware.

## What could I go on to do after the course?

The A level in Music Technology can lead to further study in Music Technology, Media, Sound Engineering in Higher Education or at Degree or HND level. Music Technology careers can include work as a sound engineer or record producer and work in radio, film and TV production and computer gaming. Studying music could lead to a career in the music industry, but it can also be used to broaden your knowledge of Western culture and to develop valuable ICT and creative skills for a wide range of careers.

## Facilities

The college has a recording studio centred around a Behringer X32 Producer mixing desk / audio interface. This interfaces with the studio iMac running Cubase Pro 8.5 DAW software. We have a range of microphones that allow capture of a full range of sources. The control room rack has Line6 POD XT Pro units for bass and guitar allowing DI or simulated effects. The live room has a full complement of instruments including drum kit, guitar / bass instruments and amplifiers, piano and percussion.

The adjoining classroom has 16 PCs running Cubase Pro 8.5 DAW software allowing full compatibility with the studio. Each PC has a MIDI controller keyboard, Focusrite Scarlett 2i2 audio interface and headphones.

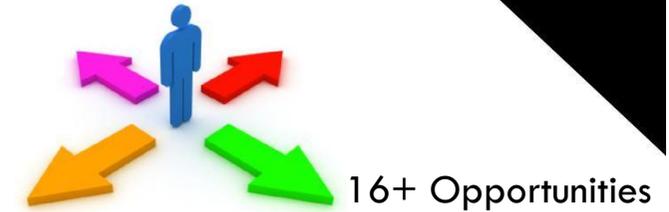


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2017

# Music Technology



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