Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	**Course Title**	BMus (Hons) Routes: Performance, Composition and Music Technology
2	**Course Code**	US0926
3	**Awarding Institution**	Birmingham City University
4	**Teaching Institution(s)** (if different from point 3)	Not applicable
5	**Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation** (if applicable)	Not applicable

6	**Course Description**
	Royal Birmingham Conservatoire is a multidisciplinary arts education institution that provides exceptional training for the musicians, actors, stage managers and performers of the future. As part of Birmingham City University, the Conservatoire is able to offer a stimulating creative environment with limitless opportunities for collaboration and depth of experience. We pride ourselves on maintaining an impressive international reputation that celebrates diversity and excellence. The Music Division of Royal Birmingham Conservatoire offers vocational musical training in performance, composition, music technology and jazz at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. We are dedicated to ensuring that each student reaches their full potential and leaves us prepared for a successful career in the challenging arts industry. The BMus (Hons) degree course is the largest undergraduate course at Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and its main aim is to prepare students for a career in the music profession, whether that is in performance, composition or music technology. At the heart of our programme's philosophy is the ideal of the informed musician, someone who is able to combine both advanced skills and musical knowledge in the advancement of their musical career. The BMus (Hons) programme therefore aims to develop the specialist skills, the theoretical, historical and practice-based knowledge and to encourage the individual creativity required for you to become an independent learner, a critical interpreter and a reflective practitioner. An emphasis is placed on versatility, an essential ingredient of most careers in music. Whilst first study work (solo performance, composition and music technology) remains at the centre of the programme, you will also have opportunities to develop skills in other areas according to your specific needs, interests and career aspirations. The programme provides a secure foundation for postgraduate study and entry into the music profession.

7	Course Awards		
7a	**Name of Final Award**	**Level**	**Credits Awarded**
	Bachelor of Music with Honours *The final award will indicate a specialism in one of the following, depending on the pathway chosen:* 1) Performance 2) Composition 3) Music Technology	6	480
7b	**Exit Awards and Credits Awarded**		
	Certificate of Higher Education Diploma of Higher Education Bachelor of Music *The final award will indicate a specialism in one of the following, depending on the pathway chosen:* 1) Performance 2) Composition 3) Music Technology	4 5 6	120 240 360

8	**Derogation from the University Regulations**
	1. Compensation of marginal failure is not permitted on Principal Study modules. 2. Condonement of failed modules is not permitted for Principal Study modules. 3. For Principal Study modules with more than one item of assessment, all items of assessment must be passed in order to pass the module. 4. For modules with more than one item of assessment, resits that are allocated a grade are capped at item level.

9	**Delivery Patterns**		
Mode(s) of Study	**Location(s) of Study**	**Duration of Study**	**Code(s)**
Full Time	City Centre	4 years	US0926

10	**Entry Requirements**
	The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/.

11	Course Learning Outcomes
	Knowledge & Understanding
1	Demonstrate in-depth knowledge and understanding of repertoire, practices, texts, resources and concepts appropriate to the Principal Study area.
2	Demonstrate a detailed knowledge and understanding of musical contexts, including social, cultural and historical practices.
3	Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between theory and practice in a range of musical contexts relevant to the Principal Study discipline.
4	Demonstrate an understanding of how the chosen field of study fits within both within the wider context of music profession and interdisciplinary settings.
	Cognitive & Intellectual Skills
5	Apply and integrate contextual knowledge and methodologies into musical practice, interpretation and expression
6	Transfer insights between different bodies of knowledge to reach independent conclusions in your own research and practice.
7	Employ advanced musicianship skills to recognise and use essential components of musical language and structure in aural and written contexts.
8	Demonstrate intellectual and creative curiosity in the development of a professional career pathway.
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9	Demonstrate the technical and creative skills required by the performer, composer or music technologist to convey personal expression and imagination in their professional practice.
10	Employ skills of reflection and self-reflection to adapt and respond creatively to professional development opportunities and challenges.
11	Demonstrate an awareness of different professional and cultural contexts within the music profession and their conventions and expectations.
12	Demonstrate understanding of and an ability to work within the legal and ethical frameworks applicable to the contemporary music profession.
	Key Transferable Skills
13	Demonstrate the ability to work with autonomy and self-motivation.
14	Demonstrate the ability to work collaboratively and cooperatively in a variety of contexts.
15	Demonstrate the ability to plan and manage time and workloads effectively.
16	Communicate and present the outcomes of work in written, aural and/or practical forms, using ICT as appropriate to enhance and support communication.

12	**Course Requirements**

| 12a | Year 1 — Level 4: |

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete one of the following Principal Study modules and all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
MUS4061	Principal Study: Performance 1	60
MUS4062	Principal Study: Percussion 1	60
MUS4063	Principal Study: Composition 1	60
MUS4064	Principal Study: Music Technology 1	60
MUS4065	Language of Music 1	20
MUS4066	Contextual Studies: Performance Traditions 1	20
MUS4067	Professional Portfolio 1: Community Engagement	20

Year 2 — Level 5:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete one of the following Principal Study modules and all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
MUS5059	Principal Study: Performance 2	60
MUS5060	Principal Study: Percussion 2	60
MUS5061	Principal Study: Composition 2	60
MUS5062	Principal Study: Music Technology 2	60
MUS5063	Language of Music 2	20
MUS5064	Contextual Studies: Performance Traditions 2	20
MUS5065	Professional Portfolio 2: Pedagogy and practice	20

Year 3 — Level 5 and 6:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete one of the following Principal Study modules and all the following CORE modules (totalling 100 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
MUS6096	Principal Study: Performance 3	60
MUS6097	Principal Study: Percussion 3	60
MUS6098	Principal Study: Composition 3	60
MUS6099	Principal Study: Music Technology 3	60
MUS5067	Language of Music: Specialisms 1	20
MUS5066	Contextual Studies: Specialisms 1	20

In addition, a student must successfully complete a further 20 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules.

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Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
ADM5006	Collaborative Practice	20
ADM5001	Live Project	20
ADM5000	Work Placement	20

Year 4 — Level 6

In Year 4, all students will select a total of 120 credits which must include <u>one</u> module from List A (Principal Study), one module from List B (Project), and at least 20 and no more than 40 credits from list C (indicative list of optional modules).

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
	List A: Principal Study	
MUS6101	Final Recital (40)	40
MUS6102	Final Recital (60)	60
MUS6103	Final Composition Portfolio (40)	40
MUS6104	Final Composition Portfolio (60)	60
MUS6105	Final Music Technology Portfolio (40)	40
MUS6106	Final Music Technology Portfolio (60)	60
	List B: Project	
MUS6117	Final Project (20)	20
MUS6107	Final Project (40)	40
MUS6108	Final Project (60)	60
	List C: Options	
MUS6109	Further Pedagogy	20
MUS6095	Music, Community and Wellbeing	20
MUS6110	Language of Music: Specialism 2	20
MUS6111	Contextual Studies: Specialism 2	20
MUS6112	Professional Development	20
ADM6007	Work Placement	20

12b   Structure Diagram

Please note list of optional modules is indicative only as modules will only run if selected by 15 or more students. Students' choice will not be guaranteed for optional modules but a fair and transparent process will be adopted and shared with students.

Unless otherwise stated, modules are taught across both semesters.

Year 1: Level 4			
Principal Study 1 Performance, or Percussion, or Composition or Music Technology (60)	Language of Music 1 (20)	Contextual Studies: Performance Traditions 1 (20)	Professional Portfolio 1: Community Engagement (20)
Year 2: Level 5			
Principal Study 2 Performance, or Percussion, or Composition or Music Technology (60)	Language of Music 2 (20)	Contextual Studies: Performance Traditions 2 (20)	Professional portfolio 2: pedagogy and practice (20)
Year 3: Level 6		**Year 3: Level 5**	
Principal Study 3 Performance, or Percussion, or Composition or Music Technology (60)	Language of Music: Specialisms 1 (20)	Contextual Studies: Specialisms 1 (20):	Optional module (20) A single option normally taken in semester 2 Either *Collaborative Practice* Or *Work Placement* Or *Live Project*
Year 4: Level 6			
Final Recital (40 or 60) Or Final Composition Portfolio (40 or 60) Or Final Music Technology Portfolio (40 or 60)	Final Project (20, 40 or 60)	**Optional modules** (20 credits each) • Professional Development • Further Pedagogy • Music, Community and Wellbeing • Work Placement (Level 6 Faculty module) • Contextual Studies: Specialism 2 • Language of Music: Specialism 2	

13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

Level 4

Workload

35% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	414
Directed Learning	546
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	50%
Exam	17%
In-Person	33%

Level 5

Workload
28% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	497
Directed Learning	834
Private Study	469
Total Hours	1800

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	46%
Exam	11%
In-Person	43%

Level 6

Workload

25% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	444
Directed Learning	996
Private Study	360
Total Hours	1800

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	58%
Exam	0%
In-Person	42%