**University of the West of Scotland**

**Module Descriptor**

**Session: 2024/25**

| Title of Module: Music Recording and Production | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Code: COMP08064 | SCQF Level: 8 (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework) | Credit Points: 20 | ECTS: 10 (European Credit Transfer Scheme) |
| School: | School of Computing, Engineering and Physical Sciences | | |
| Module Co-ordinator: | Colin Grassie | | |

| Summary of Module |
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| This module is designed to advance students' understanding of recording and production techniques and practices and extend their practical experience in the use of a professional recording studio environment and associated technologies.<br><br>Theoretical topics presented through guided reading, personal study and practice will include:<br><br>• Microphone placement and recording techniques in relation to acoustic environment.<br>• Digital recording practice<br><br>Students will apply their knowledge of digital audio workstations to preparing to work in a digital audio-media studio environment and practice skills and techniques relating to studio configuration.<br><br>Practical laboratory exercises and guided study on recording and production will cover the following topics:<br><br>• DAW software/hardware configuration.<br>• Pre-production planning for recording (and mixing) projects.<br>• Multitracking, overdubbing and punch-in techniques.<br>• Editing and postproduction mixing techniques.<br>• Pre-production planning.<br>• Project delivery formats and file management.<br><br>• Candidates will demonstrate a practical understanding of digital audio-media production systems configuration, interconnection and operation. |

- Candidates will demonstrate a practical understanding of the technical planning and preparation for a multi-track recording session with a range of acoustic and virtual instruments.
- Candidates will critically analyse, synthesise ideas, concepts, information and issues common to pre-production planning for music recording and mixing projects.
- Candidates will apply a range of complex and professional knowledge, skills and understanding associated with creative digital music production.
- Candidates will demonstrate a practical understanding of project file formats and audio delivery levels.
- This module embeds the key "I am UWS" graduate attributes and in particular: Work Ready and Successful.

**Module Delivery Method**

| Face-To-Face | Blended | Fully Online | Hybrid C | Hybrid 0 | Work-Based Learning |
|:---:|:---:|:---:|:---:|:---:|:---:|
| ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

**Hybrid C**
Online with mandatory face-to-face learning on Campus

**Campus(es) for Module Delivery**

The module will **normally** be offered on the following campuses / or by Distance/Online Learning: (Provided viable student numbers permit) (tick as appropriate)

| Paisley: | Ayr: | Dumfries: | Lanarkshire: | London: | Distance/Online Learning: | Other: |
|:---:|:---:|:---:|:---:|:---:|:---:|:---:|
| ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | Add name |

**Term(s) for Module Delivery**

(Provided viable student numbers permit).

| Term 1 | ☐ | Term 2 | ☒ | Term 3 | ☐ |
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**Learning Outcomes: (maximum of 5 statements)**
**These should take cognisance of the SCQF level descriptors and be at the appropriate level for the module.**
At the end of this module the student will be able to:

| L1 | Demonstrate a knowledge of the scope, defining features, and main areas of digital audio-media production systems components and their operation. |
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| L2 | Apply knowledge, skills and understanding using a range of professional skills, techniques and practices associated with creative digital music production, a few of which are complex. |
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| L3 | Undertake critical analysis, synthesis of ideas and concepts which are within the common understandings in pre-production planning for a music recording and mixing project. |
| L4 | Work under guidance with others to acquire an understanding of current professional practice in working with artists within a studio recording session. |

**Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills**

| SCQF Headings | During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in: |
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| Knowledge and Understanding (K and U) | SCQF Level **8** <br><br> Demonstrate a broad knowledge of the scope, defining features, and main areas of a digital audio-media production systems and their operation. <br><br> Demonstrate a detailed knowledge of the operation of digital audio workstation software. |
| Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding | SCQF Level **8** <br><br> Develop competency in the skills, techniques and practices of contemporary music production. <br><br> Apply audio processing with an understanding of associated theory. Adapt routine practices in a creative environment. |
| Generic Cognitive skills | SCQF Level **8** <br><br> Undertake critical analysis, evaluation and/or synthesis of ideas, concepts, information and issues which are within the common understandings of pre-production planning for a music recording or mixing project. <br><br> Critically evaluate the technical and aesthetic value of audio processes applied to a recorded source. |
| Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills | SCQF Level **8** <br><br> Demonstrate an understanding of software and hardware configuration terminology through verbal communication. <br><br> Interpret graphical representations of audio systems interconnection |
| Autonomy, Accountability and Working with others | SCQF Level **8** <br><br> Exercise autonomy and initiative in the use and application of audio recording equipment working towards a professional level. |

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| | Manage and plan for the work of performers within a music recording project. |
| | Work towards professional practices and protocols in the management of music recording projects under guidance. |

| Pre-requisites: | Before undertaking this module, the student should have undertaken the following: | |
|---|---|---|
| | **Module Code:** COMP07068 | **Module Title:** Recording and Production |
| | **Other:** | |
| **Co-requisites** | **Module Code:** | **Module Title:** |

*Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

| **Learning and Teaching** | |
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| **In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.** | |
| **Learning Activities** During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below: | **Student Learning Hours** (Normally totalling 200 hours): (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities) |
| Tutorial/Synchronous Support Activity | 12 |
| Laboratory/Practical Demonstration/Workshop | 36 |
| Independent Study | 152 |
| | 200 Hours Total |
| **\*\*Indicative Resources: (eg. Core text, journals, internet access)** | |

The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:

Owsinski, B., 2017. The mixing engineer's handbook. 4th ed. Bobby Owsinski Media Group.

Rumsey, F. and McCormick, T., 2021. Sound and recording: Applications and Theory. 8th ed. Focal Press.

Corey, J. and Benson, D.H. (2017). *Audio production and critical listening: technical ear training*. New York: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group.

Please ensure the list is kept short and current.  Essential resources should be included, broader resources should be kept for module handbooks / Aula VLE.

Resources should be listed in Right Harvard referencing style or agreed professional body deviation and in alphabetical order.

(**N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

**Attendance and Engagement Requirements**

In line with the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure: Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:

Students must complete the assessment milestones laid out in the handbook in respect of the submissions of CW 1 and CW 2.

**Equality and Diversity**

The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code.

Please ensure any specific requirements are detailed in this section. Module Co-ordinators should consider the accessibility of their module for groups with protected characteristics..

(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the school)

**Supplemental Information**

| Divisional Programme Board | Computing |
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| Assessment Results (Pass/Fail) | Yes ☐No ☒ |
| School Assessment Board | Creative Computing |
| Moderator | Robert Goldie |
| External Examiner | N. Auricchio |
| Accreditation Details | This module is accredited by JAMES as part of BSc (Hons) Music Technology. |
| Changes/Version Number | 2.12 |

| Assessment: (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below) |
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| Assessment 1: (Category 40%): Design: Software Template(s). |
| Assessment 2: (Category 60%): Portfolio: Practical work(s). |
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| (N.B. (i) **Assessment Outcomes Grids** for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed.<br>(ii) An **indicative schedule** listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.) |

**Assessment Outcome Grids (See Guidance Note)**

| Component 1 | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Assessment Type (Footnote B.) | Learning Outcome (1) | Learning Outcome (2) | Learning Outcome (3) | Learning Outcome (4) | Learning Outcome (5) | Weighting (%) of Assessment Element | Timetabled Contact Hours |
| Design | | | ✓ | | | 40 | 0 |

| Component 2 | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Assessment Type (Footnote B.) | Learning Outcome (1) | Learning Outcome (2) | Learning Outcome (3) | Learning Outcome (4) | Learning Outcome (5) | Weighting (%) of Assessment Element | Timetabled Contact Hours |
| Portfolio of practical work | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | 60 | 12 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Combined Total for All Components** | **100%** | **12 hours** |