

MA Popular Music Practice - Course Specification

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 2021
Awarding Institution	BIMM Institute
Teaching Institution	BIMM Institute Berlin; BIMM Institute London; BIMM Institute Brighton; BIMM Institute Bristol; BIMM Institute Dublin; BIMM Institute Manchester; BIMM Institute Birmingham
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) or significant professional experience in a relevant subject. 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

Workload

Assessment and Contact Hours

Total Assessments	7
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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%
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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 Approval and Modification Policy & Procedure](#). This may result in slight adjustments to contact hours and assessments.

Timetables

Timetables are made available during enrolment. Every effort is made to make the timetables as student friendly as possible. Full time students will have around 5.5 class contact hours per week and classes are likely to be timetabled as one afternoon and one evening per week. In addition there will be guest lectures, industry engagement sessions, study Saturdays, self-directed industry engagement time, and 30-hours of 1:1 tutorials.

Covid-19 Adjustments

Due the current situation some modules may be taught online. This may affect contact hours noted in this document and some assessments may be adapted for online delivery. More details can be found on our [applicant webpages](#).

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.

Learning and Teaching

Teaching

BIMM Institute encourages its staff to employ a wide range of learning and teaching techniques. As students on the course you will be taught by lecturers 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 learning and teaching methods BIMM Institute employs please see BIMM Institute's [Learning & 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 Institute 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 lecturers 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 lecturers. You can use these sessions to gain specific feedback on any aspect of your work.

Staff

BIMM Institute 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 lecturers who understand their goals and have the knowledge and experience necessary to help make them a reality.

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

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

Sometimes lecturers 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 lecturers 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 lecturer goes on leave, whether it is due to industry activities or unavoidable factors such as illness or maternity leave, BIMM Institute 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 Institute are taught and assessed in English.

Costs

Tuition fees

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

BIMM Institute Germany has a deposit deadline of 31st August. Paying your deposit on or before this deadline will secure your place of study on your chosen academic programme (subject to availability).

The tuition fee deadline is 15th September, if you plan to pay your annual tuition fees in full.

If you plan to pay your fees in instalments, you must agree to this in your study contract and pay the applicable deposit ahead of the above deadline. BIMM Institute's Finance Department will coordinate your fees to be paid in 10x monthly instalments beginning in October.

BIMM Graduates receive €1,000 off their course fees, if studying the 1-year full-time course. They receive €500 off each year if studying the 2-year part-time course.

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 stationery 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 cost at each BIMM Institute college can be found on the [Essential Documents](#) page.

Disabled Access

BIMM Brighton

At BIMM Brighton the majority of teaching buildings are wheelchair accessible. However, our BIMM East building is currently not wheelchair accessible, this mainly affects Music Production courses. If you require wheelchair access every effort will be made to arrange different rooms that are accessible.

BIMM Bristol

All teaching buildings at BIMM Bristol are wheelchair accessible, however some classrooms are not accessible, students who wish to study either Professional Musicianship (Drums) or Music Production are advised to apply to a different BIMM college if they require wheelchair access.

BIMM London

The main teaching building at BIMM London is wheelchair accessible. Our smaller second building offers full access to the student café – however, a small number of tutorial and lecture rooms are not wheelchair accessible. If you require wheelchair access every effort will be made to arrange different rooms that are accessible.



BIMM Manchester

All teaching buildings at BIMM Manchester are wheelchair accessible.

BIMM Institute Berlin

At BIMM Berlin the main teaching building is wheelchair accessible, however, occasionally we may use external spaces for some lessons or events, which may not be accessible. If you require wheelchair access every effort will be made to arrange teaching spaces that are accessible.

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/>).