

MUSIC

Examination Board: OCR
Specification Number: H142 / H542

Why Study MUSIC to AS Level?

Music A-level includes many disciplines: a practical performing skill, philosophy, sociology, mathematical processes and self-awareness

Why Study MUSIC to A2?

The A2 Music course provides you with an excellent grounding for a wide range of degree courses that include areas outside the artistic field. The topics covered build on AS concepts and skills from the AS modules.

Entry Requirements

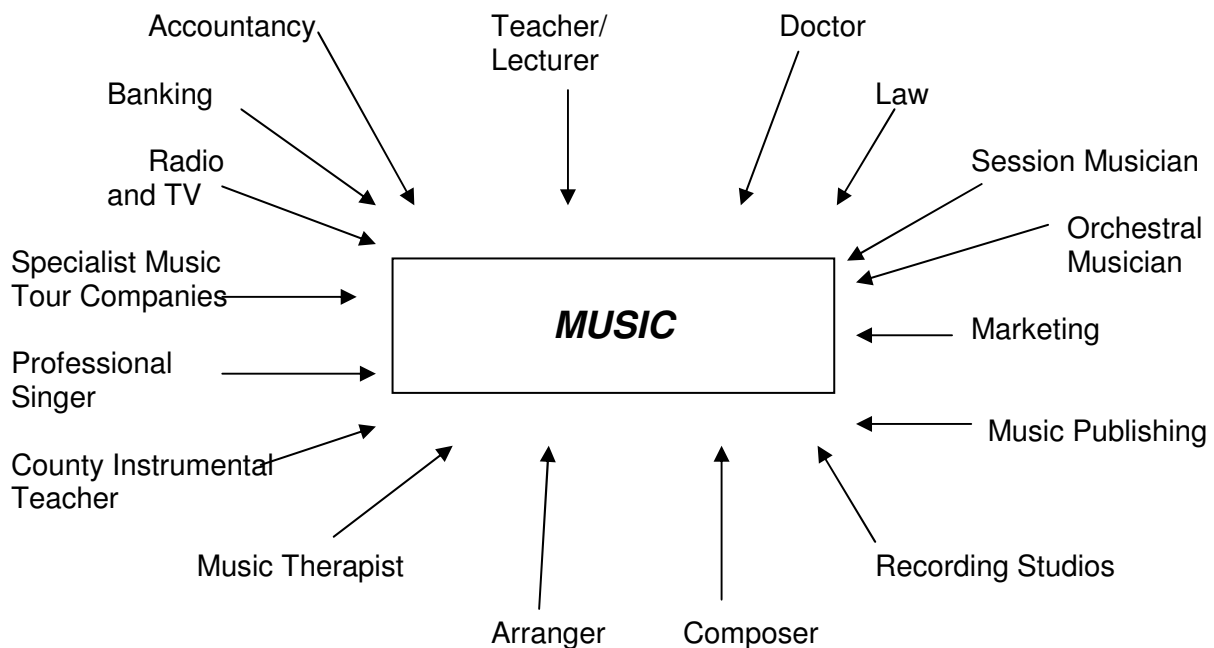
Minimum entry requirement is a C in Music (preferably higher) and the ability to play an instrument up to about Grade 5. A willingness to perform in school ensembles, meet course requirements and deadlines is also expected.

Higher Education

An A Level in Music can provide a basis for a degree in Music or in a wide variety of subjects, because of the academic content of the course. Eton College recently ranked elements of the music A-level alongside Physics because of the brain function required to complete certain tasks.

Careers

Studying Music at A Level allows you to enter literally 1000's of interesting and varied careers. Many professions accept an Arts degree and then offer a conversion course followed by the professional qualifications.



Course Content

AS Music is Modules 1-3, A-Level is Modules 4-6.

Module 1. G351 – Performing Music

- Solo Performance to a visiting examiner (max. 8 mins)
- A viva voce discussion of the performance with the examiner (5 mins)
- Extended Performing: A choice of **one** from performing on a second instrument, ensemble performance, performing your own composition or improvisation

Module 2. G352 Composing

- Section A - The Language of Western Tonal Harmony. You will learn how to harmonise tunes leading up to writing the chords for a hymn tune. You submit seven coursework exercises.
- Section B - Instrumental Composition. A three minute piece of music for 4-10 instruments.

Module 3. G353 Introduction to the Historical Study of Music

1h 45 minute exam paper.

Section A – Students answer questions on one of two musical extracts from works in the following eras:

Solo instrumental chamber or orchestral repertoire from 1700-1830

Popular instrumental music from 1900- present day

Section B – Prescribed works: Students study three works from each era

1. 18th / early 19th century orchestra

2. Jazz 1920-1960

Students answer questions on a short extract taken from one of the three prescribed works in each era

Section C Contextual Study – 1 question from 3.

The questions require you to be able to set one of the prescribed works in context, discussing the social, historical and musical developments events that lead to the composition of the set work.

Module 4. G354 Performing Music

Recital of solo, ensemble or accompanying lasting c.15 mins.

Viva voce with the visiting examiner discussing your performance.

Module 5. G355 Composing 2

8 harmony exercises to be submitted as supervised coursework. We will study how to write chorales in the style of J.S.Bach

Composition – One composition from a choice of three

1. Vocal setting of a text
2. A piece of programme music
3. Music for film/tv

Module 6. G356 Historical and Analytical Studies in Music

Section A – Aural extracts of vocal music 1900-1945

Section B – Two from Three questions to be answered on one or more areas

Song / Programme Music / Music for Screen / Music and Belief