

Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	Composition (Large Ensemble)
2	Module Credits	15
3	Module Level	6
4	Module Code	MUS6072

5	Module Overview
<p>Relationship with Programme Philosophy and Aims</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To prepare jazz musicians for the profession (aim 1) To nurture artistic sensibilities and allow scope for individual stylistic direction (aim 2) To cultivate an appreciation of key historical concepts and analytical processes to enrich performance and composition (aim 5) To provide a culture and environment for students to develop their own compositional practical experience (aim 13) To promote the development of personal and interpersonal skills with particular reference to the cooperative and collaborative environment of the music profession (aim 12) <p>A central tenet of the programme philosophy is the development of informed jazz musicians. This module recognises the need for jazz musicians to have a highly developed approach to creativity reinforced by a thorough grasp of musical techniques from the compositional perspective. Here students have the opportunity to acquire advanced skills in large ensemble arranging and composition. This module builds on the experience and findings of the Year 1 Composition (Small Ensemble) module, to help students making the connection between listening to, playing in and writing for big bands. The learning process from arranging a given jazz composition (Semester 1) to composing an original large-scale piece is coherent with the programme's philosophy of gradually promoting the student's own voice.</p>	

6	Indicative Content
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Idiomatic large ensemble arranging & composition skills General musicianship skills, including listening skills and analytical skills Development of interpersonal skills, team working and communication skills Development of leadership skills, including skills of directing large ensembles <p>Topics experienced through lectures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study of instruments in sectional and cross-sectional orchestration through aural analysis of recordings played in class and recommended as on-line resource (e.g. via Spotify) Study of transcriptions and scores, instructions in compositional and arranging techniques, and analyses of existing compositions and arrangements. <p>Topics experienced through skills-based workshops include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aural training in orchestration, form and design Practice of 4-way close and Basie-style sectional structures 	

- Writing, rehearsing and performing, and critiquing tryout pieces in class Walking bass lines

7		Module Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:		
1	Arrange a given jazz composition for big band, deploying traditional skills and conventions of big band writing.	
2	Compose an original composition using the orchestral possibilities of the big band format, demonstrating influences from the major composers in jazz.	
3	Communicate musical ideas to fellow musicians and listeners through large ensemble composition.	

8		Module Assessment		
Learning Outcome		Coursework	Exam	In-Person
1-3		x		

9		Breakdown Learning and Teaching Activities
Learning Activities	Hours	
Scheduled Learning (SL) includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, peer group learning, Graduate+, as specified in timetable	24	
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	86	
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams	40	
Total Study Hours:	150	