

### Programme Specification



1. Programme title	MA Music Business
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3a. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
3b. Language of study	English
4a. Valid intake dates	September
4b. Mode of study	Part Time
4c. Delivery method	Distance Education
5. Professional/Statutory/Regulatory body	NA
6. Apprenticeship Standard	NA
7. Final qualification(s) available	MA Music Business
8. Year effective from	2022-2023

#### 9. Criteria for admission to the programme

Applications are welcomed from people working in all areas of the music industries. Admission criteria are assessed through the submission of a CV and application materials. The programme team will discuss entry attributes with applicants during a pre-application advisory discussion session. CV and / or pre-application advisory discussion must evidence that the student has an identifiable current professional practice in a recognisable music industry field. It is expected that a recognisable current professional practice normally takes at least two years to establish. Students who do not speak English as their first language must have IELTS competency of level 6.5 or equivalent.

Applicants' CV and application materials, along with the pre-application discussion indicate the possible prior experiential / accredited learning that can be claimed as Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) equivalent to 80 credits at Level 7 (at least 50 at Level 7, 30 credits can be at Level 6). RPL is assessed at interview and claimed alongside Module One.

The programme is therefore suitable for a wide range of people working in the music industries.

Summary of admission criteria:

1. Current established professional practice
2. Capacity to evidence prior experiential learning equivalent to 80 credits at Level 7.
3. IELTS competency of level 6.5 (for students who did not speak English as their first language) or equivalent

## **10. Aims of the programme**

The programme aims to:

1. foster and enhance the professional practice of the student with direct relevance to the music business at both a national and international level
2. offer validation and personal growth through accreditation of prior experiential learning, recognising the contribution of professional practice to academic study
3. establish techniques for theorising further contribution to the music business
4. cultivate reflective practice and critical thinking as catalysts for on-going professional development, transformation and contribution to the music business and wider creative industries.
5. establish competence with inquiry techniques, particularly qualitative research frameworks and methodologies in practice-based paradigms
6. analyse and hypothesise ethical and ecological interrogation of professional practice contexts
7. foster a vibrant and communicative community of music business practitioners internationally via online learning and forums

<b>11. Programme outcomes</b>	
<p><b>A. Critical Thinking (CT)</b></p> <p>On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <p><b>CT 1.</b> Identify, contextualise and apply knowledge from professional practice</p> <p><b>CT 2.</b> Articulate an understanding of the music industries, including ethical and ecological contexts, to inform professional practice</p> <p><b>CT 3.</b> Critically consider, summarise, and explore themes within a set of narratives or data to identify implications for music business</p>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods:</b> Students gain knowledge and understanding through readings, online e-learning resources, online real-time discussion groups (such as via Zoom), peer discussion using blogs and other tools, and tutorial support.</p> <p><b>Feedback and assessment methods:</b> Students' comprehension and evaluation is assessed by their active engagement with online learning, communication through blogs, and commitment to sharing theory through professional practice in the wider community. Students demonstrate their skills in Critical Thinking through the work they submit for assessment at the end of each module with supporting evidence of discussion through related online activity such as blog posting and comments.</p>
<p><b>B. Reflexivity (R)</b></p> <p>On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <p><b>R 1.</b> Analyse and evaluate practice-based information and concepts within the context of their own professional practice and that of others.</p> <p><b>R 2.</b> Evaluate existing theory through identification of its significance and value to the music industries; consider the application of this theory for the transformation of their own practice and that of others.</p>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods:</b> Students evaluate and apply a reflexivity as an approach to synthesise their own practice-based knowledge with wider knowledge and contexts introduced in the Handbooks. These are explored through engaging in reflective practice tasks (including keeping a reflective journal), reading theory on reflection and reflexivity, and group and one-to-one tutorial discussion and support.</p> <p><b>Feedback and assessment methods:</b> Reflexivity is assessed by students' depth and level of engagement with the theory and activity introduced through the course materials and suggested independent research. Students demonstrate their use of reflexivity through the work they submit for grading at the end of each module with supporting evidence of discussion through related online activity</p>

<p><b>C. Practical Skills (PS)</b></p> <p>On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <p><b>PS 1.</b> Professionally network and collaborate across music industry and academic settings.</p> <p><b>PS 2.</b> Manage and contextualise information in order to develop and articulate music business policies</p> <p><b>PS 3.</b> Carry out a practice-informed piece of work and articulate any findings or questions that emerge from inquiry</p>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods:</b> Students learn practical skills through suggested tasks and readings outlined in the Module Handbooks, online discussion groups, independent research, with tutorial support. Practical skills are further developed through practical use of theory and experiences in the student's wider community of practice.</p> <p><b>Feedback and assessment methods:</b> Students demonstrate the application of their practical skills through the work they submit for the modules and through the organisation and application of research that has facilitated and informed the work they submit with supporting evidence of discussion through related online activity such as blog posting and comments.</p>
<p><b>D. Post-graduate Level Capabilities (PGC)</b></p> <p>On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <p><b>PGC 1.</b> Take responsibility for contextualising their own practice within theoretical frameworks and methodologies.</p> <p><b>PGC 2.</b> Critically review and apply theory and policy that relates to their field</p> <p><b>PGC 3.</b> Self-direct their professional development including action planning and problem solving responding to music business inquiry / research-based techniques.</p>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods:</b> Students develop postgraduate skills through suggested tasks and readings outlined in the Module Handbooks, online discussion groups, independent research, and tutorial support, and exploring theory through professional practice in the wider community.</p> <p><b>Feedback and assessment methods:</b> Students' postgraduate level capabilities are assessed through their engagement with, critical reflection on, and evidenced understanding of their wider professional context particularly through the dissemination of their final project via the written report or portfolio of evidence and documentation.</p>

## 12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

### 12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

#### Part-time Study

Indicative time-line:

	September-December	January-April	May-June	September-January
Year One	MUS4510 Review of Professional Practice: Life Learning, Professional Learner* 10 Credits			
		MUS4530 Music Policies in Practice 30 Credits		
			MUS4560 Independent Project (Preparation)	
Year Two				MUS4560 Independent Project 60 Credits

\* Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is undertaken alongside MUS4510.

The claim for 80 credits of prior learning is established from one of, or a combination of, the following:

- prior experiential learning from the establishment of the student's professional practice (this is learning from professional experience that is NOT already credit-bearing and assessed to be at Level 7 via the compilation of a portfolio of claims for academic credit)
- accredited CPD and prior learning at Level 7; credit-bearing courses at Level 7 (Postgraduate) eg CLOCK, Emeritus

12.2 Levels and modules	
Level 7	
COMPULSORY	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
MUS4510 Review of Professional Practice: Life Learning, Professional Learner	
MUS4530 Applied Music Policies	
MUS4560 Independent Project	

12.3 Non-compensatable modules	
Module level	Module code
7	MUS4510, MUS4530, MUS4560

13. Information about assessment regulations
This programme will run in line with general University Regulations: <a href="https://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies">https://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies</a>

14. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)
There are no placement opportunities for this programme as students are already engaged in professional practice.

15. Future careers / progression
<p>Contribution to the professional sector and access to higher level study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates enjoy greater credibility of their practice within the work place, leading to opportunities for promotion or to a change in career direction</li> <li>• Graduates develop decision-making and entrepreneurial skills</li> <li>• Graduates contribute to subject scholarship and knowledge through publication in peer reviewed journals and music industry literature</li> <li>• Further study via PhD or DProf routes.</li> <li>• Graduates continue with their chosen field of research, becoming recognised for this work within the wider music business</li> </ul>

**16. Particular support for learning (if applicable)**

Online web 2.0 resources, such as use of professional blogs, video conferencing, Linked-In networking groups, Linked-in Learning, personal Academic Advisors, Library and Student Services (LSS), Centre for Academic Practice Enhancement (CAPE), extended professional practice networking group facilitated by alumni, also industry subscription sources such as MiDiA reports (<https://midiaresearch.com/reports>), Music Managers Forum resources (<https://themmf.net/>), Music Ally Learning Hub (<https://musically.com/learn/>) and AIM Associate Knowledge Hub (<https://associates.aim.org.uk/hc/en-gb>).

**17. HECos code(s)**

100643

**18. Relevant QAA subject benchmark(s)**

The degree is informed by QAA Quality Code and subject benchmarks (Music, Arts Management), reference has also been made to the Masters Degree Characteristics Statement.

**19. Reference points**

This programme has been co-created with the Association of Independent Music (AIM) and is informed by music industry rules and regulations, codes of conduct, and agreements. Examples include the Music Climate Pact (<https://www.musicclimatepact.com/>) and, in Britain, UK Music's ten-point plan for equality and diversity (<https://www.ukmusic.org/equality-diversity/ten-point-plan/>).

**20. Other information**

See individual Module Handbooks (i.e. for MUS4510, MUS4530 and MUS4560) and RPL Handbook

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

## 21. Curriculum map for MA Music Business

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

### Programme learning outcomes

Programme outcomes										
CT1	CT2	CT3	R1	R2	PS1	PS2	PS3	PGC1	PGC2	PGC3
Highest level achieved by all graduates										
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

Module Title	Module Code by Level	Programme outcomes										
		CT1	CT2	CT3	R1	R2	PS1	PS2	PS3	PGC1	PGC2	PGC3
Review of Professional Practice: Life Learning, Professional Learner	MUS4510	X			X		X		X	X		
Recognition of Prior Learning	NA	X			X		X		X	X		
Music Policies in Practice	MUS4530		X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X
Independent Project	MUS4560	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X