

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR COURSE

BA (HONS) MUSIC PRODUCTION

COURSE DESCRIPTION

At Futureworks, we believe that music production is more than just creating great music -it's about shaping your entire musical identity. Our Music Production course offers a complete experience where creativity meets industry expertise. You'll jump straight into the heart of music production as our industry-active tutors will guide you through the latest software and hardware, helping you develop your own unique sound.

Futureworks is fully equipped with state-of-the-art studios, resources, and facilities so whether you're into rock, electronic, or experimental sound, we've got the perfect setup for your creative needs and the technical expertise to ensure you'll make the best use of these facilities.

You'll get a taste of the real music industry with the Futureworks Music Label. Release your tracks, understand contracts, and explore music licensing—all essential skills for your future career. You'll start to create your own artist identity, building your brand, promoting yourself effectively and creating a strong music business profile. Futureworks will help you develop the skills you'll need to build a successful career as an artist or producer in today's modern music world.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

To be considered for this course, you will require 104-120 UCAS points.

This could be gained via a number of qualifications, for example:

- BCC or above at A2 Level
- DMM or above at Extended Diploma Level
- M or above at UAL Level 3 Extended Diploma Level
- A proven interest in this area

If you're unsure how many points you have you can use the [UCAS tariff calculator](#).

Remember that qualifications such as Graded Examinations in Music Performance and Arts Award (Gold) can also count towards your UCAS points – check the tariff calculator!



All applicants are expected to have at least a Level 4 or grade 'C' in GCSEs Maths and English Language or equivalent. Non-UK applicants will need to have an English Language qualification at International Level B2 or higher, such as an IELTS of 6.0 or better (with no component below 5.5). Students with equivalent qualifications will also be accepted.

MODULES (CREDITS)

YEAR 1

Composition & Arrangement (40 credits) – Elevate your songwriting, composition, and production skills. This module is designed to grow your skills as a music creator. You'll look at the creative approaches and techniques used by industry professionals whilst developing your own composition and production abilities with hands-on experience of professional music software and studio hardware. Whether you aspire to compose for film, television, or to produce chart-topping hits or club anthems, this module will help you to develop your own unique voice as a songwriter and producer.

Recording Techniques and Technologies (40 credits) – Get hands-on experience with industry-standard recording equipment and techniques. In this module you'll learn the essential skills demanded of studio engineers and producers working in today's studio environments. You'll enjoy hands-on training in the creative and practical techniques and approaches for recording in both the studio and on-location, manage live sessions with individual or multiple musicians, explore strategic microphone placement, acoustics, session management, and develop the expertise to produce recordings that showcase your unique creative voice.

Career Focus 1 – Online Profile (40 credits) – Learn marketing and release strategies and build a professional online presence. This module will help you develop the skills needed to succeed in today's music industry. You'll explore proven methods for strategically marketing your artistic brand across digital channels and gain insights into effective release campaigns that can increase your music's reach and impact. You'll explore how the internet has changed the musical landscape through a research essay and start to build your own brand with a professional online portfolio website to showcase your music and achievements.

YEAR 2

Recording and Production (40 credits) – Gain an in-depth understanding of the role of a music producer. This module is designed to help you develop your music production abilities under guidance from industry experts and build a comprehensive range of skills in studio recording techniques and music production processes. The module includes technical and theoretical lectures, hands-on studio workshops, independent projects, and analysis of recording methods all focused on understanding the dynamic role of a music producer.



Music, Sound, Image (40 credits) – Explore the relationship between sound, visuals, and technology. In this module you'll examine how various artists and professionals combine music, sound, and visuals. Through a combination of lectures, studio workshops, self-directed projects, and hands-on use of audio assets you'll develop advanced skills in sound design and audio-visual installation. You'll learn the practical skills required to merge music, sound effects, and visuals into creative multi-sensory experiences and understand how to plan and implement audio-visual systems and technology.

Career Focus 2 – Live Brief (20 credits) – Practice your skills in following a client brief. In this module, you'll work on a real-world project for an actual client. Lectures will cover relevant creative practices to prepare you for the project. You'll get feedback through peer reviews and one-on-one tutoring sessions as you work independently on the project. You'll practice your skills in following a client brief, managing your time, receiving feedback, and independently producing quality work that meets the client's needs. Module assessment has two parts, submission of the negotiated work reflecting the client-led process and a viva voce where you critically evaluate your project.

Composition & Production (20 credits) – Expand your toolkit of composition and production techniques. This module will help you build on the composition and music production skills you developed making your first-year portfolios and refine your abilities in creating original music compositions and polished productions. You'll look at different techniques for composing and producing music through mix of analysis, independent research, and teaching and learning sessions and be guided through various composition and production methods.

YEAR 3

Major Project – Music and Multimedia (40 credits) – the summation of the work explored over the years on your course. You will be required to devise and present a creative piece, or several related pieces, for the public domain. This work may be created as a solo piece, or you may be assisted by several individuals under your creative and artistic direction.

Advanced Recording & Production (20 credits) – application of a rigorous working process from the early stages of pre, through to post-production to ensure that your intended musical production values are achieved.

Career Focus 3 – Professional Preparation (40 credits) – develop your skills and knowledge in presenting an analytical research proposal, initiating the development of a professional body of work, investigating methodologies for vocational aspirations through independent study, appraising the skills necessary for producing a contextual report following academic conventions, and exploring current business practices.

Composition & Innovation (20 credits) – synthesise and demonstrate your individual compositional and technical skills, refined through earlier study levels, in creating original music with minimal



reliance on pre-made materials, fostering unique musical identities, and encouraging collaboration and experimentation.

WHAT ARE CREDITS?

As a guide, 20 credits typically represents around 52 hours of tutor contact time (e.g. lectures/workshops/feedback) and 148 hours of self-study time (usually over the course of a semester). These numbers may increase or decrease depending on the nature, length and level of the module, especially towards the end of the course.

LOCATION OF DELIVERY

Your primary location of study will be at our Riverside Campus, which is located on New Bailey Street in Manchester.

Lectures, workshops, and tutorials take place in our fully equipped labs and studios. Flexible access to studio and practical facilities, allow students to establish, practice and develop their work using professional level hardware and software. Relevant hardware and software training will be provided during studio, workshop, and lecture sessions to support student work at all levels.

TEACHING STAFF

We believe it's essential that your teaching team are part of the industry. This ensures the knowledge they pass on is both relevant and current. It also means they have excellent industry contacts that our students can tap into for real-world projects. You will have the opportunity to acquire professional credits during your time at Futureworks, while building up an enviable list of your own contacts at the start of a new career.

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Throughout the programme you will be assessed primarily on your creative output, with an emphasis on practical submissions accompanied by presentations and written work in the form of supporting documentation and essays.

Practical exercises and studio driving tests during studio or workshop-based sessions will be used as a means for you to monitor your progress along the way to help develop more formal assessment work.

Written assessment methods include technical logs, reports, essays, and written evaluations. Oral assessment methods include presentations, pitches, and viva voces. Coursework Assessments include compositions, recordings, installations, audio visual works and web design.



COURSE DETAILS

Award to be received on successful completion: BA (Hons) Music Production

Length of course: 3 YEARS (FULL TIME)

Regulator: Office for Students ([OfS](#))

Awarding Institution: University of Central Lancashire

FEES / COSTS

TUITION FEES

Home Students: £9,535 per year

International Students: £17,000 per year

You may be eligible to apply for a student loan from Student Finance. Please see our [Tuition Fees](#) page for more information.

EQUIPMENT & ACTIVITIES

We have five floors of high specification audio studios, edit suites, dubbing theatres, creative workstations, and computer labs, all equipped with the latest industry standard hardware and software. You may wish to purchase a computer or laptop to use at home.

You may find it beneficial to invest in additional equipment and/or study resources to support your learning at home. Examples of these are:

- Headphones
- Microphone

Additionally, there may be the option of attending events outside of Futureworks which would further enhance your studies. Example trips are:

- Royal Northern College of Music (RNCM) Music Archive: no additional cost
- Sacred Trinity Church visit: no additional cost
- Recording around locations in Manchester: no additional cost

