



PARTNERS ACADEMIC SUMMER SCHOOL 2026

Syllabus for Music

Subject Area

This syllabus is for PARTNERS applicants seeking to progress to the degrees of:

- W300 BA Hons Music
 - W301 BA Hons Contemporary and Popular Music
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Aims

To allow students to demonstrate their potential to succeed in specified degree programmes by showing a grasp of entry-level subject-specific knowledge, understanding, cognitive and subject-specific skills.

Learning Outcomes

A good knowledge and understanding of ...

- Ways in which music history is studied at university
- Ways in which creative practices of music performance and composition are studied
- Ways in which pieces of music are analysed
- Our lecture and seminar sessions are intended to cultivate an awareness of the differences, similarities, and connections between historical, performative, and analytical approaches to studying various genres of music.
- As well as aspects of the western classical music tradition (Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Modern, and Contemporary) we will also be looking at the worlds of contemporary studio recording techniques, popular music, blues, rock, jazz, folk music, and various types of experimental music

The ability to apply this knowledge and critical understanding to...

- Daily readings, research, and listening tasks are given, during the main PASS Partners course week.
- Informal input & student-led discussion topics are also invited during seminars and in the online 'open office' discussions.

Competence in...

- Listening skills, and discussing, creating and writing about music are the core skills that the week's course will focus upon. Academic skills range widely from traditional approaches to the study of harmony to aspects of contemporary cultural theory as these apply to the study of music. Historical and musicological research are presented, as 'tasters', and students are also encouraged to contextualise this work in the wider arts degree context. Practical Music Studio skills are introduced with a Recording Studios Induction session.
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Summer School Syllabus

Music Analysis, Composition, Music and Cultural Theory, Music History, and Performance, taught via lectures, seminars, and practical workshops

Activities for Personal Study

Students will be provided with reading and post-Class activities to complete during the Summer School. Reading will be provided via the Library Reading List feature within Canvas; exercise will be posted on Canvas before the Summer School commences.

On-Campus Teaching:

Sunday 28th (PM), Monday 29th & Tuesday 30th June

Online Teaching:

Wednesday 1st, Thursday 2nd & Friday 3rd (AM only) July

Formative Assessment Details

A 750-word essay

More details will be given during the event by your Academic Strand Lead.

Hand-in Method

Digital

Assessment deadline

Friday 10th July