	PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION	Newcastle University

1	Awarding Institution	Newcastle University
2	Teaching Institution	Newcastle University
3	Final Award	MA
4	Programme Title	Music
5	UCAS/Programme Code	4009
6	Programme Accreditation	n/a
7	QAA Subject Benchmark(s)	n/a
8	FHEQ Level	7
9	Date written/revised	May 2009

10	Programme Aims

1 to consolidate and extend the knowledge, skills and intellectual abilities acquired in their first degree
2 to cultivate the skills and attitude necessary for advanced research and independent study
3 to choose from a programme of advanced modules in analysis, popular music studies, cultural theory, historical musicology and world musics, and so to build a programme of study related to their individual requirements
4 to produce a substantial dissertation on a subject of their own choice

11	Learning Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas.

Knowledge and Understanding

On completing the programme students should be able to engage in:

A1 Musicological discourses, including those pertaining to one of the defined pathways
A2 Professional scholarly practice in musicology
A3 Detailed mastery of specific musicological topics, especially through the writing of a dissertation

Teaching and Learning Methods

The primary forum for the development of knowledge and understanding is the seminar. Students are encouraged to pursue an intensive programme of reading and other individual investigative work, the results of which are tested and brought together in the seminars. Project and dissertation research is supervised in one-to-one tutorials.

Assessment Strategy

Assessed through a combination of unseen examinations, essays, research projects and a dissertation.

Intellectual Skills

On completing the programme students should be able to engage in:

B1 Critical evaluation of arguments and evidence
B2 Extrapolating theories and concepts from detailed data and, conversely applying theories and concepts to data

Teaching and Learning Methods

These are taught, facilitated and encouraged in seminars and tutorials, since they are best tested and developed through one-to-one or small-group dialogue.

Assessment Strategy

Assessed through a combination of unseen examinations, essays, research projects and a dissertation.

Practical Skills
On completing the programme students should be able to:
C1 Critically receive, engage with and develop appropriate modes of musicological discourse C2 Employ relevant historiographical, hermeneutic and analytical skills C3 Employ research skills in musicology
Teaching and Learning Methods
Subject-specific skills are taught and practised in seminars and tutorials, having been first introduced in research-training classes, and then pursued through independent student work.
Assessment Strategy
Assessed through a combination of unseen examinations, essays, research projects and a dissertation.
Transferable/Key Skills
On completing the programme students should be skilled in:
D1 Competence in written and oral communication, presentation and computer literacy D2 Ability to work independently, through self-management of time and learning methods D3 Critical thought
Teaching and Learning Methods
These are introduced in research training modules. All students are required to produce written work to high standards of presentation, to give oral presentations, and to demonstrate critical skills and good self-management; feedback on students' development in these areas is given in seminars and tutorials.
Assessment Strategy
Written communication, presentation, IT skills, critical and independent thought and time-management are all assessed through a combination of unseen examinations, essays, research projects and the dissertation. Oral communication is assessed in the research training module – but only informally thereafter.

12   Programme Curriculum, Structure and Features
Basic structure of the programme
The programme is studied over one year full-time or two years part-time, and is based on attendance for a full academic year. The programme requires study of 180 credits; modules vary in size from 10 to 60 credits. One hundred hours of student work are assumed for each 10 credits, encompassing attendance at classes, private study, research work, and completion of assessed work. All students begin with 30 credits of research training and end with a dissertation. Part-time students may begin work on their dissertation during the first year of study, following completion of the initial research training.
Key features of the programme (including what makes the programme distinctive)
The compulsory taught modules will be timetabled to accommodate the professional commitments of part-time students. This may include evening and weekend sessions. The programme will be enriched by the ongoing ICMuS Research Forum series, in which visiting experts address the postgraduate community.
Programme regulations (link to on-line version)
http://www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations/programme/2009-2010/documents/MusicMA.pdf

13   Criteria for admission
Entry qualifications Normally a good first degree in music (i.e. 2:1 or above). candidates with other profiles (degree in a different subject; degree lower than 2:1) are considered on their individual merits, bearing in mind fit with the programme and any work-related or professional experience the applicant may possess. *Admissions policy/selection tools* Candidates apply through the PG Application Portal, or can fill out an application form.

Non-standard Entry Requirements
Candidates with other profiles (degree in a different subject; degree lower than 2:1) are considered on their individual merits, bearing in mind fit with the programme and any work-related or professional experience the applicant may possess.

Additional Requirements
N/A

Level of English Language capability Candidates whose first language is not English are expected to achieve IELTS 7.0 or equivalent prior to registration.

14   Support for Student Learning

Induction
During the first week of the first semester students attend an induction programme. New students will be given a general introduction to University life and the University's principle support services and general information about the School and their programme, as described in the Degree Programme Handbook. New and continuing students will be given detailed programme information and the timetable of lectures/practicals/labs/ tutorials/etc. The International Office offers an additional induction programme for overseas students (see http://www.ncl.ac.uk/international/coming_to_newcastle/orientation.phtml)

Study skills support
Students will learn a range of Personal Transferable Skills, including Study Skills, as outlined in the Programme Specification. Some of this material, e.g. time management is covered in the appropriate Induction Programme. Students are explicitly tutored on their approach to both group and individual projects.

Academic support
The initial point of contact for a student is with a lecturer or module leader, or their tutor (see below) for more generic issues. Thereafter the Degree Programme Director or Head of School may be consulted. Issues relating to the programme may be raised at the Staff-Student Committee, and/or at the Board of Studies.

Pastoral support
All students are assigned a personal tutor whose responsibility is to monitor the academic performance and overall well-being of their tutees. Details of the personal tutor system can be found at http://www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate/support/tutor.phtml
In addition the University offers a range of support services, including the Student Advice Centre, the Counselling and Wellbeing team, the Mature Student Support Officer, and a Childcare Support Officer, see http://www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate/support/welfare.phtml

Support for students with disabilities
The University's Disability Support Service provides help and advice for disabled students at the University - and those thinking of coming to Newcastle. It provides individuals with: advice about the University's facilities, services and the accessibility of campus; details about the technical support available; guidance in study skills and advice on financial support arrangements; a resources room with equipment and software to assist students in their studies. For further details see http://www.ncl.ac.uk/disability-support/

Learning resources
The University's main learning resources are provided by the Robinson and Walton Libraries (for books, journals, online resources), and Information Systems and Services, which supports campus-wide computing facilities, see http://www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate/support/acfacilities.phtml

The School of Arts and Cultures has a range of music studios and practice rooms available for student use. There is also dedicated computing space with key specialist music software available.

All new students whose first language is not English are required to take an English Language test in the Language Centre. Where appropriate, in-sessional language training can be provided. The Language Centre houses a range of resources for learning other languages which may be particularly appropriate for those interested in an Erasmus exchange. See http://www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate/support/facilities/langcen.phtml

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15   Methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of teaching and learning

Module reviews
All modules are subject to review by questionnaires which are considered by the Board of Studies. Changes to, or the introduction of new, modules are considered at the School Teaching and Learning Committee and at the Board of Studies. Student opinion is sought at the Staff-Student Committee and/or the Board of Studies. New modules and major changes to existing modules are subject to approval by the Faculty Teaching and Learning Committee.

Programme reviews
The Board of Studies conducts an Annual Monitoring and Review of the degree programme and reports to Faculty Teaching and Learning Committee.

External Examiner reports
External Examiner reports are considered by the Board of Studies. The Board responds to these reports through Faculty Teaching and Learning Committee. External Examiner reports are shared with institutional student representatives, through the Staff-Student Committee.

Student evaluations
All modules, and the degree programme, are subject to review by student questionnaires. Informal student evaluation is also obtained at the Staff-Student Committee, and the Board of Studies.

Mechanisms for gaining student feedback
Feedback is channelled via the Staff-Student Committee and the Board of Studies.

Faculty and University Review Mechanisms
The programme is subject to the University's Internal Subject Review process, see http://www.ncl.ac.uk/aqss/qsh/internal_subject_review/index.php

Accreditation reports
N/A

Additional mechanisms
N/A

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16   Regulation of assessment

Pass mark
The pass mark is 50

Course requirements
Progression is subject to the University's Masters Degree Progress Regulations, Taught and Research (http://www.ncl.ac.uk/calendar/university.regs/tpmdepr.pdf) and Examination Conventions for Taught Masters Degrees (http://www.ncl.ac.uk/calendar/university.regs/tpmdeprexamconv.pdf). Limited compensation up to 40 credits of the taught element and down to a mark of 40 is possible and there are reassessment opportunities, with certain restrictions.

Common Marking Scheme
The University employs a common marking scheme, which is specified in the Taught Postgraduate Examination Conventions, namely:

Summary description applicable to postgraduate Masters programmes		**Summary description applicable to postgraduate Certificate & Diploma programmes**	
<50	Fail	<50	Fail
50-59	Pass	50 or above	Pass
60-69	Pass with Merit		
70 or above	Pass with Distinction		

Role of the External Examiner
An External Examiner, a distinguished member of the subject community, is appointed by Faculty Teaching and Learning Committee, after recommendation from the Board of Studies. The External Examiner is expected to:
> See and approve examination papers
> Moderate examination and coursework marking
> Attend the Board of Examiners
> Report to the University on the standards of the programme

In addition, information relating to the programme is provided in:

The University Prospectus (see http://www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate/)

The School Brochure (contact enquiries@ncl.ac.uk)

The University Regulations (see http://www.ncl.ac.uk/calendar/university.regs/)

The Degree Programme Handbook

Please note. This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and of the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if she/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities provided. The accuracy of the information contained is reviewed by the University and may be checked by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

Mapping of Intended Learning Outcomes onto Curriculum/Modules

Module	Type	Intended Learning Outcomes			
		A	**B**	**C**	**D**
HSS8000	Arts Research Methods		1-2		1, 3
MUS8001	Music Research Training	1-3	1-2	1-2	1, 3
MUS8053	Studying Popular Musics	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8055	Music & Historiography	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8058	Advanced Musical Analysis	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8002	Dissertation	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8115	Advanced Studies in Ethnomusicology	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8117	Debates in the Philosophy and Theory of Music	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8125	Early Modern Music Materials	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8129	Folk Music and Ballad Studies in the English Speaking World	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8115	Advanced Studies in Ethnomusicology	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8116	Mediterranean Musics	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8117	Debates in the Philosophy and Theory of Music	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8119	Ritual Remembrance and Recorded Sound	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8120	Twentieth-Century Musics and Nationalisms	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8121	Special topics in Music Research	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8122	Notation and Editing	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8123	Globalisation and the Popular	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8124	Popular Musics and the Politics of Authenticity	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8125	Early Modern Music Materials	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8127	Indian Music for Postgraduates	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3
MUS8129	Folk Music and	1-3	1-2	1-2	1-3

	Ballad Studies in the English Speaking World				
MUS8075	Extended Study 1				
MUS8076	Extended Study 2				