

Level 3 Music

UAL: Diploma and Extended Diploma in Music Performance and Production

This course is designed specifically to help you in taking the next step you need in order to become the musician you want to be...



Better Careers Begin Here

Level 3 Music

Your journey starts here

Hello and welcome to Colchester Institute Performing Arts and Music!

Over the next 1 – 2 years you will take a study programme that will help you progress in your academic and professional development, leading you on to further training or into employment. You will learn, develop and apply skills, knowledge and ideas, supported by a dedicated, expert team of staff. You will encounter new ideas, ways of working and people who share your passion for the creative arts – and you may well make some friends that will last you a lifetime.

You can expect interesting and stimulating sessions that will directly connect with the creative industry and we expect you be committed, confident and demonstrate the passion and commitment that will help you move forward in your subject.

Whilst we are sad not to be able to run our normal Open Events in college, we are very much looking forward to seeing you at audition either in person or online. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to talk to us.

Ben Treacher

Area Head of Performing Arts and Music

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Ben Treacher - Area Head Music and Performing Arts

Ben Treacher has been the Area Head of Music and Performing Arts for some time. He has extensive experience over many years in actor training and educational leadership.

Martyn Hall - Assistant Area Head

With a background in Technical Theatre, Acting and Music, Martyn has been teaching Performing Arts for 20 Years. "Watching learners on the journey from school to career is hard work but very rewarding."



The Tutors



Michael Allen – Course Leader for Professional Musician and Popular Music

Michael is a percussionist with 20 years experience as a professional musician and teacher. He holds a first class honors degree and two masters in music performance from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. As a performer, Michael has toured around the world with orchestras and leading contemporary music groups. He has recorded for film, television and radio and is in demand as a leader of music education projects in the East of England. Michael's students regularly win places at conservatoires and specialist music schools in the UK and abroad. He is a specialist in preparing musicians for auditions either in the music industry or for progression to higher education in music.

Musical Specialisms: Drums, Percussion, Piano, Performance, Theory, Aural Perception, Composition, Jazz, Classical, Neo Soul, Hip Hop, Rock

The Tutors

Rhett Moir - Course Leader

I have been working at Colchester Institute for 15 years and during this time technology has changed music creation and consumption completely. What hasn't changed is the imagination, passion and creativity of the students. I hope to work with them and be the bridge so that their ideas can become realised in whatever area of Music they choose.

Being surrounded by young talent also helps me in my other job as a composer. Work I have created or co-created has been used on stations such as: BBC, ITV, Channel 4, Channel 5, Sky, Netflix, ABC, NBC, CBS, MTV, Disney, Vice and brands such as: Sony, Red Bull, NHL, UFC, WWE and E-League.

I also support Ipswich Town FC which is where I am in the picture, there are sometimes more fans.



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Your Study Programme

You are about to undertake a study programme at Colchester Institute. This will include the following aspects of study:

- Your main programme: UAL Extended Diploma in Music Performance and Production
- GCSE Maths (if you have not already achieved a grade 4/C or above).
- Tutorial Programme, including Level 1 qualifications in British Values and Keeping Safe and Healthy
- Independent Study
- Work Experience
- Enrichment Opportunities



Our Spaces

You will learn here...

Swinburne Hall = A fully equipped concert hall and gig venue with concert grand pianos, professional backline, large stage, choir rake, 200 seats (400 standing)

K257 = The main teaching studio with Yamaha grand piano, full P.A system, Marshall guitar and bass amps, drums and percussion, space for practical workshops, Logic Pro and I.T breakout room, high quality audio playback.

W403 = Mac suite and music technology/composition/production teaching space.

Studio 1 = Multi track or recital recording studio

W406 Rehearsal Spaces = Suite of rooms that are equipped for a great number of musical rehearsal scenarios. Piano rooms, drum rooms, guitar and bass rooms and general practise facilities.



The Course

What you will learn...

This is a course for people that wish to train to be professional musicians. You will study...

- 1) **Performance philosophy and techniques** (weekly performance classes)
- 2) **Composition** (writing for yourself, for others, understanding composition, composition for film and media, how to write songs, how to write instrumental music)
- 3) **Ensemble/band playing** (how to work and play with other musicians collaboratively and creatively)
- 4) **Music technology** (streamed depending on your level of interest and ability)
- 5) **Theory of music** (streamed depending on your level of interest and ability)
- 6) **Musical context and history** (understanding what has gone before and how you can understanding the music industry as it is now)



The Course

Continued...



7) Rehearsal and practise skills (you get time to craft your skills to professional levels, gaining an understanding of what is required)

8) Recording music (understanding how recording works and how to play and sing for recordings)

9) Musicianship skills (how to understand and then use skills that can make the difference in building a professional approach to music making)

10) Music as a career and as a business (how to start planning a career as a musician)

11) Progression studies (what is out there for you in terms of higher study and employment)

12) Major performance projects (recitals, group shows, solo gigs, recording projects, composition)

Why?

This course works

You will need a range of skills and knowledge that will ensure that you can function and work in this competitive and fast paced world. This course sets you up for that by treating you as someone that is not here as a fan of music alone, but as someone that is going to be a musician. That means that you don't shy away from any aspect of music study.

- 1) You will become an expert in playing and or singing.
- 2) You will become experienced in understanding music using the language of music
- 3) You will be able to contextualise your ambitions and therefore create both short and long term goals that mean you achieve what you wish to.
- 4) You will develop technical skills in aspects of music that are beyond simply playing and singing.



How it works

The qualification structure

In year 1... you will study 7 units that prepare you to complete a major project at the end of the year.

Units 1- 7 will teach what you need to know and also give you an understanding of the level that you are capable of working at in terms of grading.

Unit 8 is the unit that will give you the actual grade that you will get for year 1. It will all come down to what you put into unit 8. The philosophy behind this system is that you are assessed for grades at the point where you know the most and are at your best.

You must pass units 1 - 7 to be able to achieve a grade for unit 8. It is a simple format to understand and is favorable for any student that is committed to learning and their chosen vocation.



Where to next?

Destinations

- 1) In the past 5 years we have had 17 students win places at leading music conservatoires.
- 2) We have had several students sign recording contracts with established groups or producers
- 3) We have had the vast majority of students get into their top choice university or music college
- 4) We have had students progress into industry work placement or jobs
- 5) We have had students build portfolio careers as DJ's, YouTubers, App creators, Library Musicians, Freelance performers or technicians.

My view...



**Sam
Copus**

“ I have enjoyed studying this course. The content is varied and there is flexibility within each project we do. Much of our time is spent working with real musicians to then produce their music to a professional level, whilst also being able to create our own works as well. ”

Course: Music Technology Level 3
Progressed from:
Thomas Lord Audley School

My view...



**Safia
McKinney-Askeur**

“ Regardless of your chosen instrument and genre you can explore lots of different musical styles. The breadth of experience has broadened my skills base, in preparation for my Bachelor of Music degree and future career. ”

Course:
Professional Musician Level 3
Progressed from:
City and Islington Sixth
Form College

What you need

Kit list...

Essential

- 1) A good quality instrument. Drummers should prepare to bring cymbals (with felts and cups) only. Pianos are provided for all students. Jack leads are not provided.
- 2) Ear plugs. They don't need to be expensive, they just need to work.
- 3) Note books and music manuscript paper.
- 4) Pens and pencils
- 5) Headphones with 1/8 inch jack connection

Desirable

- 1) High quality headphones (Audio Technica, Sony, Dre Beats, Bose.. Are some brands we like)
- 2) High quality soft cases to avoid injury for those with heavy instruments.

