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Music Course Information Sheet for entry in 2022

Music is everywhere in the world around us; it is part of all of our lives, whether we play it, actively listen to it, or hear it in passing. At Oxford, we study music by reading, listening, performing and composing. We create music in all its aspects – acoustic, electronic, individually and communally, working with world-class professionals and with local communities. We investigate, through analysis, the relationships within a piece of music, and between that piece and its genre and context.

Throughout the course, you will be exposed to music of all kinds and in all contexts: Western classical, popular music, musics of other cultures, community music, seeing these musics in terms of their history (and how that history has been shaped over time), social context, and psychology.

Music has been part of the life of Oxford for more than 800 years. There are around 30 academic staff, of whom 15 give lectures regularly – scholars with distinguished reputations as musicologists, performers or composers. Oxford welcomes visits from numerous speakers and professional performing ensembles. Students enjoy performance and composition workshops, and play an active part in the life of the faculty and their colleges – in chapels, orchestras, ensembles, bands and stage performances, and in musical outreach to the broader community.

The faculty building incorporates practice rooms, electronic music and recording studios, and one of the best music libraries in any British university. The world-famous Bate Collection of Musical Instruments, housed in the faculty, lends historical instruments to students. The faculty also has a gamelan orchestra.

The course is broadly based but allows increasing specialisation and choice as you proceed. Whether you're a performer, a composer, a budding scholar of psychology, history, sociology or education, the Music course offers something for you. Students graduate as mature and well-rounded musicians with an informed and lively sense of the contemporary study and practice of the subject, and the ways in which music contributes to society more broadly.

A typical week

- Four to six lectures
- One or two tutorials in college
- Practice, workshops and rehearsals
- More time for independent study in the summer terms

Tutorials are usually 2-4 students and a tutor. Lecture sizes may vary depending on the options you choose. Compulsory lectures are the largest and will include the full year group of around 70 students, while the smallest lectures, for specialist options, might include fewer than 10 students. Seminars will also usually involve 10-12 students.

Most lectures are delivered by Associate Professors and Professors within the University. Most of these professors are also college subject tutors (although not all college tutors are University lecturers). Each college's subject tutor is responsible for giving and coordinating tutorials. Many tutors are world-leading experts with years of experience in teaching and research. Some teaching (mostly at tutorial level) may also be delivered by postgraduate students, who are usually studying at doctoral level.

To find out more about how our teaching year is structured, visit our [Academic Year](#) page.

Course structure

YEAR 1

COURSES

Six subjects are taken (two chosen from a list of options)

- Compulsory:
 - Foundations in the study of music
 - Stylistic composition, arranging and transcription
 - Topics I, for example: Machaut's songs; Women and music in the 19th century; Music, mind, behaviour; Global hip hop
 - Musical analysis and critical listening
- Options:
 - Historically informed performance
 - Critical studies in ethnomusicology
 - Composition
 - Performance
 - Musical skills

ASSESSMENT

Three written papers and two 'take-away' papers for compulsory subjects. The assessment for the two options will take the form of a practical examination, recital, portfolio of compositions, essay or take-away paper depending on the option chosen.

YEARS 2 AND 3

COURSES

ASSESSMENT

YEARS 2 AND 3

Eight subjects are taken (six chosen from a list of options)

- Compulsory
 - Topics II (three from a range of historical and critical fields, eg: Sacred Renaissance polyphony on the Continent; History and philosophy of music education; Bach's keyboard music)
 - Topics III (three from a range of historical and critical fields, eg in 2018-19: 18th-century opera; Modernism in Vienna, 1900-1935; Scenes and subcultures in the 20th century)
- Optional topics studied
 - Musical analysis and criticism
 - Musical thought and scholarship
 - Techniques of composition
 - Solo performance
 - Orchestration
 - Dissertation
 - Composition portfolio
 - Edition with commentary
 - Analysis portfolio
 - Music ethnography
 - Chamber music performance
 - Choral conducting
 - Choral performance
 - Recording and producing music
 - Special topic papers. Some recent examples include: Music perception; Music in Scandinavia; Women composers; Dance music; Lieder;

Final University examinations: three or more written papers (two compulsory and one chosen from three options) and a combination of take-away papers, portfolio submissions, recitals and practical tests, depending on the options chosen

YEARS 2 AND 3

Music and society in England, 1851–1914; Music in the community

Please note that the courses listed above are illustrative and may change. A full list of current options is available on the [Music website](#).

The University will seek to deliver this course in accordance with the description set out above. However, there may be situations in which it is desirable or necessary for the University to make changes in course provision, either before or after registration. These may include significant changes made necessary by a pandemic (including Covid-19), epidemic or local health emergency. For further information, please see the University's [Terms and Conditions](#). For the latest information on the University's Covid-19 response and how it affects students please go to the [Oxford University Covid-19 Response](#) site.

Fees

These annual fees are for full-time students who begin this undergraduate course here in 2022.

Information about how much fees and other costs may increase is set out in the University's Terms and Conditions.

Please note that while the University sets out its annual fees as a single figure, this is a combined figure for both your University and college fees. More information is provided in your [Terms and Conditions](#).

Fee status	Annual Course fees
Home (UK, Republic of Ireland,	
Channel Islands & Isle of Man)	£9,250
Overseas (including most EU students– see Note below)	£32,480

Note: Following the UK's departure from the EU, most EU students starting a course in 2022/23 will pay fees at the 'Overseas' rate. Irish nationals living in the UK or Ireland, EU, other EEA, and Swiss nationals who have been granted settled or pre-settled status in the UK under the EU settlement scheme will be eligible for 'Home fee' status and student loan support, subject to meeting residency requirements. We will contact you directly if we need further information from you to determine your fee status.

Please refer to the [Undergraduate fee status](#) and the [Oxford and the EU](#) pages for more information.

Living costs

Living costs for the academic year starting in 2022 are estimated to be between £1,215 and £1,755 for each month you are in Oxford. Our academic year is made up of three eight-week terms, so you would not usually need to be in Oxford for much more than six months of the year but may wish to budget over a nine-month period to ensure you also have sufficient funds during the holidays to meet essential costs.

Living costs breakdown

	Per month		Total for 9 months	
	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£290	£410	£2,610	£3,690
Accommodation (including utilities)	£680	£810	£6,120	£7,290
Personal items	£135	£260	£1,215	£2,340
Social activities	£45	£120	£405	£1,080
Study costs	£45	£100	£405	£900
Other	£20	£55	£180	£495
Total	£1,215	£1,755	£10,935	£15,795

In order to provide these likely living costs, the University and the Oxford University Students' Union conducted a living costs survey to complement existing student expenditure data from a variety of sources including the UK government's Student Income and Expenditure Survey and the National Union of Students (NUS). The likely lower and upper ranges above are based on a single student with no dependants living in college accommodation (including utility bills) and are provided for information only. In addition to reviewing the information above, you should fully consider and research your personal likely living costs.

When planning your finances for future years of study at Oxford beyond 2022-23, you should allow for an estimated increase in living expenses of 3% each year.

Additional Fees and Charges Information for Music

Students may choose to have instrumental or voice tuition as part of their course, though please note that performance is not compulsory. With advice from your tutors, you can choose your own instrumental tutors. You will need to pay for these lessons yourself, but the money will be refunded by the Music Faculty at the end of term, up to £275. This usually covers the full cost of tuition.



Students can also apply to take part in a Faculty-funded scheme with the Royal Academy of Music, which provides 8 hourly lessons and participation in master-classes and performance classes at the RAM.