



The
Royal Hospital
School

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

WHAT IS MUSIC TECHNOLOGY?

Are you...

1. keen to create and record music?
2. interested about the way popular musical style has evolved?
3. someone who enjoys listening to music?
4. fascinated to learn about the development of music technology?

If yes, then the A Level Music Technology course is for you! Where else can you experiment with recording equipment and computer technology, arrange and compose music, and learn about popular music, from rock 'n' roll to reggae, heavy rock to hip hop?

Music Technology covers all aspects of creative studio work including stereo ambient recording, multi-track recording, electro-acoustic music, arranging, studio engineering, producing and composition for film. The aim of the department is to foster creativity and skill in the use of the latest technology and to equip pupils with up-to-date knowledge for their future work in the studio-music environment. Music Technology is taught at AS and A2 Level following the Edexcel syllabus.



HOW IS MUSIC TECHNOLOGY TAUGHT AT RHS?

If you choose A Level Music Technology at the Royal Hospital School you will be able to take full advantage of the fantastic new music facilities and resources. The music technology facilities include a new digital recording studio, an editing studio and a computer music suite running Logic Audio, Pro-Tools, and Steinberg software. In addition, high quality recording equipment installed in the concert hall enables every internal concert to be recorded, and a mobile recording unit is available for work in other locations both in and outside the School.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE CONSIST OF?



If you choose to study A Level Music Technology, you will follow the Edexcel specification. The course covers three areas of study:

The Principles & Practice of Music Technology

- Study and practice of MIDI sequencing, audio sequencing and multi-track recording.
- Using equipment and technical processes to capture sounds and manipulate them to produce musical results.

Popular Music Styles since 1910

- Study of Popular Music, including jazz, blues, pop and rock.
- Learn about the main musical and cultural characteristics of the major styles and trends of the past 100 years, ranging from ragtime and Dixieland Jazz through to recent developments in Club Music and Electronica.

The Development of Technology-based Music

- Gain an understanding about the development and influence of technology on music since 1910.
- Study includes instruments involving technology, recording practice, and developments in contemporary art music.

AS Level

You will produce a portfolio CD supported by an accompanying written logbook containing the following:

1. *Sequenced Realised Performance:* a performance from a notated score.

2. *Multi-Track Recording:* 8-12 track close-mic and direct-inject recording of a piece of the student's choice from Popular Music Styles since 1910.
3. *Creative Sequenced Arrangement:* an arrangement using computer software, showing creative development and /or manipulation of the chosen musical material.

The AS listening exam will assess knowledge of Popular Music Styles since 1910, and understanding of sequencing and recording techniques.

A2 Level

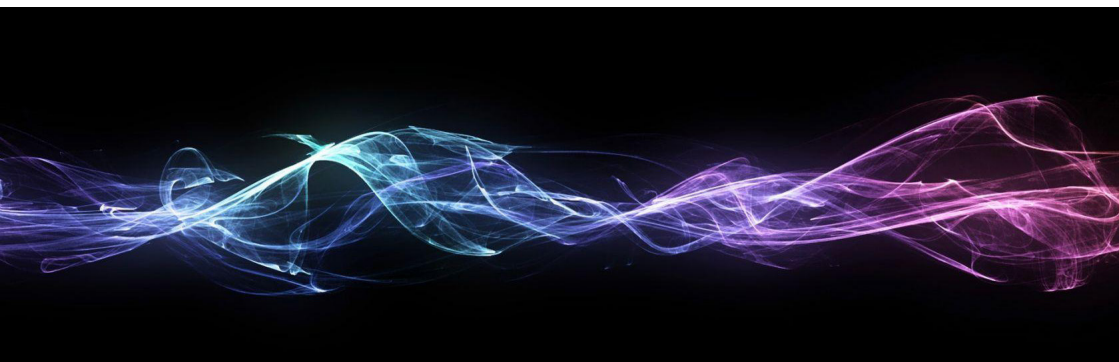
You will produce a second portfolio CD, again supported by a written logbook. This contains:

1. *Sequenced Integrated Performance:* a performance, integrating live audio and other tracks, with sequenced tracks
2. *Multi-Track Recording:* a 12-24 live track recording using close-mic and direct-inject capture.
3. *Composing using Music Technology:* a 3 – 4 minute composition based on a chosen task brief.

The A2 practical exam requires students to use musical production software to review given musical material, comment on musical elements and technological processes, identify and correct mistakes, and produce a final stereo mix.

WHAT WEBSITES ARE USEFUL TO LOOK AT?

There are many websites which provide supporting information about A Level Music Technology. The most specific website for the course we offer is Edexcel's, where you will find a student's guide, course specifications, and examiner's reports.



WHAT MIGHT THE SUBJECT LEAD ONTO?

The A Level Music Technology course provides an excellent basis for lifelong learning. There are many opportunities in Higher Education, and many career possibilities for those proficient in handling music technology. GCE Music Technology has been widely accepted by Higher Education providers and an A Level in Music Technology will continue to provide valuable experience and preparation for students aiming for further study in the subject. Study in Music Technology could lead to careers in the record industry, sound engineering, record producing, and music education.

If you would like to discuss the A Level specifications and the options that the Music Department offer, please do not hesitate to contact
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