

# W300: Music



Undergraduate BA 2019

## Essentials

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>UCAS code</b>                   | W300  |
| <b>Degree</b>                      | BA  |
| <b>Mode of study</b>               | Full Time   |
| <b>Duration</b>                    | 3 years   |
| <b>Location</b>                    | Durham City ( <a href="http://www.durham.ac.uk/study/location/durham.city">www.durham.ac.uk/study/location/durham.city</a> )  |
| <b>A-Level</b>                     | AAB   |
| <b>BTEC</b>                        | DDD   |
| <b>International Baccalaureate</b> | 36  |
| <b>Alternative qualifications</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other UK qualifications (<a href="http://www.dur.ac.uk/resources/undergraduate/UKequivalencies2017-18.pdf">www.dur.ac.uk/resources/undergraduate/UKequivalencies2017-18.pdf</a>)</li> <li>• EU qualifications (<a href="http://www.dur.ac.uk/resources/undergraduate/apply/EUequivalencies2017-18.pdf">www.dur.ac.uk/resources/undergraduate/apply/EUequivalencies2017-18.pdf</a>)</li> <li>• International qualifications (<a href="http://www.dur.ac.uk/international/country.information/">www.dur.ac.uk/international/country.information/</a>)</li> </ul> |
| <b>Contextual Offers</b>           | You may be eligible for an offer which is one or two grades lower than our standard entry requirements. Find out more ( <a href="http://www.durham.ac.uk/study/ug/apply/contextualoffers/">www.durham.ac.uk/study/ug/apply/contextualoffers/</a> ).   |
| <b>More information</b>            | Still have questions? ( <a href="http://www.durham.ac.uk/study/askus/">www.durham.ac.uk/study/askus/</a> )  |
| <b>Department(s) Website</b>       | <a href="http://www.durham.ac.uk/music">www.durham.ac.uk/music</a>  |

## Course Summary

### Description

The course at Durham prides itself in combining the traditional and the modern in the study of music. The learning of techniques such as harmony, counterpoint and aural skills are juxtaposed with an investigation of the most up-to-date thinking in musicology, critical theory, composition (acoustic and electroacoustic), analysis, ethnomusicology and performance. Moreover, our teaching, essentially research-led, is enhanced by distinctive staff specialisations that include nineteenth- and twentieth-century British music, music of the Soviet Union, Korean and Indian music, popular music, music technology, conducting, cognitive musicology, early music and contemporary composition.

### Year 1

In the first year all students are expected to follow the same course, designed to introduce a broad range of disciplines and approaches.

#### The course consists of six modules:

- Historical Studies 1
- EITHER Performance 1: Listening and Performing Practice Through History (with Recital)
- Musical Techniques (Harmony and Counterpoint)
- Composition 1: 20<sup>th</sup>-Century Innovations
- Introduction to Ethnomusicology
- Analysis 1: Elements of Tonal Theory and Practice

Essential topics in music technology are spread over these compulsory modules, as are foundational research skills that will be needed in the later years.

All Combined Honours students taking only one module in Music must take either Historical Studies 1 (MUSI1261) or Introduction to Ethnomusicology (MUSI1251). If you take two or three modules in Music, you must take one of these musicological modules, and can add the other and/or one or two of the three 'practice-based' modules which are the prerequisites for the level 2 modules in performance, composition, and other practical disciplines.

### Year 2

In the second year, you will undertake one compulsory module – Historical Studies 2: The Twentieth Century – and choose five modules from a broad menu. As an alternative, you may choose to take a module in another department.

#### Modules available in 2017/18:

##### List A:

- Composition 2: New Directions in Art Music
- Creative Music Technology
- Performance 2: Practice as Research
- Advanced Musical Techniques
- Theory and Analysis
- Orchestration
- Conducting
- World Music Traditions
- Studies in Popular Music
- Studies in the History of Opera
- Music and Science
- Philosophy, Music and Improvisation

## Year 3

The third-year course is structured around a compulsory double-weighted independent project, which can take the form of a musicological Dissertation, a composition portfolio, a techniques portfolio (pastiche compositions), or a 40-minute solo recital. All students are required to do one of these. In addition, you will choose four other modules, selecting from the list of third year modules (which in previous years has included the modules below) and the second year menu (above). Other possible options are to undertake a single-weighted project (again, a Dissertation, composition, techniques portfolio, or performance) and/or pursue a module in another department.

- Contemporary Music Performance
- Music and Politics in France 1789-1814
- The Music of India
- Performance 3: Recorded Performance Project
- Time and Rhythm
- Studies in Electronic Music
- Psychology of Music
- Advanced Ethnomusicology
- Studies in Symphonic Analysis
- Words and Music
- Britten's Chamber Opera's
- Music Theology

We review course structures and core content (in light of e.g. external and student feedback) every year, and will publish finalised core requirements for 2019 entry from September 2018.

## Study Abroad

### Music

As part of an extensive curriculum review we have created lots of exciting new opportunities for a year's study abroad for those on the BA Music programme. Exchanges take place after the second year of the programme with our partner institutions, which include the University of Oslo, the Sorbonne in Paris, La Sapienza in Rome, alongside many others.

### Placement Year

You may be able to take a work placement. Find out more ([www.durham.ac.uk/placements/](http://www.durham.ac.uk/placements/)).

## Course Detail

To find out more about the modules available to students studying at Durham University please click here ([www.durham.ac.uk/resources/faculty.handbook/degrees/frameworks/w300.pdf](http://www.durham.ac.uk/resources/faculty.handbook/degrees/frameworks/w300.pdf)).

**Please note:** Current modules are indicative. Information for future academic years may change, for example, due to developments in the relevant academic field, or in light of student feedback.

## Admissions Process

### Subject requirements, level and grade

- Our typical offer is AAB at A level or equivalent, in any subjects except for Critical Thinking and General Studies (or equivalent). For more details of equivalent qualifications please see our equivalency documents for UK or EU qualifications from the links on our website ([www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply/entry-reqs](http://www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply/entry-reqs)).
- We consider each application holistically. Whilst academic achievement is important, it is not the only factor that we consider when assessing applications and applicants who have achieved, or are predicted to achieve, close to our typical offer, but who have not met it exactly, will be welcome to apply if they have a strong application in other key elements, for example if they have practical music accomplishments or can demonstrate merit and potential through their personal statement or their reference.
- We welcome applications from mature students with non-standard qualifications or who may have had a break in their study and may consider other experience in place of formal qualifications where applicable. Mature applicants may also be interested in our Music with Foundation programme (W301).
- A level in Music is required, or we will accept ABRSM Grade VIII Theory in addition to AAB at A level or equivalent.
- Typical IB score 36 to include 665 in higher level subjects. Higher level subject requirements apply, see above
- Grade 7 or 8 in first instrument is advisable but by no means essential.
- Keyboard skills are advisable (but not absolutely essential), since they aid score reading and analysis.
- We accept applications for deferred entry.
- If you are an international student who does not meet the requirements for direct entry to this degree, you may be eligible to take an International Foundation Year pathway programme at the Durham University International Study Centre ([www.durhamisc.com/?ch=uniweb&cc=signposting&cid=uniweb&utm\\_source=signposting&utm\\_medium=signposting&utm\\_campaign=uni](http://www.durhamisc.com/?ch=uniweb&cc=signposting&cid=uniweb&utm_source=signposting&utm_medium=signposting&utm_campaign=uni))

### Science A levels

Applicants taking Science A levels that include a practical component will be required to take and pass this as a condition of entry. This applies only to applicants sitting A levels with an English examination board.

### English Language requirements

Please check requirements for your subject and level of study ([www.durham.ac.uk/learningandteaching.handbook/1/3/3/](http://www.durham.ac.uk/learningandteaching.handbook/1/3/3/))

### How to apply

[www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply](http://www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply)

### Information relevant to your country

[www.durham.ac.uk/international/country.information](http://www.durham.ac.uk/international/country.information)

## **English Language requirements**

Please check requirements for your subject and level of study ([www.durham.ac.uk/learningandteaching.handbook/1/3/3/](http://www.durham.ac.uk/learningandteaching.handbook/1/3/3/))

## **How to apply**

[www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply](http://www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply)

## **Information relevant to your country**

[www.durham.ac.uk/international/country.information/](http://www.durham.ac.uk/international/country.information/)

## Fees and Funding

### Full Time Fees

|                                     |                     |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>EU Student</b>                   | £9,250.00 per year  |
| <b>Home Student</b>                 | £9,250.00 per year  |
| <b>Island Student</b>               | £9,250.00 per year  |
| <b>International non-EU Student</b> | £19,250.00 per year |

The tuition fees shown for **home and EU** students are for one complete academic year of full time study and are set according to the academic year of entry. Fees for subsequent years of your course may rise in line with an inflationary uplift as determined by the government.

The tuition fees shown for **overseas** students are for one complete academic year of full time study, are set according to the academic year of entry, and remain the same throughout the duration of the programme for that cohort (**unless otherwise stated**).

Please also check costs for colleges and accommodation ([www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/accommodation/costs/](http://www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/accommodation/costs/)).

### Scholarships and funding

[www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/finance](http://www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/finance)

## Career Opportunities

### Music

Durham graduates are renowned for having a deep knowledge of music from different cultures and historical periods, having explored many different aspects of music, including musicology, performance and composition. The discipline required in fostering critical thinking develops our students' ability to define and solve problems, both by working independently and with their colleagues. All of the modules available on the BA course are designed to help students develop a range of transferable skills that will aid their future employment. The new curriculum (as of October 2012) places greater emphasis on research-led teaching, the development of independent learning and the acquisition of transferable skills.

The department aims to help all students to keep track of their progress from induction week to graduation, including arranging careers events with recent graduates who offer a valuable insight on how to make the most of the opportunities available at Durham University, and how best to promote these to potential employers. The department is aiming to make strong links with their Alumni so that they can provide extra help and support for undergraduate students looking to find employment in their field(s) of work.

Many Durham graduates proceed to further study, whether in a university department, conservatoire or elsewhere: our graduates have moved on via postgraduate study to careers as academics and performers as well as in other fields (including journalism, acting or the clergy). Other recent destinations of Durham music graduates include arts administration, broadcasting, teaching, business (e.g. Account Manager, Recruitment Consultant, Underwriter, Trainee Manager) and sports.

“ As one of the country's top universities, students from Durham are held in high esteem by IBM. Regardless of degree discipline, graduating from Durham University with a 2:1 or above represents a significant achievement, and one IBM sees as a valuable stepping stone towards a successful career. We have a dedicated campus recruitment team for Durham, one of a select number of UK Universities, testament to our belief that through their time at the university, Durham students in particular significantly develop the transferable skills which we value. GTS Smart Deal Engine. ”

## Employability development opportunities

The Careers, Employability and Enterprise Centre ([www.durham.ac.uk/careers/](http://www.durham.ac.uk/careers/)) works closely with the School of Music. The link Careers Adviser delivers presentations to each year group on topics relevant to that stage of their academic career. These cover career decision making, successful applications and interviews, and advice for those considering further study.

A high proportion of our graduates progress onto higher level study following their degree. Recently many have progressed to our own Masters courses at Durham and also to York, Bristol, Cambridge, King's College, School of Oriental and African Studies, the Royal Academy of Music, Edinburgh and Oxford. Some remain within their academic field of interest but others take a different route and pursue professional postgraduate programmes in law, social sciences, property management, administration, the clergy and teaching.



## Career Options

Recent graduate destinations include:

- Account Manager
- Arts Administration
- Broadcasting
- Ecclesiastical training
- Fixed Income Analyst
- Further Study in Music: A high proportion of our graduates progress onto higher level study following their degree. Recently many have progressed to our own Masters courses at Durham and also to York, Bristol, Cambridge, King's College, School of Oriental and African Studies, the Royal Academy of Music, Royal College of Music, Guildhall School of Music and drama, Edinburgh University and Oxford University .
- Further Study in other academic fields: Recent graduates have pursued professional postgraduate programmes in law, social sciences, property management, administration, the clergy and teaching.
- Marketing Assistant
- Recruitment Consultant
- Trainee Manager
- Underwriter

## **Open days and visits**

### **Pre-application open day**

Pre-application open days are the best way to discover all you need to know about Durham University. With representatives from all relevant academic and support service departments, and opportunities to explore college options, the open days provide our prospective undergraduates with the full experience of Durham University.

Please see the following page for further details and information on how to book a place:  
[www.durham.ac.uk/opendays](http://www.durham.ac.uk/opendays)

### **Discover Durham Tours**

Discover Durham tours offer a brief introduction to the University. The tour begins at one of our undergraduate colleges, where you will receive an introductory talk from a member of college staff, followed by a tour of the college by current students.

[www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/live/visit/discoverdurham](http://www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/live/visit/discoverdurham)

### **Overseas Visit Schedule**

[www.durham.ac.uk/international/office/meetus](http://www.durham.ac.uk/international/office/meetus)

## Department Information

### Music

#### Overview

When you join us, you will develop your creative, practical and critical skills in a unique and beautiful location.

Our programmes are well balanced, covering everything from the music of the great composers to contemporary music and Indian ragas, studied from the perspectives of history, theory, aesthetics and ethnography as well as through composition and performance.

The Department is located at the heart of a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Durham City – an extraordinarily beautiful place. But it is the juxtaposition of ancient and cutting edge that makes Durham so unusual and inspiring; within the old buildings, we strive to forge fresh interpretations and create exciting new music, using state-of-the-art technology.

At the same time, there's an amazing variety of music-making going on at Durham: four orchestras, an unrivalled range of choral singing opportunities and theatrical productions, new musical ensembles, gamelan, jazz bands, rock bands, and much more.

#### Ranking

- Ranked joint 1st in the UK for internationally excellent and world-leading research impact (*REF 2014*)
- 1st in *The Times and Sunday Times University Guide 2018*
- 1st in *The Complete University Guide 2018*.

#### Staff

For a current list of staff, please see the Music Department web pages ([www.dur.ac.uk/music/staff/](http://www.dur.ac.uk/music/staff/)).

#### Facilities

The Music Department has excellent facilities. Besides the usual array of lecture rooms situated in the main building on Palace Green (virtually next to the Cathedral), there are three well-equipped electronic studios, a multimedia resource centre, and practice rooms (both in the Department and individual colleges). The University Library houses an extensive collection of books, scores, and CDs, and offers a rich range of online resources.

#### Website

[www.durham.ac.uk/music](http://www.durham.ac.uk/music)

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